

Herod

Matthew 2

John Nichols

Part of Come and Behold Him

December 19, 2025

We want to OWN as MUCH as possible.

We RESIST losing CONTROL.

Matthew 2:1-3 – 1 Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, 2 saying, “Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.” 3 When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him;

SEEING Jesus for the FIRST time should make us feel TROUBLED.

Matthew 2:7-8 – 7 Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared. 8 And he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, “Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word, that I too may come and worship him.”

Matthew 2:13 – 13 Now when they had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, “Rise, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you, for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him.”

Matthew 2:16 – 16 Then Herod, when he saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, became furious, and he sent and killed all the male children in Bethlehem and in all that region who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had ascertained from the wise men.

Herod did not keep POWER by ACCIDENT. Herod fought

for POWER every day.

Will we SUBMIT or will we PROTECT our own KINGDOM?

Diagnostic Resistance Questions

Is Jesus the Lord of my BELIEF or of my BEHAVIOR?

Do I seek CORRECTION or do I hide from
ACCOUNTABILITY?

Small Group Questions:

What is something small you like to stay in control of? Why does it matter to you?

What emotions surface when control feels threatened?

In what ways has Jesus ever troubled you?

Can you think of a way that following Jesus comes easily to you? Hard? Why the difference?

Is there an area where you immediately know you need to surrender more control to God?