FAST OF ESTHER: The miracle of Purim did not transpire without the intense prayer and repentance of our people. Esther called upon Mordechai to proclaim a three consecutive day fast. In addition, the Jewish people congregated on the 13th day of Adar to fast and pray as they prepared to battle their enemies. Consequently, the Almighty delivered the Jews from their adversaries with a decisive defeat of Haman. Therefore, the 13th day of Adar was designated as a day of fasting, prayer and repentance.

MITZVOS OF PURIM: The festival of Purim has its own unique obligations. Included in these Mitzvos are: reading Megillas Esther, Mishloach Manos, Matonos La'evyonim, and Seudas Purim.

MEGILLAS ESTHER: Recounting the entire story of Purim. The Megillah is read in the synagogue on the night of the 14th of Adar and is repeated on the following day. One must pay close attention to the reader, to be certain not to miss even one word.

MISHLOACH MANOS: Sending a gift of at least two foods to a friend. Purim is a time when we