

## **"The Cost of Truth: Standing Firm in a Compromised World"**

### **1) The Disturbed Conscience of Herod.**

**Mark 6:14-16** Now King Herod heard *of Him*, for His name had become well known. And he said, "John the Baptist is risen from the dead, and therefore these powers are at work in him." <sup>15</sup> Others said, "It is Elijah." And others said, "It is <sup>[a]</sup>the Prophet, or like one of the prophets." <sup>16</sup> But when Herod heard, he said, "This is John, whom I beheaded; he has been raised from the dead!" (NKJ)

### **2) The Courage of a Prophet.**

**Mark 6:17-20** For Herod himself had sent and laid hold of John, and bound him in prison for the sake of Herodias, his brother Philip's wife; for he had married her. <sup>18</sup> Because John had said to Herod, "It is not lawful for you to have your brother's wife." <sup>19</sup> Therefore Herodias <sup>[a]</sup>held it against him and wanted to kill him, but she could not; <sup>20</sup> for Herod feared John, knowing that he was a just and holy man, and he protected him. And when he heard him, he <sup>[b]</sup>did many things, and heard him gladly. (NKJ)

**Leviticus 18:16** "Do not have sexual relations with your brother's wife; that would dishonor your brother. (NIV)

**Leviticus 20:21** "If a man marries his brother's wife, it is an act of impurity; he has dishonored his brother. They will be childless. (NIV)

### **3) Accept that the Ungodly will use Ungodly Means to get you.**

**Mark 6:21-25** Then an opportune day came when Herod on his birthday gave a feast for his nobles, the high officers, and the chief *men* of Galilee. <sup>22</sup> And when Herodias' daughter herself came in and danced, and pleased Herod and those who sat with him, the king said to the girl, "Ask me whatever you want, and I will give *it* to you." <sup>23</sup> He also swore to her, "Whatever you ask me, I will give you, up to half my kingdom." <sup>24</sup> So she went out and said to her mother, "What shall I ask?" And she said, "The head of John the Baptist!" <sup>25</sup> Immediately she came in with haste to the king and asked, saying, "I want you to give me at once the head of John the Baptist on a platter." (NKJ)

### **4) The Reward of Faithfulness.**

**Mark 6:26-29** And the king was exceedingly sorry; yet, because of the oaths and because of those who sat with him, he did not want to refuse her. <sup>27</sup> Immediately the king sent an executioner and commanded his head to be brought. And he went and beheaded him in prison, <sup>28</sup> brought his head on a platter, and gave it to the girl; and the girl gave it to her mother. <sup>29</sup> When his disciples heard *of it*, they came and took away his corpse and laid it in a tomb. (NKJ)

**Mark 8:35** For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake and the gospel's will save it. (NKJ)