



Lessons From the Greatest of Men and the Worst Matthew 14:1-13

- 1) Herod Antipas: depraved upbringing; no fear of God
 - a) A man living in adultery
 - b) Overcome with lust for power & pleasure
 - c) Puppet to his wife; servant to public opinion
 - d) Unfounded fear of all those around him
 - e) Enjoyed good preaching (cf. Ezek. 33:31-33)
- 2) Herodias: worldly woman bent against the truth
 - a) Willfully lived in adultery
 - b) Detested prophetic preaching
 - c) Nursed a grudge; sought revenge at any cost
- 3) Salome: young, naïve girl mindlessly following orders
 - a) Willing to allow herself to be gawked at
 - b) Easily manipulated
 - c) Refused to stand up to injustice
- 4) John the Baptist: preacher of truth with no fear of man
 - a) Knew nothing of political correctness
 - b) Preached the truth no matter the cost
 - c) Was a hero, but died like a zero
- 5) John's disciples: hearing but not understanding
 - a) Blind to revealed truth
 - b) Ignorant to God's Spirit
 - c) Refused to be taught, even by their mentor
- 6) Final thoughts
 - a) True prophets speak even after death
 - b) Compromising situations put us in danger
 - c) If spoken correctly, God's word receives much attention
 - d) God allows great men to die horribly, yet they live eternally