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Queen Esther of Persia

There was a 57 year gap between the First and Second Returns from Exile 537 to 480 BC



During this time **Esther** became Queen of Persia (see the commentary on **Esther, to see link click Am – Esther Elevated to Queen**), giving **the Jews** prestige in the Persian court. **Esther** saved **the Jews** from Haman's holocaust (see the commentary on **Esther Au – Haman's Plan to Annihilate All the Jews**), which is celebrated to this day (see the commentary on **Esther Bn – The Feast of Purim**). **Esther's** victory and **Mordecai's** position as prime minister (see the commentary on **Esther Bh – The King Gave His Signet Ring to Mordecai**) effected **Ezra's** return and **Nehemiah's** position (art by Sarah Beth Baca: see more information on Links and Resources).