

The Gospel of Matthew #12

A CONTRAST OF TWO KINGS

Matthew 2:19-23

<u>HEROD</u>	<u>JESUS</u>
_____ : Herod, King of the Jews	Jesus, carpenter of Nazareth "Nazarene" is a slur: Jn 7:42, 52; even among Galileans (Jn 1:46) Acts 24:5 an insult Note: Matt not quoting OT, but giving general OT message that Messiah would be despised (eg Isa 11:1; 53:2-3)
_____ corrupted	Power has no negative effect on His character Began a loving rabbi; ended washing His disciples' feet
Sacrificed _____ to protect himself	Sacrificed _____ to protect others
Even killed innocent children—no regard for the _____	Special attention to children and any who were _____
Was still cursing and killing even in his death: Son, Antipas; Jewish nobles	Blessed His executors in His death and died to bring us, His enemies, Life (cf. 1:21)
_____ at the end of his life: agony, no mourning, Judgment!	Exalted at the end of His life: agony, deep mourning, then rose from the dead! Herod's Judge (and yours)
His _____ were evil, following his example: Archelaus (v22)	His offspring are good. By Him our evil hearts are <i>made</i> good. Murderers, adulterers, thieves now worship and love at His throne

So what

1. Herod served himself; who do you serve?

2. Herod will stand before Jesus on his own record; whose record will you carry into that Court?

3. The Gospel is always counter-intuitive. King from Nazareth; Strength from weakness; Life from Death. See how unique this Jesus is? Worship Him.

4. Matthew's purpose is to show Jesus: to " _____ " Him (not as microscope that shows what is tiny to look large, but as a **telescope** that makes what is huge appear more like it is).

Have you ever seen the purpose of your life to simply magnify Jesus in *everything* you say and do?

The denial of that was at the heart of Herod's misery—and yours.

Come to Jesus for a reorientation of purpose!