



“A WOMAN OF VALOR”

Introduction

The story of Purim is about a Jewish woman, Esther, who risked her life to save her people. There are very few such stories in the Bible, in which women play such a vital role and are given such importance. To a lesser degree it is also the story of Vashti, who refused to accept the subservient role of women, and is considered by some to be the first feminist mentioned in the Bible.

We thought it would be fitting that, on Purim, we bring to life stories from Jewish women’s history. By highlighting the lives and accomplishments of remarkable Jewish women, we can share the joy of discovering Jewish women we may know nothing or little about, and recognize Jewish women as powerful role models for everyone.

These women had the courage and conviction to overcome social, cultural, and religious barriers to achieve their goals. Each has left a meaningful contribution that has improved our world.