



“The Worm King”

Acts 12:18-25

Acts: The Unstoppable Gospel

I. Introduction

History is full of kings who thought they were untouchable, like Herod Agrippa I. In Acts 12, he tried to act like a god, but died like a worm.

II. The Aftermath of Peter’s Escape (vv. 18-19)

III. Six Herods in the New Testament

1. Herod the Great (ruled 37-4 BC; cf. Matthew 2:1-21)
2. Herod Archelaus (rules 4 BC – AD 6; cf. Matthew 2:22-23)
3. Herod Antipas (ruled 4 B.C.-A.D. 39; cf. Matthew 14:1-12, Luke 23:6-12)
4. Herod Philip (ruled 4 B.C.-A.D. 34; cf. Luke 3:1)
5. Herod Agrippa I (ruled A.D. 37-44; cf. Acts 12)
6. Herod Agrippa II (ruled A.D. 50s; died around A.D. 93; cf. Acts 25-26)

IV. Herod’s Conflict with Tyre & Sidon (v. 20)

V. Herod’s Self-Exaltation (vv. 21-22)

VI. Herod’s Judgment (v. 23)

VII. The Triumph of God’s Word (vv. 24-25)

VIII. Five Lessons from the Worm King

1. Bad rulers are inevitable.
2. God’s justice always prevails.
3. God deserves all the glory.
4. Pride is foolishness.
5. Fighting against God always fails.

FOR FURTHER REFLECTION:

1. What did you find interesting, surprising, or confusing in today’s passage?
2. What did you learn about the six Herods mentioned in the New Testament?
3. Which of the five lessons stood out to you the most personally, and why?