

PURIM

Purim is a Jewish celebration that remembers the salvation of the Jews while they were in exile in Persia. This comes directly from the Book of Esther.

The celebration occurs on the 14th of the month Adar on the Jewish calendar. This usually occurs around mid-March. This is not one of the holidays ordained by the Torah, but it is an important memorial of a time when the Jews were in danger.

During the celebration, the main event that takes place is the reading of the Book of Esther, usually in a synagogue. In many places, every time the name of Haman (the enemy of the Jews) is read, the people make noise so that it cannot be heard. This holiday is a time to say blessings to each other and to give gifts. There are parades, parties, and elaborate meals.

During Purim, people will often wear costumes. There are several occasions in the story when Esther and her uncle Mordechai had to disguise themselves. Also, it is said that God himself is disguised in this story as his name is never mentioned in the scripture.

Purim is a time to celebrate a time when the Jewish people were saved from their oppressors. Ironically, during World War II, Hitler forbade the Jewish people to celebrate Purim. This holiday reminds the believers that even though God's presence may not be apparent, He is always working behind the scenes on our behalf.

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Resources

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