

## ACTS- Church On Mission

### Part 34- What Happens When Men Play God

Acts 12:20-24-“ Now Herod was angry w/ the people of Tyre & Sidon, & they came to him w/ one accord, & having persuaded Blastus, the king's chamberlain, they asked for peace, because their country depended on the king's country for food. On an appointed day Herod put on his royal robes, took his seat upon the throne, & delivered an oration to them. And the people were shouting, "The voice of a god, & not of a man!" Immediately an angel of the Lord struck him down, because he did not give God the glory, & he was eaten by worms & breathed his last. But the word of God increased & multiplied.”

#### 1. Who Was Herod?

##### A. Lead By His Emotions:

- VS. 20a- Angry w/ the people

##### B. Punishes People For Not Doing What He Wants

- VS. 20b- “they came to him w/ one accord, & having persuaded Blastus, the king's chamberlain, they asked for peace, because their country depended on the king's country for food.”
- Proverbs 16:26- “A worker's appetite works for him; his mouth urges him on.”

##### C. Obsessed W/ His Image:

- VS. 21- “put on his royal robes...took his seat upon the throne & delivered an oration to them”

##### D. Craves Self-Worship

- VS. 22- “And the people were shouting, ‘The voice of a god, & not of a man!’”
- **Contrast Herod's Terrible Leadership w/ Gospel Leadership:**
- Led by Emotions VS. Went against most primal...- (Acts 21:11-14)
- Manipulated People VS. Put forth truth plainly- (2 Cor 4:2)
- Obsessed w/ image VS. Willing to be a fool (1 Cor 3:18)
- Crave Self-Worship VS. Refuse to Share in God's Worship (Cornelius'- Acts 10:26 & Paul & Barnabas in Acts 14:14-18)

#### 2. What Did Herod Do Wrong?

- VS. 23b – “because he did not give God the glory”
- Exodus 20:2-5a- “**I am the Lord your God**, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery. "You shall have no other gods **before me**. "You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. You shall not bow down to them or serve them, **for I the Lord your God am a jealous God...**”
- Exodus 34:14- “(for you shall worship no other god, for the Lord, whose name is Jealous, is a jealous God),”
- Isaiah 42:8- “I am the Lord; that is my name; my glory I give to no other, nor my praise to carved idols.”

- Isaiah 48:11- “For my own sake, for my own sake, I do it, for how should my name be profaned? My glory I will not give to another”
- 1 Timothy 1:17- “To the King of ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor & glory forever & ever. Amen.”
- What Herod did was play god, which would’ve been harmless if there had been no real God

### 3. What’s The End Result?

- VS. 23– “& he was eaten by worms & breathed his last. But the word of God increased & multiplied.”
- Isaiah 55:10-11- ““For as the rain & the snow come down from heaven & do not return there but water the earth, making it bring forth & sprout, giving seed to the sower & bread to the eater, **so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, & shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.**”

### 4. What Does This Have To Do W/ Us?

#### A. How’s Your Leadership Look?

#### B. Are you playing god?

- Psalm 136:1-26- “Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever. **Give thanks to the God of gods**, for his steadfast love endures forever; **Give thanks to the Lord of lords**, for his steadfast love endures forever; **to him who alone does great wonders**, for his steadfast love endures forever; to him who **by understanding made the heavens**, for his steadfast love endures forever; to him who **spread out the earth above the waters**, for his steadfast love endures forever; to him **who made the great lights**, for his steadfast love endures forever; **the sun to rule over the day**, for his steadfast love endures forever; **the moon & stars to rule over the night**, for his steadfast love endures forever; **to him who struck down the firstborn of Egypt**, for his steadfast love endures forever; & brought Israel out from among them, for his steadfast love endures forever; w/ a strong hand & an outstretched arm, for his steadfast love endures forever; to **him who divided the Red Sea in two**, for his steadfast love endures forever; & made Israel pass through the midst of it, for his steadfast love endures forever; but overthrew Pharaoh & his host in the Red Sea, for his steadfast love endures forever; **to him who led his people through the wilderness**, for his steadfast love endures forever; **to him who struck down great kings** (greater than you/me), for his steadfast love endures forever; **& killed mighty kings (like Herod)**, for his steadfast love endures forever; Sihon, king of the Amorites, for his steadfast love endures forever; & Og, king of Bashan, for his steadfast love endures forever; & gave their land as a heritage, for his steadfast love endures forever; a heritage to Israel his servant, for his steadfast love endures forever. **It is he who remembered us in our low estate**, for his steadfast love endures forever; **& rescued us from our foes**, for his steadfast love endures forever; **he who gives food to all flesh**, for his steadfast love endures forever. **Give thanks to the God of heaven**, for his steadfast love endures forever.”
- Communion is the reminder that God remembered us in our low estate (John 3:16), that He rescued us from our greatest foe, that He feeds us w/ His own

broken body & shed blood & that He reigns in Heaven as King of Kings & Lord of Lords