

# Esther 9:18

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

But the Jews that were at Shushan assembled together on the thirteenth day thereof, and on the fourteenth thereof; and on the fifteenth day of the same they rested, and made it a day of feasting and gladness.

## Analysis

---

**But the Jews that were at Shushan assembled together on the thirteenth day thereof, and on the fourteenth day thereof; and on the fifteenth day of the same they rested, and made it a day of feasting and gladness.** Shushan's two-day battle (Adar 13-14) meant they rested and celebrated on Adar 15, one day later than provincial Jews (who fought only on Adar 13 and celebrated on Adar 14). This explains Purim's variable dating: Adar 14 in unwalled cities, Adar 15 in walled cities (following Shushan's precedent). The pattern—fighting, then rest, then celebration—mirrors creation (six days work, seventh day rest, Genesis 1-2) and exodus (deliverance, then rest, then celebration, Exodus 14-15). Rest after redemption enables celebration of God's saving work.

## Historical Context

---

The different celebration dates created practical distinction still observed in Purim traditions—most Jews celebrate Adar 14 (Purim), while Jerusalem and other historically walled cities celebrate Adar 15 (Shushan Purim). The two-day battle in Shushan suggests either more intense opposition or larger forces requiring extended conflict. As imperial capital, Shushan concentrated both Jewish population and potential enemies, explaining prolonged fighting. The immediate transition from victory to celebration demonstrates confidence that threat had

ended—governmental support and comprehensive victory assured safety. Archaeological evidence shows ancient celebrations typically included feasting, wine, communal gathering, and rejoicing, all featured in Purim observance.

## Related Passages

---

**Romans 2:1** — Judging others

**Matthew 25:31** — Final judgment

## Study Questions

---

1. How does the pattern of conflict, rest, then celebration mirror creation and exodus themes, showing God's consistent redemptive rhythm?
2. What does the immediate celebration teach about confidence in God's completed deliverance enabling joyful response?

## Interlinear Text

---

בְּשִׁלֶשֶׁ הַ	נִקְהָלוּ	בְּשׁוֹשׁ	אֲשֶׁר	וְהַיְּהוּדִים יִים
on the thirteenth	assembled together	that were at Shushan		But the Jews
H7969	H6950	H7800	H834	H3064
וְנָחַ	בּוֹ	עָשָׂה	וּבְאַרְבָּעָ הַ	בּוֹ
H5117	H0	H6240	day thereof and on the fourteenth	H0
			H702	H6240
מִשְׁתֵּה הַ	יּוֹם	אֶת־	וַעֲשֵׂה הַ	בּוֹ
of feasting	it a day	and made		thereof and on the fifteenth
H4960	H3117	H6213	H853	H2568
			H0	H6240
				וְשִׂמְחָה:
				and gladness
				H8057

## Additional Cross-References

---

**Esther 9:21** (Parallel theme): To stablish this among them, that they should keep the fourteenth day of the month Adar, and the fifteenth day of the same, yearly,

---

From KJV Study • [kjevstudy.org](http://kjevstudy.org)