



The Messiah We Didn't Expect



Kings Fear Him, Servants Die for Him

Mark 6:14-29



BHLP MEDIA PRESENTS

LESSONS FROM THE BEHEADING OF JOHN THE BAPTIST

Friday of Week 21 in
Ordinary Time (Year I)
29 August - St. John the Baptist



Drama, Intrigue and Conspiracy

- Dirty dancing kills! Dance of the 7 veils?
- Heads on Platters? Why a platter?
- Guilt and Shame and grudges, it is what you do with it!
- Coverups are often worse than the original sin! Murder!
- Delayed decisions are a NO! Unbelief and rejection!
- Grace liberates; Guilt condemns! What is your Motive?

What kind of dancing did Salome' do? Break dancing? Ballroom? Tap? Irish Riverdance? Stepdancing? Ballet?

What does it say when Salome would rather have a Preachers head on a platter than half the kingdom? A new Palace? Hate is treasured by some over profit!

Should Christians and Pastors speak into Politics?

1st question is, is it Politics or Morality/Spirituality?!!

Ask Isaiah, Jeremiah, Elijah....John the Baptist!

Mk.6:14-29

[Mar 6:20 ESV] 20 for Herod feared John, knowing that he was a righteous and holy man, and he kept him safe. When he heard him, he was greatly perplexed, and yet he heard him gladly.

If you're asked for your hand in marriage but delay the answer, how would it be taken?

[Mar 6:20 ESV] 20 for Herod feared John, knowing that he was a righteous and holy man, and he kept

him safe. When he heard him, he was greatly perplexed, and yet he heard him gladly.

[Mar 11:18 ESV] 18 And the chief priests and the scribes heard it and were seeking a way to destroy him, for they feared him, because all the crowd was astonished at his teaching.

[Mat 14:5 ESV] 5 And though he wanted to put him to death, he feared the people, because they held him to be a prophet.

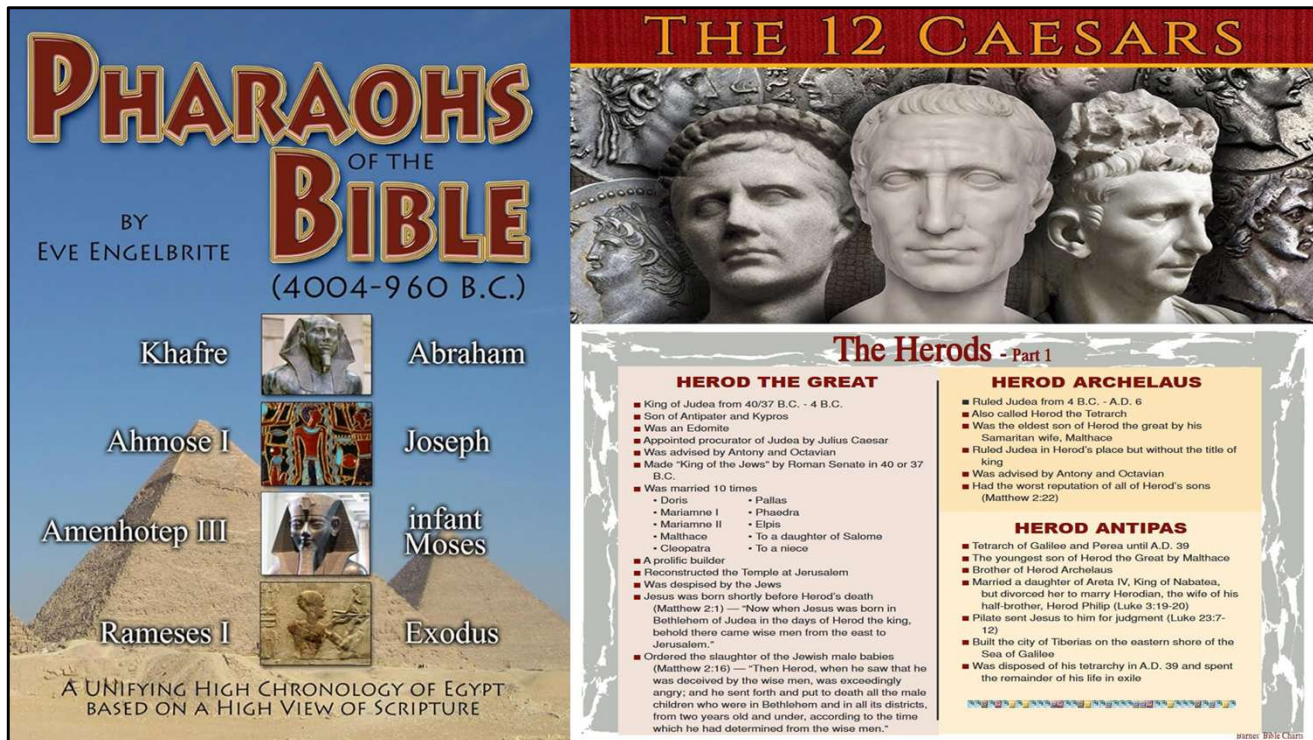
[Mat 21:26 ESV] 26 But if we say, 'From man,' we are afraid of the crowd, for they all hold that John was a prophet."

The first example occurs in [Genesis 3](#), with [Adam](#) and [Eve](#) disobeying God and experiencing shame because of it.

Later, we see King David committing adultery and murder ([2 Samuel 11–12](#)) ([Psalm 51](#))

[Peter](#)'s betrayal of Christ ([John 13:37–38](#); [Luke 22:31–34](#)) The apostle Peter denied Jesus three times, just as Jesus said he would ([John 13:37–38](#); [Luke 22:31–34](#)). Peter's shame and regret after his third denial is clear when "he went out and wept bitterly" ([Luke 22:61–62](#)). Jesus's forgiveness of Peter is shown in His commissioning Peter to feed His sheep ([John 21:15–19](#)).

Remorse, Repentance and regret



Which Herod is this? Bottom right

Bible Kings/Rulers: Many people misunderstand that some "Names" are Actually "Titles" of Kings!

Pharaohs, Caesars (Julius!)(Augustus and Tiberius, render to Caesar...Claudius, Nero executed Paul and Peter, Acts 25, 1Pet.) , Herod's (The Great, Antipas) Abimelech's

Ramesses II (c. 1279–1213 BC): Ramesses II, or Ramesses the Great, is the most common figure for the Exodus pharaoh as Rameses is mentioned in the Bible as a place name (see Genesis 47:11, Exodus 1:11, Numbers 33:3, etc).

Later, named pharaohs like Necho (King Neco) and Hophra (Apries) appear in Kings and Jeremiah, with specific interactions with Israel and Judah, while Pharaohs of David's time (possibly Horemheb) and Solomon's (father-in-law) are also mentioned, often linked to historical figures like [Ramesses II](#) (Exodus) or [Shishak](#) (Shoshenq I).

<https://thebiblehistoryguy.com/blog/f/the-six-pharaohs-of-genesis-and-exodus>

Gen 12:18 So **Pharaoh** called Abram and said, "What is this you have done to me? Why did you not tell me that she was your wife?"

Gen 41:41 And **Pharaoh** said to Joseph, "See, I have set you over all the land of Egypt."

Exo 1:8 ¶Now there arose a new king over Egypt, who did not know Joseph. **Exo 1:22** **probably**

Ahmose I

Exo 3:10 Come, I will send you to **Pharaoh** that you may bring my people, the children of Israel, out of Egypt.” probably Thutmose II and then Thutmose III

Caesar Augustus (Luke 2:1) One of the prominent figures in the New Testament was the first Roman Emperor Caesar Augustus. Augustus ruled from 27 B.C to A.D. 14. He was originally named was Caius Octavius Caepias. He was the grandnephew of Julius Caesar. Caesar was murdered in 44 B.C.

https://www.blueletterbible.org/faq/don_stewart/don_stewart_1310.cfm

Tiberius Caesar (Luke 3:1, 20:22):

Claudius Caesar (Acts 11:28, 17:7, 18:2) [Act 11:28 ESV] 28 And one of them named Agabus stood up and foretold by the Spirit that there would be a great famine over all the world (this took place in the days of Claudius).

Nero Caesar (Acts 25:8, 21, 25) Act 25:21

Luk 3:1 In the fifteenth year of the reign of **Tiberius Caesar**, Pontius Pilate being governor of Judea, and **Herod being tetrarch of Galilee, and his brother Philip tetrarch** of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene, [Luke 20:24,25](#), [Luke 23:1,2](#), [John 19:12](#)

Abimelech

Gen 20:2 And **Abraham said of Sarah** his wife, “She is my sister.” And **Abimelech** king of Gerar sent and took Sarah.

Gen 26:9 So **Abimelech** called **Isaac** and said, “Behold, she is your wife. **How then could you say, ‘She is my sister’?**” Isaac said to him, “Because I thought, ‘Lest I die because of her.’”

King Herod heard of it,

- His Hometown rejected Him, Disciples empowered!
- They (Apostles) cast out many demons and anointed with oil many who were sick and healed them (6:13)
- For Jesus' name had become known (6:14)
- Some said, "John the Baptist has been raised from the dead" (6:14), Overactive guilty conscience?



[Mar 6:4, 7 ESV] 4 And Jesus said to them, "A prophet is not without honor, except in his hometown and among his relatives and in his own household." ...

7 And he called the twelve and began to send them out two by two, and **gave them authority over the unclean spirits.**

[Mar 6:12-13 ESV] 12 So they went out and proclaimed that people should repent. 13 And they cast out many demons and anointed with oil many who were sick and healed them.

[Mar 6:14 ESV] 14 King Herod heard of it, for Jesus' name had become known. Some said, "John the Baptist has been raised from the dead. That is why these miraculous powers are at work in him."

Herod had heard :

[Mat 14:1 ESV] 1 At that time **Herod the tetrarch heard about the fame of Jesus,**

[Luk 3:1 ESV] 1 In the fifteenth year of **the reign of Tiberius Caesar, Pontius Pilate being governor of Judea, and Herod being tetrarch of Galilee, and his brother Philip tetrarch of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene,**

[Luk 9:7 ESV] 7 Now **Herod the tetrarch heard about all that was happening, and he was perplexed, because it was said by some that John had been raised from the dead,**

[Luk 13:31 ESV] 31 At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to him, "Get away from here, for **Herod wants to kill you.**"

[Luk 23:7-12 ESV] 7 And **when he learned that he belonged to Herod's jurisdiction, he sent him over to Herod**, who was himself in Jerusalem at that time. 8 **When Herod saw Jesus, he was very glad, for he had long desired to see him, because he had heard about him, and he was hoping to see some sign done by him.** 9 So he questioned him at some length, but he made no answer. 10 The chief priests and the scribes stood by, vehemently accusing him. 11 And Herod with his soldiers treated him with contempt and mocked him. Then, arraying him in splendid clothing, he sent him back to Pilate. 12 And Herod and Pilate became friends with each other that very day, for before this they had been at enmity with each other.

[Mar 1:28, 45 ESV] 28 And at **once his fame spread everywhere throughout all the surrounding region of Galilee.** ... 45 But he went out and began to talk freely about it, and to spread the news, so that Jesus could no longer openly enter a town, but was out in desolate places, and people were coming to him from every quarter.

[1Th 1:8 ESV] 8 For not only has the word of the Lord sounded forth from you in Macedonia and Achaia, but your faith in God has gone forth everywhere, so that we need not say anything.



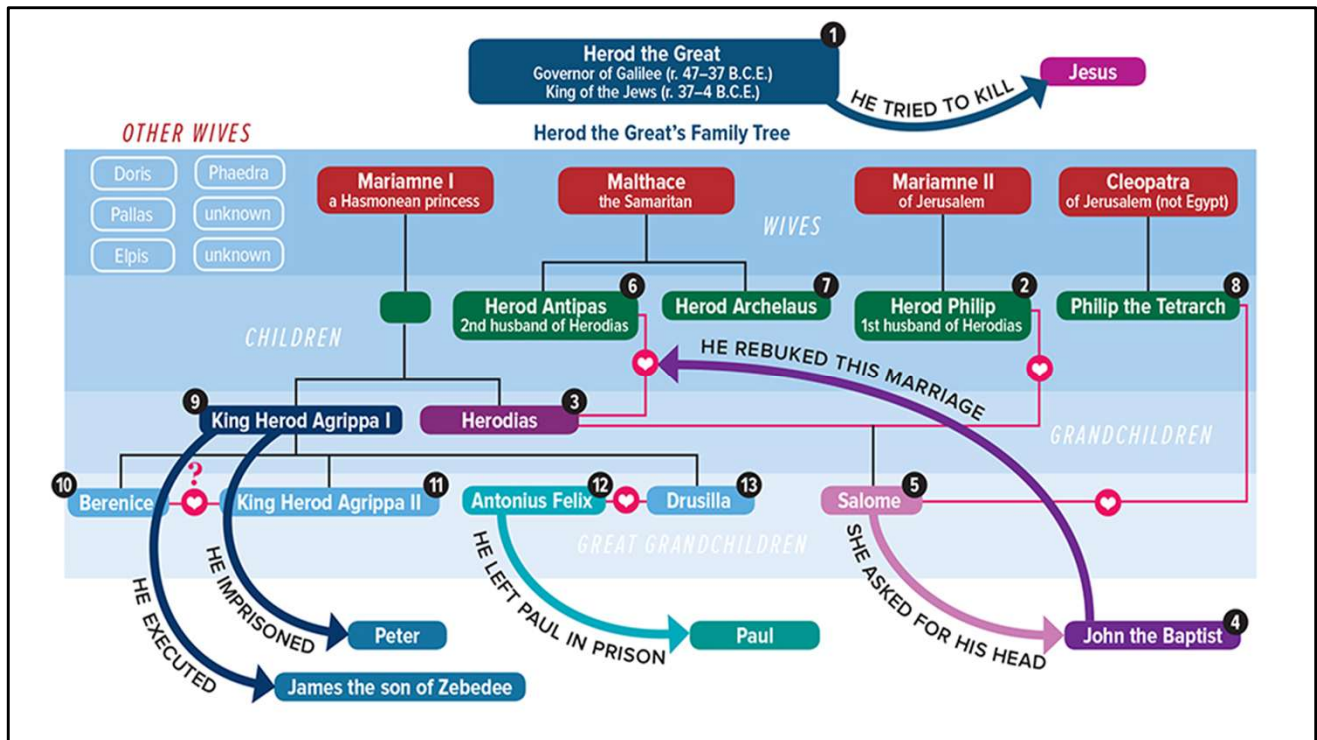
See Areas the different Herod's ruled

Herod Antipas ruled the purple, Galilee

Herod Archelaus ruled Judea and Jerusalem, Brown

4 Great Architectural accomplishments!

1. The Temple
2. The Port at Caesarea
3. Fort Masada!
4. Herodian, plus 12 more fortresses



#1 Herod the Great, tried to kill Jesus, lived only another year or 2, 4BC?! He was old at the time, so Why worry about a baby threat?!!

#3 Herodias (Wife of Herod Philip, Taken by Herod Antipas, killed John the Baptist

#9 Herod Agrippa, Imprisoned Peter, wanted to kill him, Killed James!

2 ungodly women conspire to kill John! Herodias and Salome'. Very similar to Jezebel/Ahab and killing Naboth (Vineyard) 1Ki.21 attempting to kill Elijah!

A Nagging Conscience!

- “John the Baptist has been raised from the dead”
 - But others said, “He is Elijah.” (8:28, 9:12-13, 15:35-36)
 - And other said, “He is a prophet...of old”
 - John had been saying to Herod, “It is not lawful for you to have your brother’s wife.” (6:18, Leviticus 18:16, 20:21)
- **A Nagging Wife!** (6:19)

That is why these miraculous powers are at work in him.” Mk.6:14

Theres only been 1 Resurrection so far, and maybe it hasn’t happened before John's decapitation?

So why would Herod think John has Risen?

Jesus and John were linked in a few ways,

They both were Prophetised about,

they were both morally Great! [Mat 11:11](#)

and they preached hard truths and Repentance!

The Unregenerate have the self condemning presence of the Conscience, even without the Holy Spirit

[Rev 12:11 ESV] 11 And they have conquered him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, for they loved not their lives even unto death.

[Mar 6:19 ESV] 19 And Herodias had a grudge against him and wanted to put him to death. But she could not,

[Mal 4:5 ESV] 5 "Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the great and awesome day of the LORD comes.

[Luk 1:17 and he will go before him in the spirit and power of Elijah, to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, to make ready for the Lord a people prepared."

[Lev 18:16 ESV] 16 You shall not uncover the nakedness of your brother's wife; it is your brother's nakedness.

[Lev 20:21 ESV] 21 If a man takes his brother's wife, it is impurity. He has uncovered his brother's nakedness; they shall be childless.

[Eze 3:18 ESV] 18 If I say to the wicked, 'You shall surely die,' and you give him no warning, nor speak to warn the wicked from his wicked way, in order to save his life, that wicked person shall die for his iniquity, but his blood I will require at your hand.

Prophets were highly respectable because of their singular devotion and pure behaviors as Gods representatives!

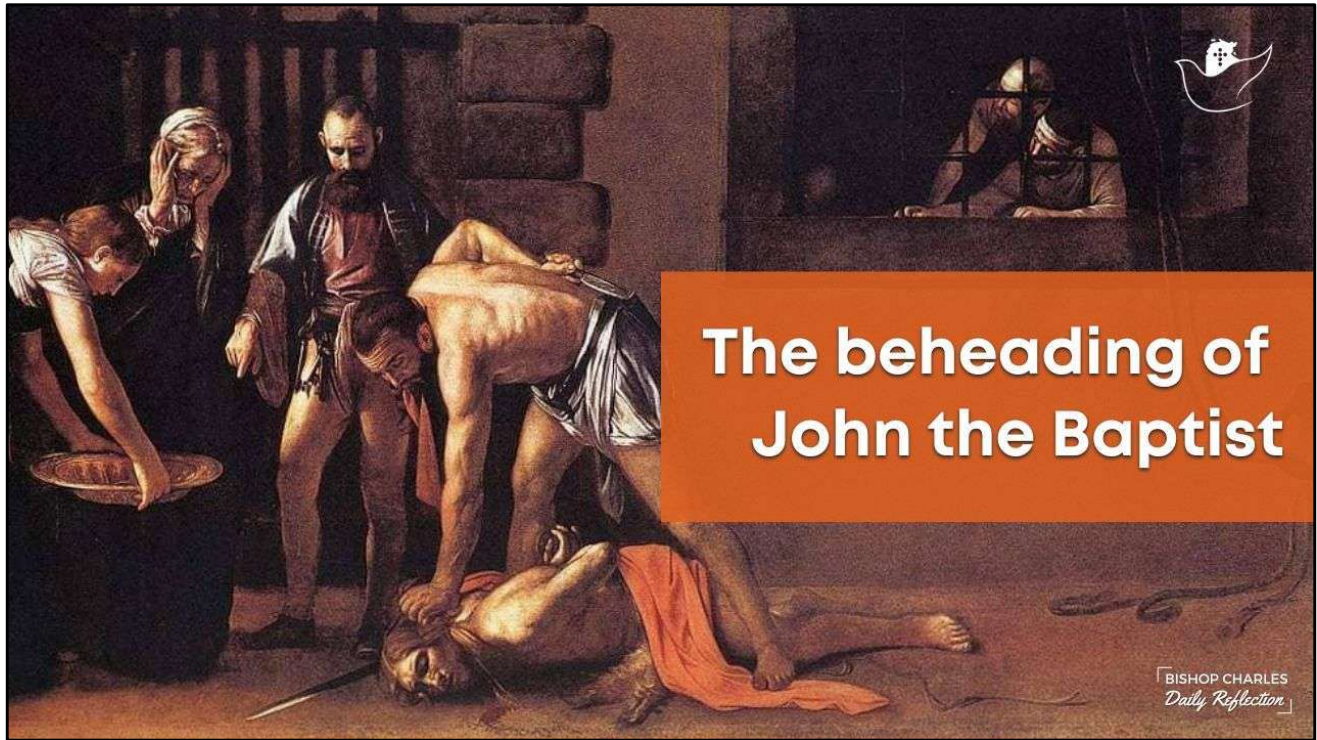
[Luk 7:16, 39 ESV] 16 Fear seized them all, and they glorified God, saying, "**A great prophet has arisen among us!**" and "**God has visited his people!**" ... 39 Now when the Pharisee who had invited him saw this, he said to himself, "**If this man were a prophet, he would have known who** and what sort of woman this is who is touching him, for she is a sinner."

[Jhn 6:14 ESV] 14 When the people saw the sign that he had done, they said, "**This is indeed the Prophet who is to come into the world!**"

[Jhn 7:40 ESV] 40 When they heard these words, some of the people said, "**This really is the Prophet.**"

[Jhn 9:17 ESV] 17 So they said again to the blind man, "What do you say about him, since he has opened your eyes?" He said, "**He is a prophet.**"

[Act 3:22-23 ESV] 22 Moses said, '**The Lord God will raise up for you a prophet like me from your brothers.** You shall listen to him in whatever he tells you. 23 And it shall be that **every soul who does not listen to that prophet shall be destroyed** from the people.'



The beheading of John the Baptist

BISHOP CHARLES
Daily Reflection

The Difference between guilt and shame!

- Godly people call out sin, because we love! Abigail
- Romans 2:15 – They show that the work of the law is written on their hearts, while their conscience also bears witness, and their conflicting thoughts accuse or even excuse them!



Its also why we preach against Abortion – The Guilt can be crushing!

women who had abortions or natural pregnancy loss were twice as likely to attempt to end their lives..

<https://washingtonstand.com/news/devastating-and-tragic-study-finds-higher-rates-of-suicide-attempts-for-postabortive-women>

1Sa 25:31-32 ESV] 31 my lord shall have no cause of grief or pangs of conscience for having shed blood without cause or for my lord working salvation himself. And when the LORD has dealt well with my lord, then remember your servant." 32 And David said to Abigail, "Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel, who sent you this day to meet me!

[Rom 2:15-16 ESV] 15 They show that the work of the law is written on their hearts, while their conscience also bears witness, and their conflicting thoughts accuse or even excuse them 16 on that day when, according to my gospel, God judges the secrets of men by Christ Jesus.

Rom 13:5 Therefore one must be in subjection, not only to avoid God's wrath but also for the sake of **conscience**.

[1Ti 4:2 ESV] 2 through the insincerity of liars **whose consciences are seared,**

[Eph 4:19 ESV] 19 They have become callous and have given themselves up to sensuality, greedy to practice every kind of impurity.

1. [1Jo 3:19-21 ESV] 19 By this we shall know that we are of the truth and reassure our heart before him; 20 for whenever our heart condemns us, God is greater than our heart, and he knows everything. 21 Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence before God;
2. [1Jo 2:1-2 ESV] 1 My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. 2 He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.
3. [1Jo 1:9 ESV] 9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

[Rev 12:11 ESV] 11 And they have conquered him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, for they loved not their lives even unto death.

Why did Judas Hang himself??

How did the Apostle Paul overcome guilt and Shame? To Lead the Church?

[Rev 12:10 ESV] 10 And I heard a loud voice in heaven, saying, "Now the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ have come, **for the accuser of our brothers** has been thrown down, who accuses them day and night before our God.

False guilt/shame used to paralyze and rob the Naïve and sincere/simple from Gods Joy and Liberty!

Sexually abused ‘feeling’ guilty?!!

DEI and Woke indoctrinations and pervasive lies to manipulate and bring injustice in the name of social justice

Listening to the devils lies instead of Gods promise of forgiveness!

[Mat 1:19](#) And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to **shame**, resolved to divorce her quietly.

[1Co 1:27](#) But God chose what is foolish in the world to **shame** the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to **shame** the strong;

[1Co 15:34](#) Wake up from your drunken stupor, as is right, and do not go on sinning. For some have no knowledge of God. I say this to your **shame**.

[Phl 3:19](#) Their end is destruction, their god is their belly, and they glory in their **shame**, with minds set on earthly things.

[Col 2:15](#) He disarmed the rulers and authorities[fn] and put them to open **shame**, by triumphing over them in him.[fn]

[Heb 12:2](#) looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the **shame**, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

[1Jo 2:28](#) And now, little children, abide in him, so that when he appears we may have confidence and not shrink from him in **shame** at his coming.

[Jde 1:13](#) wild waves of the sea, casting up the foam of their own **shame**; wandering stars, for whom the gloom of utter darkness has been reserved forever.

[Rev 3:18](#) I counsel you to buy from me gold refined by fire, so that you may be rich, and white garments so that you may clothe yourself and the **shame** of your nakedness may not be seen, and salve to anoint your eyes, so that you may see.

The Difference between guilt and shame!

- Revelation 12:10 - ...for the accuser (Satan) of our brothers has been thrown down, who accuses the day and night before our God.



**AND THEY
OVERCAME
HIM BY THE
BLOOD OF THE
LAMB AND BY
THE WORD
OF THEIR
TESTIMONY,**

**AND THEY DID NOT
LOVE THEIR LIVES
TO THE DEATH.**



REVELATION 12:11

Alerts and Alarms

- The Conscience – Divine blueprint & moral compass
 - Can be poorly trained or “weak” (Legalists or RC Nuns...)
 - Can be seared! (1 Timothy 4:2) (Psychopaths) Calloused
- The Grand Inquisitor (Revelation 12:10) Accuser!
- The Convicter/comforter! (John 16:7-11), Advocate! (1 John 2:1)



like [Tomás de Torquemada the first Grand Inquisitor of the Spanish Inquisition](#), or fictional characters, most notably the leader of Darth Vader's Jedi hunters in [Star Wars](#). The *Star Wars* Grand Inquisitor was a former Jedi Temple Guard who turned to the dark side,

Rev 12:10 And I heard a loud voice in heaven, saying, “Now the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ have come, for the **accuser** of our brothers[fn] has been thrown down, who accuses them day and night before our God.

[Mat 24:1-2 ESV] 1 Jesus left the temple and was going away, when his disciples came to point out to him the buildings of the temple. 2 But he answered them, "You see all these, do you not? Truly, I say to you, there will not be left here one stone upon another that will not be thrown down."

[1Ti 4:1-2 ESV] 1 Now the Spirit expressly says that in later times some will depart from the faith by devoting themselves to deceitful spirits and teachings of demons, 2 through the insincerity of liars whose consciences are seared,

[Rom 1:28 ESV] 28 And since they did not see fit to acknowledge God, God gave them up to a debased mind to do what ought not to be done.

[Eph 4:19 ESV] 19 They have become callous and have given themselves up to sensuality, greedy to practice every kind of impurity.

Weak

1Co 8:10 (7-12, 10:25-29) For if anyone sees you who have knowledge eating in an idol's temple, will he not be encouraged, **if his conscience is weak**, to eat food offered to idols?

Heb 9:14 how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without blemish to God, purify our[fn] **conscience** from dead works to serve the living God.

Heb 10:22 let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil **conscience** and our bodies washed with pure water.

Is that feeling conviction or condemnation?

Conviction



Comes from the Holy Spirit

Leads to repentance.

Offers forgiveness.

Runs to Jesus for grace.

Brings joy, peace, and freedom.

Condemnation



Comes from the Enemy

Leads to self hatred.

Offers guilt.

Runs from God in shame.

Brings more sin and regret.

The Powerful are afraid!

- “Herod feared John” (6:20)
 - “Knowing that he was a righteous and holy man,”
 - Matthew 14:5 – And though he wanted to put him to death, he feared the people, because they held him to be a prophet.
 - “the chief priests and the scribes heard it and were seeking a way to destroy him, for they feared him. (11:18)



Mar 6:26 And the king was exceedingly sorry, but because of his oaths and his guests he did not want to break his word to her.

Herod the Great

Mat 2:3 When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; (Mt.14:26, Mk.6:50)

Mat 2:16 he sent and killed all the male children in Bethlehem

Herod Antipas – Mk.6:20

Mat 21:26 But if we say, 'From man,' we are afraid of the crowd, for they all hold that John was a prophet.“ (the chief priests and the elders)

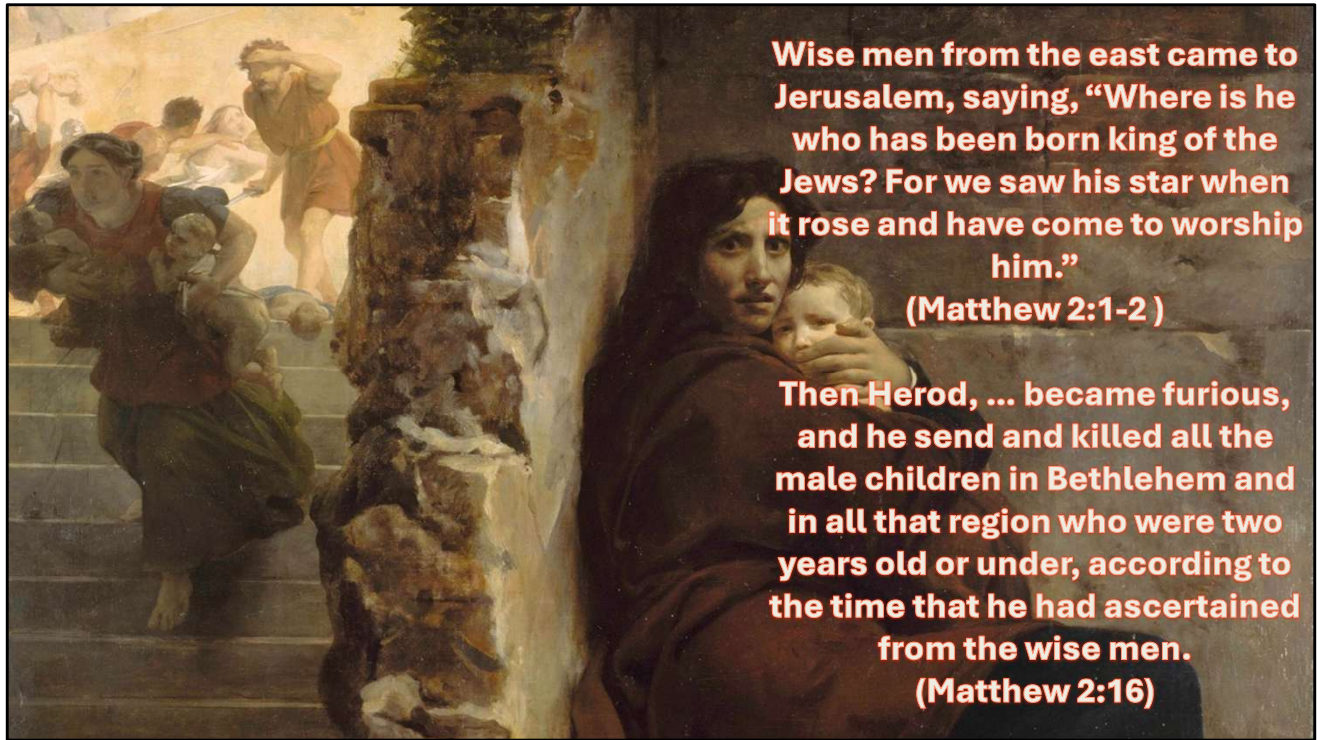
Jhn 19:8 When Pilate heard this statement, he was even more afraid. (“We have a law, and according to that law he ought to die because he has made himself the Son of God.”)

Jesus’ confident and accepting response. He didn’t defend Himself and even warned what would happen! **Jhn 19:11**

Pilates wife's Dream,

Jewish leaders threat and His trouble with Caesar [Jhn 19:12](#)

He himself stated Jesus' innocence and washed his hands



Wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, 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.”

(Matthew 2:1-2)

Then Herod, ... became furious, and he send 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.

(Matthew 2:16)

The Christmas Story No One Wants to Talk About: The Holy Innocents

Massacre of the Innocents by Léon Cogniet – Museum of Fine Arts of Rennes, Public Domain, Wikimedia Commons

What kind of man would order such a horrific crime?

He died within a few years of this, what was he really protecting?

Guilt/Shame

- Adam/Eve, Fig leaves in the bushes (Genesis 3:10)
- The Samaritan Woman went into town! (John 4:7)
- Weeping woman washing Jesus' feet! (Luke 7:44)
- Peter denied the Lord 3x! (John 13:38, 18:27; Luke 22:62)



How bad must Eve have felt for over 900 years as she watches her progeny spiral downward into sin? they were ashamed at their nakedness ([Genesis 3:10](#)).

“he went outside and wept bitterly” ([Luke 22:62](#))

Barren women

[Luk 7:44](#) Then turning toward the woman he said to Simon, “Do you see this woman? I entered your house; you gave me no water for my **feet**, but she has wet my **feet** with her tears and wiped them with her **hair**.

[1Ti 1:13-16 ESV] 13 though formerly I was a blasphemer, persecutor, and insolent opponent. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, 14 and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. 15 The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the foremost. 16 But I received mercy for this reason, that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display his perfect patience as an example to those who were to believe in him for eternal life.

Guilt/Shame

- Saul/Paul's shame in murdering believers!
(1 Timothy 1:13)
- Judas hanged himself (Matthew 27:5)



Guilt/Shame enemy-driven

Adam & Eve
after the fall

Instead of turning to God,
they hid from Him
(Genesis 3:7-10).

Cain after
killing Abel

He was overcome by shame and
hopelessness (Genesis 4:13-14),
saying his punishment was too
much to bear.

Judas after
betraying Jesus

Instead of seeking forgiveness, he
was consumed by shame and
despair, leading to his death
(Matthew 27:3-5).

We now serve by grace not guilt! Guilt tries to pay back, debt.

Love Liberates!!

Why are God's servants hated?

- Herod the Great! Slaughter of the innocents!
- John the Baptist (Mark 6)
- 10 of the Apostles were Martyred! (Acts 1:8)
- Humans hate God (Exodus 20:5, Romans 8:7),
Love Sin! (John 3:19)
- John 15:18-25 – They hated Jesus for exposing them!



Could you have slaughtered the innocents? Or risk death yourself?

[Isa 30:11](#) Leave this way, get off this path, and **stop confronting us** with the Holy One of Israel!”

[Jhn 7:7](#) The world cannot **hate** you, but it hates **me** because I testify about it that its works are evil.

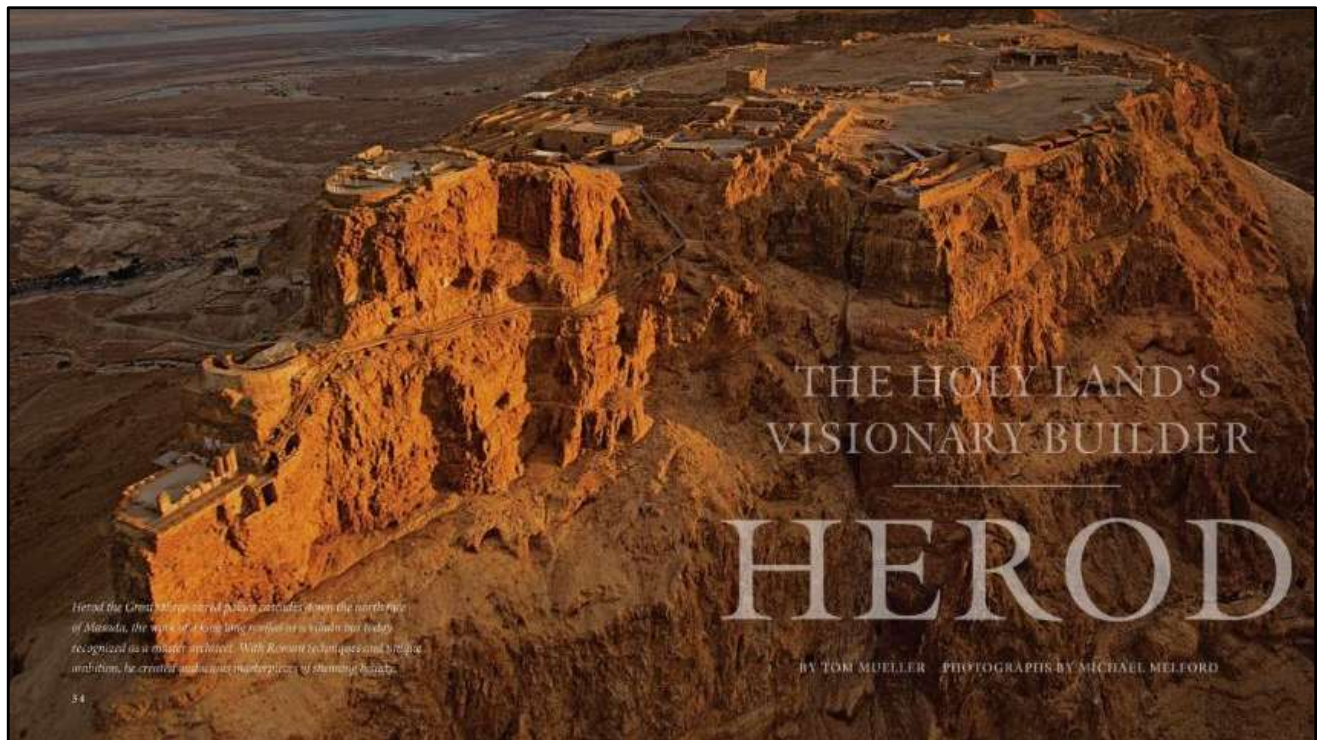
[[Jhn 15:18](#), 24-25 ESV] 18 "If the world hates you, know that it has hated me before it hated you. ... 24 If I had not done among them the works that no one else did, they would not be guilty of sin, but now they have seen and hated both me and my Father. 25 But the word that is written in their Law must be fulfilled: 'They hated me without a cause.'

[[Rom 8:7](#) ESV] 7 For the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God, for it does not submit to God's law; indeed, it cannot.

[[Exo 20:5](#)-6 ESV] 5 You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and fourth generation of those who hate me, 6 but showing steadfast love to thousands of those who love me and keep my commandments.

[[Jhn 3:19](#)ESV] 19 And this is the judgment: the light has come into the world, and people loved the

darkness rather than the light because their works were evil.



NATGEO, Clickbait or Historical Revisionism?

Herod 1: The Controversial King who Transformed the Holy Land. Villain of the Christmas Story, King Herod realized a bold new vision of a Roman Judea. Nat Geo

This Biblical Villains tomb was lost for centuries. King Herod's Mausoleum, which long eluded Archaeologists, Sheds light on the rulers turbulent reign- and its effect on Jesus' early life

The Real King Herod. Architect of the Holy Land. December 2008

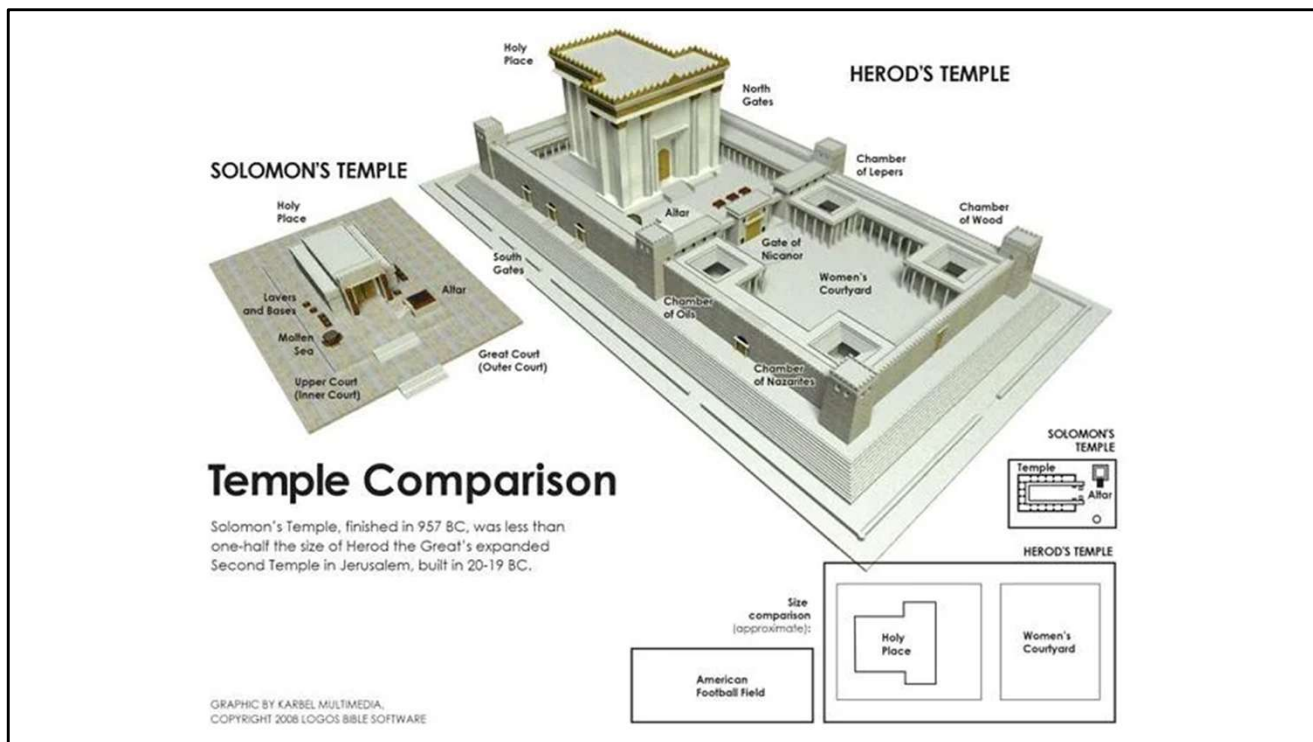
Google AI says **Nat Geo offers instead a Balanced approach, Presenting only one side would be inconsistent with rigorous historical reporting.**

The reporting frames Herod as an enigmatic ruler who walked a fine line between appeasing Rome and managing his Jewish subjects, many of whom deeply mistrusted him due to his Idumean origins and close ties to the Roman Empire

Herod's complex and contradictory nature makes for a compelling story. National Geographic explores the tension between "one of the Bible's greatest villains" and the "architectural mastermind" to provide a complete picture of a pivotal historical figure, rather than promoting a biased viewpoint.

SYNOPSIS

Herod the Great, king of the holy land in the time of Christ, is best known for the Massacre of the Innocents: the Gospel of Matthew's apocryphal slaughter of Bethlehem's male infants. But Herod's bloody reputation has always hidden another side of one of the Bible's greatest villains. He was an architectural mastermind of breathtaking proportions. Herod built more and larger monuments than virtually anyone in ancient times, perhaps in all time. Now, Israeli archeologist Ehud Netzer claims to have found Herod's most intimate creation of all - his burial tomb.



Herod was a great Builder, some argue the most Prolific ever!

He certainly took Zerubbabel's Temple and enlarged it far beyond Solomons!, Even the Disciples bragged on it!

[Mat 24:1-2 ESV] 1 Jesus left the temple and was going away, when his disciples came to point out to him the buildings of the temple. 2 But he answered them, "You see all these, do you not? Truly, I say to you, there will not be left here one stone upon another that will not be thrown down."

Paul stood on trial too!

- He shared his testimony: sin, shame and salvation
- Acts 26:27 – “King Agrippa, do you believe the prophets? I know that you believe.”
- Acts 26:28 – And Agrippa said to Paul, “In a short time would you persuade me to be a Christian?”
- Paul was later executed, Agrippa was Condemned

[Act 24:14-16, 25-27 ESV] 14 But this I confess to you, that according to the Way, which they call a sect, I worship the God of our fathers, believing everything laid down by the Law and written in the Prophets, 15 having a hope in God, which these men themselves accept, that there will be a resurrection of both the just and the unjust. 16 So I always take pains to have **a clear conscience toward both God and man.** ... 25 And as **he reasoned about righteousness and self-control and the coming judgment, Felix was alarmed and said, "Go away for the present. When I get an opportunity I will summon you."** **26 At the same time he hoped that money would be given him by Paul. So he sent for him often and conversed with him. 27 When two years had elapsed, Felix was succeeded by Porcius Festus. And desiring to do the Jews a favor, Felix left Paul in prison.**

[Act 26:6, 8, 11, 18, 21-23 ESV] 6 And now I stand here on trial because of my hope in the promise made by God to our fathers, ... 8 Why is it thought incredible by any of you that God raises the dead? ... 11 And I punished them often in all the synagogues and tried to make them blaspheme, and in raging fury against them I persecuted them even to foreign cities. ... 18 to open their eyes, so that they may turn from darkness to light and from the power of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified by faith in me.' ... 21 For this reason the Jews seized me in the temple and tried to kill me. 22 To this day I have had the help that comes from God, and so I stand here testifying both to small and great, saying nothing but what the prophets and Moses said would come to pass: 23 that the Christ must suffer and that, by being the first to rise from the dead, he would proclaim light both to our people and to the Gentiles."

[Act 26:24-27 ESV] 24 And as he was saying these things in his defense, Festus said with a loud voice,

"Paul, you are out of your mind; your great learning is driving you out of your mind." 25 But Paul said, "I am not out of my mind, most excellent Festus, but I am speaking true and rational words. 26 For the king knows about these things, and to him I speak boldly. For I am persuaded that none of these things has escaped his notice, for this has not been done in a corner. 27 King Agrippa, do you believe the prophets? I know that you believe."

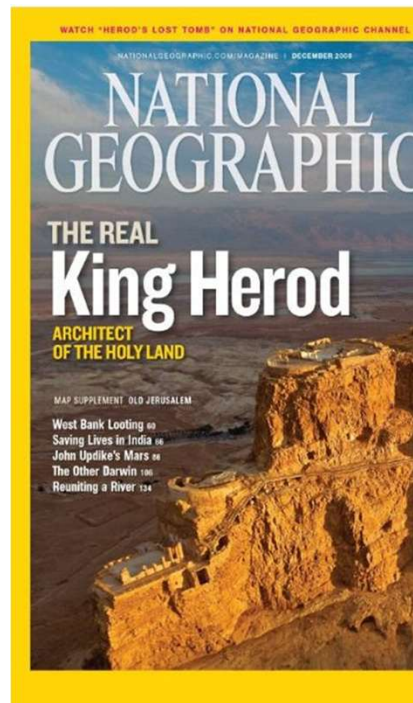
[Act 26:30 ESV] 30 Then the king rose, and the governor and Bernice and those who were sitting with them.

[Act 26:31-32 ESV] 31 And when they had withdrawn, they said to one another, "This man is doing nothing to deserve death or imprisonment." 32 And Agrippa said to Festus, "This man could have been set free if he had not appealed to Caesar."



The Apostle Paul was also Beheaded!!!!

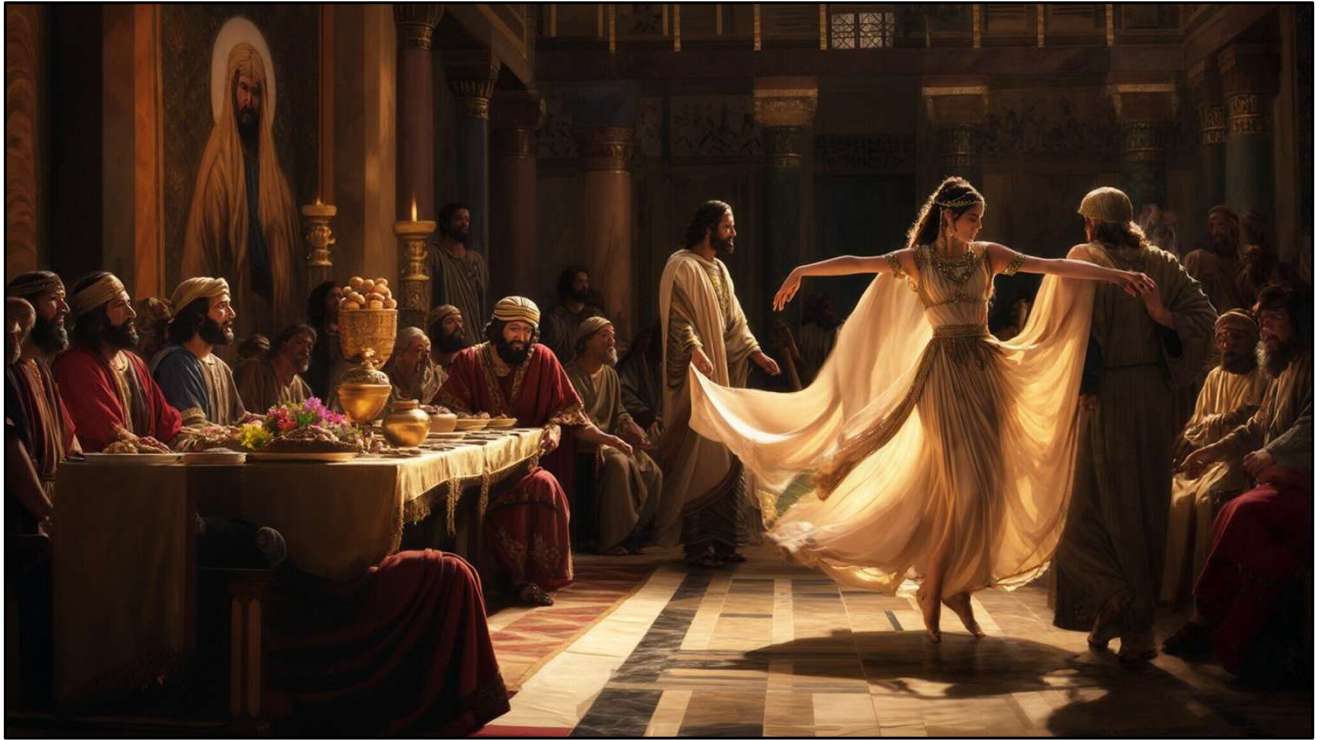




HEROD THE GREAT

- King of Judea from 40/37 B.C. - 4 B.C.
- Son of Antipater and Kypros
- Was an Edomite
- Appointed procurator of Judea by Julius Caesar
- Was advised by Antony and Octavian
- Made "King of the Jews" by Roman Senate in 40 or B.C.
- Was married 10 times
 - Doris
 - Pallas
 - Mariamne I
 - Phaedra
 - Mariamne II
 - Elpis
 - Malthace
 - To a daughter of Salome
 - Cleopatra
 - To a niece
- A prolific builder
- Reconstructed the Temple at Jerusalem
- Was despised by the Jews
- Jesus was born shortly before Herod's death (Matthew 2:1) — "Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king behold there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem."
- Ordered the slaughter of the Jewish male babies (Matthew 2:16) — "Then Herod, when he saw that he was deceived by the wise men, was exceedingly angry; and he sent forth and put to death all the male children who were in Bethlehem and in all its district from two years old and under, according to the time which he had determined from the wise men."







Jesus was simply not as noteworthy

He was just one of many apocalyptic preachers



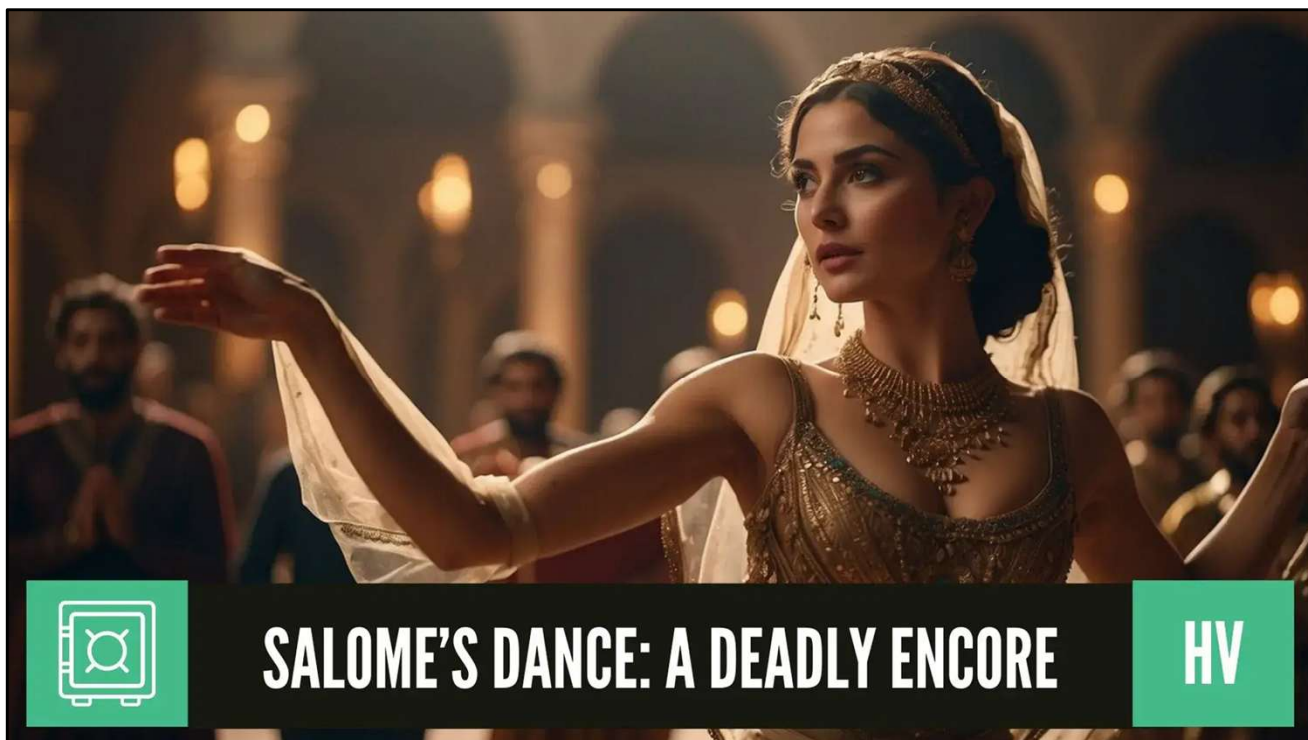
Jesus is mentioned in other sources

and his followers were in fact mentioned in other sources but under different names. In other words,



Jesus is a myth and did not exist in reality





SALOME'S DANCE: A DEADLY ENCORE

HV



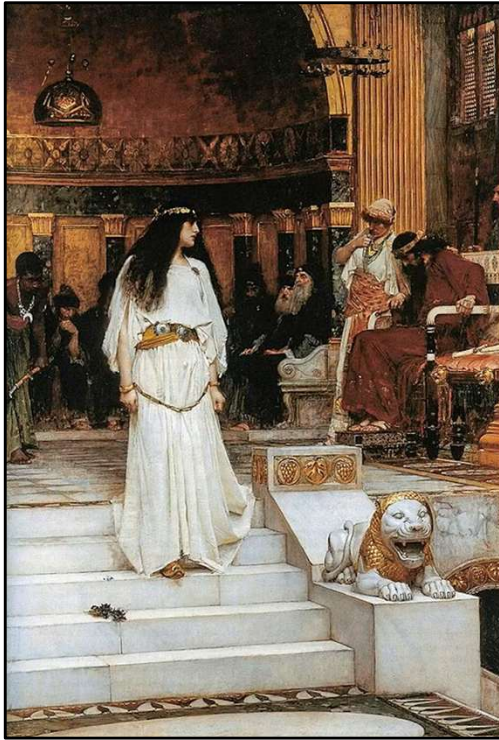
**DID HEROD REALLY
ORDER THE MASSACRE
OF THE INNOCENTS, OR
DID MATTHEW JUST
MAKE UP A STORY?**













NOW THE SHARP SWORD OF JOHN WAS OVERTAKING!



**The Holy Spirit
convicts for
the purpose of
restoration.**

**The enemy
condemns for
the purpose of
separation.**

JOHN 16:8