

Amazing Correlations between Fatima and the Book of Esther

Many of the details of the apparitions of Our Lady of Fatima are also found in the Old Testament Book of Esther
Many of these details are only found in Catholic Bibles which include the additional “deuterocanonical” sections of the Book of Esther.

13th of the Month

Our Lady of Fatima appeared on the 13th of each month from May through October, 1917 in order to warn us about threat of another war.

Can we find something similar in the Book of Esther?

The Book of Esther is all about the threat of destruction of God’s people which was to take place on the 13th day of the month of Adar.

The Star

Our Lady of Fatima always appeared with a small star on her dress near her feet. Lucia described it as a “yellow star.” This is extraordinary because during World War II the Jews were forced to wear yellow stars when they were marked for destruction. Our Lady of Fatima came to warn all of us about the coming of World War II, but she showed her special solidarity with the Jews who would suffer the holocaust.

Can we find something similar in the Book of Esther?

In the Book of Esther the real name of the heroine was Hadassah, but she was given the Persian name “Esther” which means “star”.

“He has Lifting up the Lowly” – (Luke 1:52)

Our Lady of Fatima is the same Mary of Nazareth who was the humble “*handmaid of the Lord,*” (Luke 1:38) but who has been exalted and now appears radiant in glory. The Portuguese people added a special crown for the statue of Our Lady of Fatima.

Can we find something similar in the Book of Esther?

Esther was lowly and poor until she was “*exalted.*” (Esther 1:10). “*The king loved Esther more than all other women, and of all the virgins she won his favor and good will.*” (Esther 2:7,9,17). “*The king... placed the royal crown on her head and made her queen in place of Vashti.*” (Esther 2:17)

The Sun

At Fatima divine light is emphasized. Heavenly light seems to shine through Mary. On that rainy day of October 13, 1917, light emanated from Mary’s hands which pierced the clouds to reveal the miracle of the Sun.

Can we find something similar in the Book of Esther?

At the beginning of the Book of Esther there is a description of “*a dark and gloomy day*” on which suddenly “*the light of the sun broke forth and the lowly were exalted...*” (Esther 11/A 7-10)

The Chaste Guardian

In the final apparition at Fatima, St. Joseph appeared with the Holy Family. Lucia wrote: “St. Joseph and the Child Jesus appeared to bless the world, for they traced the sign of the Cross with their hands...”

Can we find something similar in the Book of Esther?

In the Book of Esther emphasizes the role of Mordecai who is a chaste foster-father who guards and protects Esther.

The Two Red Dragons

In the message of Fatima there seems to be a spiritual war in heaven between God and Satan, while on earth the war is between the vicar of Christ, the pope, and vicars of Satan such as Hitler and Stalin. It is interesting that the color red is found on both the Nazi and Communist flags. Our Lady and Satan both have their representatives on Earth who struggle against one another. The Bible describes a struggle between the lady and “*a huge red dragon with seven heads and ten horns...*” (Rev. 12:3)

Can we find something similar in the Book of Esther?

The Book of Esther features two characters who do not play leading roles but who instead are vicars or representatives of the ruling power. Haman becomes the “vicar” of the King, but Mordecai eventually takes his place. “*Two great dragons advanced, both poised for combat. They uttered a mighty cry, and at their cry every nation prepared for war...*” (Esther A:5) “*The two dragons are Mordecai and Haman.*” (Esther F:5) Haman has ten sons who are slain at the end of the Book of Esther.

Prayer and Penance

The message of Fatima emphasizes two things which are necessary to enter heaven: prayer and penance.

Can we find something similar in the Book of Esther?

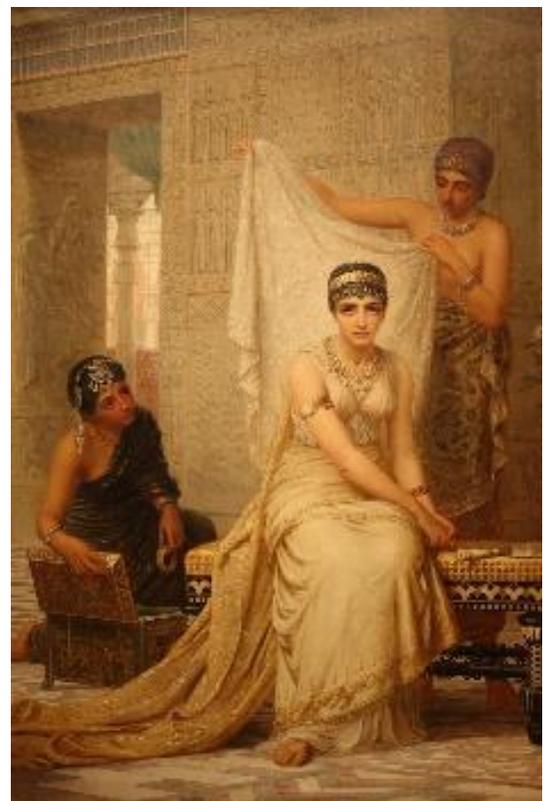
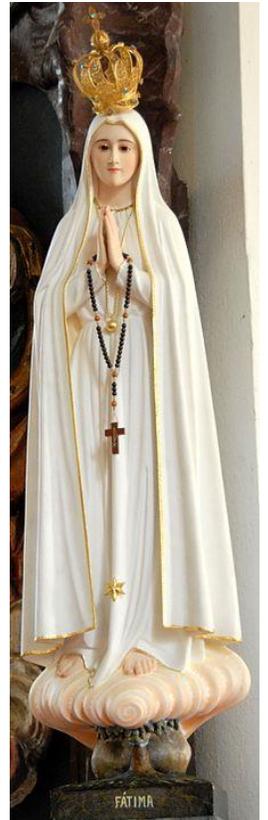
The Book of Esther emphasizes the maidens who wanted to enter the presence of the king had to undergo two treatments using first oil and then perfume: “*After the twelve months’ preparation decreed for the women, each one went in turn to visit King Ahasuerus. During this period of beautifying treatment, six months were spent with oil of myrrh, and the other six months with perfumes and cosmetics.*” (Esther 2:12) In scripture the oil of myrrh is a symbol of suffering and sacrifice. Perfume or incense is a symbol of prayer. This is the symbolic meaning of the gifts of the three magi gave to the child Jesus. They gave him myrrh as a symbol of his sacrificial death, and frankincense as a symbol of his divinity. (Matthew 2:11).

Catholics understand the Arc of the Covenant to be a symbol of Mary because it contained the Word of God. (cf. Revelation 11:19- 12:1) It is interesting that in the Old Testament it says that anointing oil and incense were both applied to the Arc of the Covenant (Exodus 30:26 and Exodus 30:34-36).

Fear and Trembling

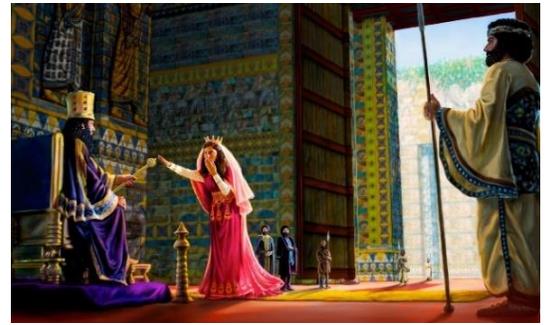
In the October apparition of Fatima the crowds were full of terror when the witnessed the miracle of the sun.

The Bible is full of references to God as a “*consuming fire*” (Deuteronomy 4:23-24; Hebrews 12:29). “*You cannot see the face of God and live.*” (Exodus 33:20). But the Blessed Virgin Mary comforts us and helps us enter God’s presence.



Can we find something similar in the Book of Esther?

In the Book of Esther it describes how Esther took the supreme risk of entering the king's presence without prior permission. But the king looked with favor upon her: *"She glowed with perfect beauty... though her heart was pounding with fear. She passed through all the portals till she stood before the king, who was seated on his royal throne, clothed in full robes of state, and covered with gold and precious stones, so that he inspired great awe. As he looked up in extreme anger, his features fiery and majestic, the queen staggered, turned pale and fainted, collapsing against the maid in front of her. But God changed the king's anger to gentleness. In great anxiety he sprang from his throne, held her in his arms until she recovered, and comforted her with reassuring words. "What is it, Esther? ... Take courage! You shall not die... Come near!"* (Esther 4/D:1-16)



The Queen Saves the People from Wrath

In the July Apparition of Our Lady of Fatima, the children clearly saw how Our Lady uses her queenly power to protect the people of the world from the punishment we deserve for our sins: *"At the left of Our Lady and a little above, we saw an Angel with a flaming sword in his left hand; flashing, it gave out flames that looked as though they would set the world on fire; but they died out in contact with the splendor that Our Lady radiated towards him from her right hand; pointing to the earth with his right hand, the Angel cried out in a loud voice: 'Penance, Penance, Penance!'"* (This description by Lucia reminds us of the battles between superheroes in the popular comic book movies!)

Can we find something similar in the Book of Esther?

In the Book of Esther, Mordecai sends a message to Queen Esther reminding her of her lowly Jewish origins and that she became queen in order to save her people: *"Do not imagine that you are safe in the king's palace, you alone of all the Jews. Even if you now remain silent, relief and deliverance will come to the Jews from another source; but you and your father's house will perish. Who knows—perhaps it was for a time like this that you became queen?"* (Esther 4:14)

The Queen Recommends Fasting

In the July apparition of Our Lady of Fatima, the children were shown a vision of hell and Our Lady told the children to make sacrifices to save the "poor sinners." The children immediately began to do penance and to fast. They would give away their lunches to their sheep or to the poor. They ate bitter acorns instead. They went without drinking on hot days. They struck their ankles with nettles. They tied strands of rough rope under their clothes next to their skin. Little Jacinta even wore the rope at night which kept her from sleeping. In the September apparition Our Lady encouraged them and like a good mother told them not to wear the rope at night: *"God is pleased with your sacrifices, but He does not want you to wear the cords to bed. Keep them on during the day."*

Can we find something similar in the Book of Esther?

In the Book of Esther Mordecai is usually the one who gives instructions to Esther. Only one time does Esther tell Mordecai to do something: he tells him and all the people to fast! *"Esther sent back to Mordecai the response: 'Go and assemble all the Jews who are in Susa; fast on my behalf, all of you, not eating or drinking night or day for three days. I and my maids will also fast in the same way. Thus prepared, I will go to the king, contrary to the law. If I perish, I perish!'"* (Esther 4:16)

Reparation for Offences Committed against the Queen

At Fatima Mary told the children that sin offends God: *"Do not offend God Our Lord... he is already too much offended..."* But Our Lady of Fatima also said several times that the sins of mankind are also an offence against her own motherly heart. Our sins offend not only our Heavenly Father but also our Heavenly Mother. God sent Mary from heaven to warn us, much like a father would try to correct his children by saying: *"Look how your behavior hurts your mother."*

In the July apparition, Our Lady of Fatima told the children: *"Sacrifice yourselves for sinners, and say often this prayer, especially during any sacrifice: 'O my Jesus, I offer this for love of Thee, for the conversion of poor sinners, and in reparation for all the sins committed against the Immaculate Heart of Mary.'"*

Sr. Lucia explained that the devotion of the five first Saturdays are meant to make reparation for the five ways in which people offend and blaspheme against the Immaculate Heart of Mary: 1) the blasphemies against the Immaculate Conception, 2) against her virginity, 3) against the Divine Maternity, refusing at the same time to accept her as the Mother of all mankind, 4) those who try publicly to implant in the children's hearts indifference, contempt, and even hatred against this Immaculate Mother, and 5) those who insult her directly in her sacred images.

Can we find something similar in the Book of Esther?

In the Book of Esther there is one scene in which the king is outraged because disrespect is shown to his beloved Queen Esther: *"The king left the banquet in anger and went into the garden of the palace, but Haman stayed to beg Queen Esther for his life, since he saw that the king had decided on his doom. When the king returned from the palace garden to the banquet hall, Haman had thrown himself on the couch on which Esther was reclining; and the king exclaimed, 'Will he also violate the queen while she is with me in my own house?' Scarcely had the king spoken when the face of Haman was covered over."* (Esther 7:7-8)

The Flood of Water

At Fatima there is no miraculous stream of water as at Lourdes. However it is very interesting that the last detail of the last apparition to Lucia is a stream of water. Lucia saw this final vision in 1927 in her convent at Tuy, Spain. She saw Christ Crucified above an altar. Under one arm of Jesus was Mary, and under the other arm of Jesus was a stream of water. Lucia wrote: *"Under the right arm of the cross was Our Lady with Her Immaculate Heart in Her hand ... (She appeared as Our Lady of Fatima, with Her Immaculate Heart in Her left hand, without sword or roses, but with a crown of thorns and flames) under the left arm [of the cross], in large letters, like crystalline water which flowed over the altar, forming these words: 'Grace and Mercy.'"*

Can we find something similar in the Book of Esther?

In the Book of Esther begins and ends with a mysterious reference to a river of water. At the beginning of the book Mordecai has a mysterious dream which includes a river: *"Then they cried out to God, and from their crying there arose, as though from a tiny spring, a mighty river, a flood of water."* (Esther 11/A:9)

At the end of the book, Mordecai remembers his dream explains it: *"Then Mordecai said: 'This is the work of God. I recall the dream I had about these very things, and not a single detail has been left unfulfilled—the tiny spring that grew into a river, and there was light, and sun, and many waters. The river is Esther, whom the king married and made queen.'"* (Esther 10/F:1-3)

To understand the Book of Esther, check out these two delightful online videos:

The Bible Project; Overview: Esther

#Esther #TheBibleProject #BibleVideo

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JydNSlufRIs>

Talrace Kids; Bible Story: Esther

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QOPgxCeg0ow>

