The Claims of Christmas: He is Dangerous

Matthew 2:3, 1-18

I. The Messenger

A. There are three Herod's mentioned in the Bible
   1. Herod the Great – Matthew 2:1
   2. Herod Antipas – Matthew 14:3
   3. Herod Agrippa – Acts 12:1

B. Herod the Great was a very jealous ruler.
   1. He came to power through brutality.
   2. His reign in Judea was fraught with distrust, betrayal, and murder.

C. Herod made a wicked plan.
   1. Herod heard the message about the baby King.
   2. Herod checked out the wise men's story with the Bible.
   3. Herod returned to the wise men to find out more information.
   4. Herod then convinces the wise men to return to him with news of the baby.

D. Herod was motivated by Satan.

II. The Message

A. We get this from Matthew 2:3.
   1. Herod feared because of Herod's belief.
   2. Herod's belief did not do him any good.

B. Herod was troubled because he would not accept Jesus' authority.
   1. Herod wanted to stay the ultimate authority.
   2. Herod was unwilling to accept Jesus.

C. Satan and Herod were not the only ones worried about Jesus's arrival.

III. The Meaning

A. Jesus is King.

B. Every knee shall bow.
   1. Jesus is only dangerous to those who refuse to bow.
   2. The only ones who claimed He was dangerous were the ones who were unwilling to give up their authority.
   3. Every knee will bow to Jesus.

C. Satan's authority has failed as well.

D. Will you submit to the authority of the one who was born king?