
CONTENTS

Foreword	vii
Acknowledgments	xi
Introduction	1
Literary Aspects	3
Original Context	12
Theological Concerns	17
Commentary	23
Ahasuerus's Royal Parties (1:1-8)	23
Vashti's Refusal (1:9-2:4)	29
Esther Becomes Queen (2:5-20)	43
Mordecai Versus Haman (2:21-3:15)	61
Esther and Mordecai's Conversation (4:1-17)	77
Esther Approaches and Hosts (5:1-8)	93
Conversations with Haman (5:9-6:14)	102
Esther's Revelation (7:1-8:2)	117
Esther Pleads, Mordecai Writes (8:3-17)	129
The Jews Attack Their Enemies (9:1-19)	143
The Establishment of Purim (9:20-10:3)	156
Select Bibliography	171
