

ADDITION F
THE INTERPRETATION OF
MORDECAI'S DREAM

[Vulgate 10:4 – 11:1]

What God has done for the Jews

^{10:4}*And Mordecai said, "These things have come from God; ⁵for I remember the dream that I had concerning these matters, and none of them has failed to be fulfilled.*

⁶*There was the little spring that became a river, and there was light and sun and abundant water—the river is Esther, whom the king married and made queen.*

⁷*The two dragons are myself and Haman.*

⁸*The nations are those that gathered to destroy the name of the Jews.*

⁹*And my nation, this is Israel, who cried out to God and was saved. The Lord has saved his people; the Lord has rescued us from all these evils; God has done great signs and wonders, wonders that have never happened among the nations.*

¹⁰*For this purpose he made two lots, one for the people of God and one for all the nations, ¹¹and these two lots came to the hour and moment and day of decision before God and among all the nations. ¹²And God remembered his people and vindicated his inheritance.*

¹³*So they will observe these days in the month of Adar, on the fourteenth and fifteenth of that month, with an assembly and joy and gladness before God, from generation to generation forever among his people Israel."*

^{11:1}*In the fourth year of the reign of Ptolemy and Cleopatra, Dositheus, who said that he was a priest and a Levite, and his son Ptolemy brought to Egypt the above book of Purim, which they said was authentic and had been translated by Lysimachus son of Ptolemy, one of the residents of Jerusalem.*

Once again the Greek Additions focus on God's intervention on behalf of the Jews, his chosen race.

Scholars suggest that the dream (Addition A) and its interpretation are a translation of a Semitic original, which circulated independently of the story of Esther, and that it has been adapted to comment on it.

Three Ptolemies had wives called Cleopatra. The most likely candidate is Ptolemy VIII, Soter II (c.114BC).

'Dositheus' and 'Lysimachus' are popular Hellenistic names. 'Said' could mean 'claimed'; it could also mean 'certified'. 'The above book' refers to the whole Greek Text of Esther, probably the Septuagint Version. 'They said was authentic' appears to indicate that the writer is unsure, since there existed a number of different versions.