

The Prototype

Gospel of Mark Series – Part 20

Scripture text – Mark 6:14-29

Introduction

- This is the one instance where Mark shifts the spotlight from _____ to someone else.
- We need to figure out why.

Getting Our Bearings

- Mark is pausing his account of the life of _____ in order to give an account of the death of _____.
- Herod is Herod _____, son of Herod the Great and ruler (since 4 AD) of the region of _____, the northernmost province of Palestine.
- John had criticized Herod for his marriage to Herodias. Their marriage was both _____ & _____.

A Complicated Relationship

1. Herod _____ John:
 - a. Politically – for his ability to promote an _____; and
 - b. Spiritually – as a representative of _____.
2. At the same time, Herod liked to _____ to John.
 - a. Herod was intrigued by what John had to say and knew in his heart he was speaking _____.
 - b. However, he was “greatly puzzled,” meaning he couldn’t pull the _____ in becoming a follower of Christ.

Application

- A lot of people are like Herod. They enjoy the _____, but nothing more.

- There's always a danger of developing a _____ for truth, without having a life marked by _____ to it. This can lull you into a _____ sense of security.
- Another danger: Hearing the truth, but failing to respond with obedience, can _____ the window of opportunity.
- The window had closed for Herod. When he later plied Jesus with questions, Jesus _____ to answer (see Luke 23).

Why This Story?

- This is yet another "Mark _____." Mark connects it with the rejection of Jesus by his hometown and the sending out of the Twelve.
- Mark wants us to know that anyone seeking to advance the kingdom of God will experience _____, and perhaps even death.
- John the Baptist is the _____, Jesus the archetype (perfect example of) and we (his followers) the _____.
- Jesus: "*A servant is not greater than his master. If they persecuted _____, they will persecute _____ also*" (John 15:20).
- Was this explained to you when you became a Christ-follower?