



The Hidden Name of God in Esther | The Background

- The book of Esther has 167 verses
- There are 192 references to the King, kingdom, or name of Ahasuerus.
- Satan's work through the Nephilim (of which Hamaan was a descendent) was continuing, and thus Satan was working to destroy the Jewish nation and hinder the fulfillment of the promise of a Redeemer.
- Because of God's promise, He is obligated to overrule all efforts to destroy the Jewish nation, and He will do so, though often with a hidden face.

Information about the Hebrew Text

- The *Masoretic Text* is the standard text for the Hebrew and Aramaic portions of the Bible.
- The Masorites were a group of rabbis who became the "protectors" of the text.
- On the text, they wrote notes called *Massorah*. These notes-
 - Are called "A fence around the Scriptures"
 - Were not part of the Scripture
 - Were not commentary, but textual facts such as the number of times a letter occurs in a book, the middle word of a book, etc.
- The Massorah contains a note calling attention to the acrostics of the names of God in Esther, which are found four times in the book.

The Four Acrostics: General Information

- Four acrostics are of the word YHWH, on of the word EHYH ("I am that I am")
- In every case, the four words forming the acrostic are consecutive.
- In three of the four the four words contain a complete sentence.
- Each of the acrostics are words spoken by a different voice:
 - Memucan (1:20)
 - Esther (5:4)
 - Haman (5:13)
 - The writer (7:7)
- In the first two acrostics, the name is formed by the first letter of the four words, and the events spoken of are *initial* in nature.
- In the last two acrostics the name is formed by the last letter of the four words, and the events spoken of are *final* in nature.

- In the first and third acrostics, the name is spelled backward, and the words are spoken by a gentile.
- In the second and fourth acrostics, the name is spelled forward, and the name is spoken by a Jew.
- In some manuscripts, the **Majuscular** lettering is used.

The First Acrostic

- Esther 1:20 (KJV 1900) ²⁰ And when the king's decree which he shall make shall be published throughout all his empire, (for it is great,) **all** the **wives** shall **give** to their husbands **honour**, both to great and small.

- The name YHWH Reads backward with the initial letter.

The Second Acrostic

- Esther 5:4 (KJV 1900) ⁴ And Esther answered, If *it seem* good unto the king, **let** the **king** and **Haman** come this **day** unto the banquet that I have prepared for him.

- The name YHWH reads forward with the initial letter.

The Third Acrostic

- Esther 5:13 (KJV 1900) ¹³ Yet all **this** **avaieth** **me** **nothing**, so long as I see Mordecai the Jew sitting at the king's gate.

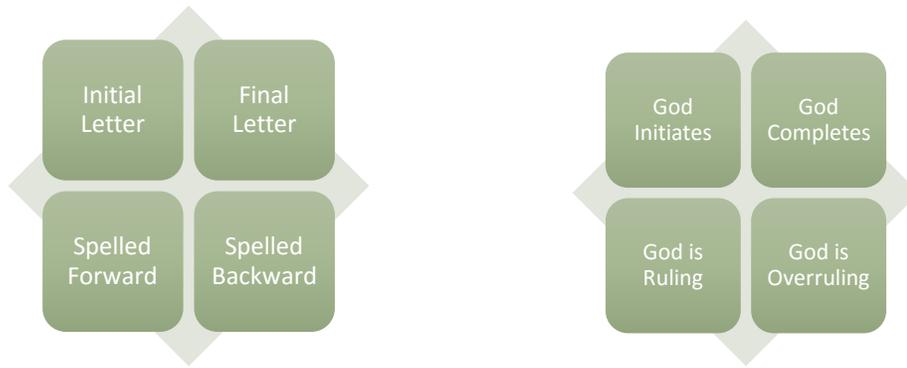
- The name YHWH reads backward with the final letter.

The Fourth Acrostic

- Esther 7:7 (KJV 1900) ⁷ And the king arising from the banquet of wine in his wrath *went* into the palace garden: and Haman stood up to make request for his life to Esther the queen; for he saw that there was evil determined against him by the king.

- The name YHWH reads forward with the final letter.

The Backward/Forward Matrix



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- Coincidence or design?
- The work of man or the work of God?