

~HEROD 2 (443)

- **Kills John The Baptizer**
- **The Leaven Of Herod**
- **Makes Fun Of Jesus**
- **Banished To Gaul**

• Herod Antipas, **son of Herod the Great** and Malthace, a Samaritan woman. He was brought up in Rome with his brother Archelaus. In Herod's will, Antipas had been named to receive the kingship, but Herod, at the last, changed his will, naming Archelaus instead.

• Antipas contested the will before Augustus Caesar, who upheld Archelaus claim but divided the kingdom, giving Antipas the tetrarchy of Galilee and Perea. Tetrarch, meaning ruler over one fourth of a province, was a term applied to a minor district ruler or territorial prince. However, popularly he may have been called King, as was Archelaus.

• Grieved though he was, the king out of regard for his oaths and for those reclining with him commanded it to be given. (**Matthew 14:9**)

• Now it got to the ears of King **Herod**, for the name of Jesus became public, and people were saying; John the baptizer has been raised from the dead, and on that account the powerful works are operating in him. (**Mark 6:14**)

• And the daughter of this very **Herodias** came in and danced and pleased **Herod** and those reclining with him. The king said to the maiden; Ask me for whatever you want, and I will give it to you. (**Mark 6:22**)

• Immediately she went in with haste to the king and made her request, saying; I want you to give me right away on a platter the head of John the Baptist. (**Mark 6:25**)

• Although he became deeply grieved, yet the king did not want to disregard her, in view of the oaths and those reclining at the table. (**Mark 6:26**)

• So the king immediately dispatched a body guardsman and commanded him to bring his head. And he went off and

beheaded him in the prison (**Mark 6:27**)

- Antipas married the daughter of Aretas, king of Arabia, whose capital was at Petra. But on one of his trips to Rome, Antipas visited his half brother **Herod** Philip, the son of **Herod** the Great and Mariamne II, not Philip the tetrarch.
- While visiting, he became infatuated with Philip's wife Herodias, who was ambitious for position. He took her back to Galilee and married her, divorcing Aretas' daughter and sending her back to her home.
- This insulting action brought war. Aretas invaded Antipas' dominion and inflicted tremendous losses on him, to the extent that he was almost overthrown. Antipas was saved by an appeal to Rome that brought an order from the emperor for Aretas to halt the war.
- Antipas gained high favor with Tiberius Caesar, the successor of Augustus. A builder like his father, but on a far smaller scale, Antipas built a city on Lake Gennesaret, the Sea of Galilee, or Tiberias, and named it Tiberias, after the emperor.
- After these things Jesus departed across the sea of Galilee, or Tiberias. (**John 6:1**)
- But boats from Tiberias arrived near the place where they ate the bread after the Lord had given thanks. (**John 6:23**)
- Another city, Julias, he named for Augustus' wife, Julia or more commonly called Livia. He also constructed forts, palaces, and theaters.

•• **Kills John The Baptizer**

- It was **Herod** Antipas' adulterous relationship with Herodias that brought reproof from John the Baptizer. John could properly correct Antipas on this matter, for Antipas was nominally a Jew and professedly under the Law.
- Antipas put John into prison, desiring to kill him, but was afraid of the people, who believed John was a prophet. Nevertheless, at a celebration of Antipas' birthday, Herodias' daughter so pleased him that he made an oath to give her whatever she asked.

- Herodias instructed her daughter to ask for John's head. **Herod**, though it was not pleasing to him, cravenly gave in to save face before those attending the celebration and because of his oath. However, under the Law he would not be bound by an oath to perform an illegal act, such as murder.
- For **Herod** had arrested John and bound him and put him away in prison on account of Herodias the wife of Philip his brother. (**Matthew 14:3**)
- For John had been saying to him; It is not lawful for you to be having her. (**Matthew 14:4**)
- However, although he wanted to kill him, he feared the crowd, because they took him for a prophet. (**Matthew 14:5**)
- But when **Herod's** birthday was being celebrated the daughter of Herodias danced at it and pleased **Herod** so much (**Matthew 14:6**)
- That he promised with an oath to give her whatever she asked. (**Matthew 14:7**)
- Then she, under her mother's coaching, said; Give me here upon a platter the head of John the Baptist. (**Matthew 14:8**)
- Grieved though he was, the king out of regard for his oaths and for those reclining with him commanded it to be given. (**Matthew 14:9**)
- And he sent and had John beheaded in the prison. (**Matthew 14:10**)
- And his head was brought on a platter and given to the maiden, and she brought it to her mother. (**Matthew 14:11**)
- Finally his disciples came up and removed the corpse and buried him and came and reported to Jesus. (**Matthew 14:12**)
- For **Herod** himself had sent out and arrested John and bound him in prison on account of Herodias the wife of Philip his brother, because he had married her. (**Mark 6:17**)
- For John had repeatedly said to **Herod**; It is not lawful for you to

be having the wife of your brother. (**Mark 6:18**)

- But **Herodias** was nursing a grudge against him and was wanting to kill him, but could not. (**Mark 6:19**)
- For **Herod** stood in fear of John, knowing him to be a righteous and holy man, and he was keeping him safe. And after hearing him he was at a great loss what to do, yet he continued to hear him gladly. (**Mark 6:20**)
- But a convenient day came along when **Herod** spread an evening meal on his birthday for his top-ranking men and the military commanders and the foremost ones of Galilee. (**Mark 6:21**)
- And the daughter of this very **Herodias** came in and danced and pleased Herod and those reclining with him. The king said to the maiden; Ask me for whatever you want, and I will give it to you. (**Mark 6:22**)
- Yes, he swore to her; Whatever you ask me for, I will give it to you, up to half my kingdom. (**Mark 6:23**)
- And she went out and said to her mother; What should I ask for? She said; The head of John the baptizer. (**Mark 6:24**)
- Immediately she went in with haste to the king and made her request, saying; I want you to give me right away on a platter the head of John the Baptist. (**Mark 6:25**)
- Although he became deeply grieved, yet the king did not want to disregard her, in view of the oaths and those reclining at the table. (**Mark 6:26**)
- So the king immediately dispatched a body guardsman and commanded him to bring his head. And he went off and beheaded him in the prison (**Mark 6:27**)
- And brought his head on a platter, and he gave it to the maiden, and the maiden gave it to her mother. (**Mark 6:28**)
- When his disciples heard of it they came and took up his corpse and laid it in a memorial tomb. (**Mark 6:29**)

- Afterward, when Antipas heard of Jesus ministry of preaching, healing, and casting out demons, he was frightened, fearing that Jesus was actually John who had been raised from the dead. Thereafter he greatly desired to see Jesus, apparently not to hear his preaching, but because he was not sure of this conclusion.
- At that particular time **Herod**, the district ruler, heard the report about Jesus (**Matthew 14:1**)
- And said to his servants; This is John the Baptist. He was raised up from the dead, and this is why the powerful works are operating in him. (**Matthew 14:2**)
- Now it got to the ears of King **Herod**, for the name of Jesus became public, and people were saying; John the baptizer has been raised from the dead, and on that account the powerful works are operating in him. (**Mark 6:14**)
- But others were saying; It is Elijah. Still others were saying; It is a prophet like one of the prophets. (**Mark 6:15**)
- But when **Herod** heard it he began to say; The John that I beheaded, this one has been raised up. (**Mark 6:16**)
- Now **Herod** the district ruler heard of all the things happening, and he was in great perplexity because of its being said by some that John had been raised up from the dead. (**Luke 9:7**)
- But by others that Elijah had appeared, but by still others that a certain one of the ancient prophets had risen. (**Luke 9:8**)
- **Herod** said; John I beheaded. Who, then, is this about whom I am hearing such things? So he was seeking to see him. (**Luke 9:9**)
- It was likely on an occasion when Jesus was passing through Perea on his way to Jerusalem that the Pharisees said to him; Get out and be on your way from here, because **Herod** wants to kill you.
- It may be that **Herod** started this rumor, hoping to cause Jesus to flee out of his territory in fear, for **Herod** may have been afraid to be so bold as to raise his hand again to kill a prophet of God. Evidently referring to **Herod's** craftiness, Jesus in his reply called **Herod**, that fox.

- In that very hour certain Pharisees came up, saying to him; Get out and be on your way from here, because **Herod** wants to kill you. (**Luke 13:31**)
- And he said to them; Go and tell that fox, Look! I am casting out demons and accomplishing healing today and tomorrow, and the third day I shall be finished. (**Luke 13:32**)
- Nevertheless, I must go on my way today and tomorrow and the following day, because it is not admissible for a prophet to be destroyed outside of Jerusalem. (**Luke 13:33**)

· The Leaven Of Herod

- It was during the rulership of **Herod** Antipas that Jesus warned his followers;
- And he began to order them expressly and say; Keep your eyes open, look out for the leaven of the Pharisees and the leaven of **Herod**. (**Mark 8:15**)
- Both of these sects, the Pharisees and the **Herodians**, or party followers of **Herod**, opposed Jesus Christ and his teachings, and though they were at enmity with each other, both saw Christ as a common enemy and were united against him.
- The **Herodians** were more political than religious, it has been said that they claimed to follow the Law but maintained the opinion that it was lawful for the Jews to acknowledge a foreign prince, for the Herod's were not true Jews, but Idumeans.
- The **Herodians** were very nationalistic and supported neither the idea of theocratic rule under Jewish kings nor Roman rule, but they wanted the restoration of the national kingdom under one or the other of the sons of Herod.
- An example betraying their nationalistic leaven was the catch question that they, along with the Pharisees, used in an attempt to trap Jesus; Is it lawful to pay head tax to Caesar or not? Shall we pay, or shall we not pay?
- Next they sent forth to him some of the Pharisees and of the party followers of **Herod**, to catch him in his speech. (**Mark 12:13**)

- On arrival these said to him; Teacher, we know you are truthful and you do not care for anybody, for you do not look upon men's outward appearance, but you teach the way of God in line with truth; Is it lawful to pay head tax to Caesar or not? (**Mark 12:14**)
- Shall we pay, or shall we not pay? Detecting their hypocrisy, he said to them; Why do you put me to the test? Bring me a denarius to look at. (**Mark 12:15**)
- Jesus called them hypocrites, and showed that he was alert to look out for their leaven, for his reply disarmed them, foiling their intention either to bring an accusation of sedition or to arouse the people against him.
- Then the Pharisees went their way and took counsel together in order to trap him in his speech. (**Matthew 22:15**)
- So they dispatched to him their disciples, together with party followers of **Herod**, saying; Teacher, we know you are truthful and teach the way of God in truth, and you do not care for anybody, for you do not look upon men's outward appearance. (**Matthew 22:16**)
- Tell us, therefore, What do you think? Is it lawful to pay head tax to Caesar or not? (**Matthew 22:17**)
- But Jesus, knowing their wickedness, said; Why do you put me to the test, hypocrites? (**Matthew 22:18**)
- Show me the head tax coin. They brought him a denarius. (**Matthew 22:19**)
- And he said to them; Whose image and inscription is this? (**Matthew 22:20**)
- They said; Caesar's. Then he said to them; Pay back, therefore, Caesar's things to Caesar, but God's things to God. (**Matthew 22:21**)
- Well, when they heard that, they marveled, and leaving him they went off. (**Matthew 22:22**)

.. **Makes Fun Of Jesus**

- On the last day of Jesus earthly life, when he was brought before Pontius Pilate and Pilate heard that Jesus was a Galilean, Pilate sent him to **Herod** Antipas the district ruler, or tetrarch, of Galilee, who was then in Jerusalem, for Pilate had experienced trouble with the Galileans.
- At that very season there were certain ones present that reported to him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mixed with their sacrifices. (Luke 13:1)
- So the multitude of them rose, one and all, and led him to Pilate. (Luke 23:1)
- Then they started to accuse him, saying; This man we found subverting our nation and forbidding the paying of taxes to Caesar and saying he himself is Christ a king. (Luke 23:2)
- Now Pilate asked him the question; Are you the king of the Jews? In answer to him he said; You yourself are saying it. (Luke 23:3)
- Then Pilate said to the chief priests and the crowds; I find no crime in this man. (Luke 23:4)
- But they began to be insistent, saying; He stirs up the people by teaching throughout all Judea, even starting out from Galilee to here. (Luke 23:5)
- On hearing that, Pilate asked whether the man was a Galilean. (Luke 23:6)
- And, after ascertaining that he was from the jurisdiction of **Herod**, he sent him on to Herod, who was also himself in Jerusalem in these days. (Luke 23:7)
- On seeing Jesus, **Herod** rejoiced, not because he was concerned with Jesus welfare or wanted to make any real attempt to find out the truth or untruth of the charges brought against him by the priests and the scribes, but because he desired to see Jesus perform some sign.
- This, Jesus refused to do, and he was silent when Herod questioned him, with a good many words. Jesus knew that this appearance before **Herod** was forced on him only as a sort of mockery.

Herod, disappointed in Jesus, discredited him and made fun of him by clothing him with a bright garment and sent him back to Pilate, who was the superior authority as far as Rome was concerned.

- Pilate and **Herod** had been enemies, possibly because of certain accusations that **Herod** had leveled against Pilate. But this move on Pilate's part pleased **Herod** and they became friends.
- When **Herod** saw Jesus he rejoiced greatly, for over a considerable time he was wanting to see him because of having heard about him, and he was hoping to see some sign performed by him. (**Luke 23:8**)
- Now he began to question him with a good many words, but he made him no answer. (**Luke 23:9**)
- However, the chief priests and the scribes kept standing up and vehemently accusing him. (**Luke 23:10**)
- Then **Herod** together with his soldier guards discredited him, and he made fun of him by clothing him with a bright garment and sent him back to Pilate. (**Luke 23:11**)
- Both **Herod** and Pilate now became friends with each other on that very day, for before that they had continued at enmity between themselves. (**Luke 23:12**)
- After the release of Peter and John from custody shortly after Pentecost of **33 C.E.**, the disciples, in prayer to God, said; Both **Herod Antipas** and Pontius Pilate with men of nations and with peoples of Israel were in actuality gathered together in this city against your holy servant Jesus, and now, Yehowah, give attention to their threats, and grant your slaves to keep speaking your word with all boldness.
- After being released they went to their own people and reported what things the chief priests and the older men had said to them. (**Acts of Apostles 4:23**)
- Even so, both **Herod** and Pontius Pilate with men of nations and with peoples of Israel were in actuality gathered together in this city against your holy servant Jesus, whom you anointed. (**Acts of Apostles 4:27**)
- In order to do what things your hand and counsel had

foreordained to occur. (**Acts of Apostles 4:28**)

- And now, Yehowah, give attention to their threats, and grant your slaves to keep speaking your word with all boldness. (**Acts of Apostles 4:29**)
- Now in Antioch there were prophets and teachers in the local congregation, Barnabas as well as Symeon who was called Niger, and Lucius of Cyrene, and Manaen who was educated with **Herod** the district ruler, and Saul. (**Acts of Apostles 13:1**)
- A Christian, Manaen, is spoken of as having been educated with **Herod** the district ruler. Since Antipas was brought up in Rome with a certain private citizen, the Bible statement may indicate that Manaen received his education in Rome.

• **Banished To Gaul**

- When Agrippa I was made king of Philips tetrarchy by Gaius Caesar, Caligula, Antipas wife **Herodias** reproached her husband, saying it was only because of slothfulness on his part that he did not receive kingship.
- She argued that since he was already a tetrarch, whereas, by contrast, Agrippa had formerly had no office at all, Antipas should go to Rome and request a kingship from Caesar.
- He finally yielded to his wife's persistent pressure. But Caligula was angered by Antipas ambitious request and, giving heed to accusations from Agrippa, banished Antipas to Gaul, the city of Lyons, France, he finally died in Spain.
- Herodias, though she could have escaped punishment because of being Agrippa's sister, stuck with her husband, likely because of her pride. Antipas tetrarchy and, after his exile, his money, as well as Herodias estate, came to be given to Agrippa I.
- Thus Herodias was responsible for Antipas' two great calamities, his near defeat by King Aretas, and his banishment.