

# The King

Matt 2:1-12

## 1. Intro

1. In the days of Herod the King, Jesus was born,

## 2. Herod

### 1. A great builder

1. Built the Herodium, reconstructed Masada, reconstructed Caesarea, rebuilt the temple in Jerusalem.

### 2. His kingship

1. Eliminated those who he thought were a threat

1. Drowned a young high priest (who was appointed with the encouragement of his (Herod's) mother-in-law)

2. Killed his second wife (he had ten)

3. Killed his mother-in-law; Killed his brother-in-law; Killed his two favourite sons

2. And finally had children killed. (16)

3. He was “the Jewish” ruler of the day. He had power and authority. He mingled with Mark Antony and knew Cleopatra.

1. At his funeral, five hundred slaves carried hundreds of pounds of burial spices. Buried in the Herodium.

## 3. Jesus

### 1. His kingship

1. Never took it even though it was tried to be forced upon Him.

2. Born in a stable (cave) a few km away. (buried in one)

3. Was announced by a few outcast shepherds.

4. His bed was a rock trough (what was his deathbed?)

### 5. Being Remembered

1. Never owned a house

2. Never sought political power.

3. Loved His family

6. Are asked to believe that this child born here is the one who will influence people.

## 4. Comparison

1. Herod – appointed by man – seen by all

2. Jesus – appointed by God – seen by a few

3. Herod – feared death – built fortresses – magnified himself at death.

4. Jesus – surrendered Himself – buried in shame – triumphed over death.

5. Herod – remembered for killing babies

6. Jesus – remembered for giving His life for me
7. Jesus, being born as a baby was subject to the kings of this earth.
8. But this one born “king of the Jews” will one day return and subject all the “kings of the earth” to Himself.

## 5. Conclusion

1. Do you believe the things I have told you?
  1. Was Herod the king real?
  2. What about Mark Antony and Cleopatra?
2. What about Jesus?

## 6. Building Project Info

1. Herodium
  1. He had a fight with Parthians, was victorious and built this palace in commemoration.
  2. Located 12 kilometers south of Jerusalem and 5 kilometers southeast of Bethlehem
  3. Built around 20 BC
  4. Artificial hill
  5. Four towers, about 16 meters in diameter.
2. Masada
  1. Is an ancient fortification in the Southern District of Israel situated on top of an isolated rock plateau on the eastern edge of the Judean Desert, overlooking the Dead Sea.
  2. Cliffs are between 100-400 meters high; top of plateau is 550m x 270m
  3. Masada was the first site Herod the Great fortified after he gained control of his kingdom.
    1. Built in three stages; 35BC, 25BC, 15BC
    2. There was a casement wall around the top of the plateau totaling 1.3 km long and 3.7 m high, with many towers, and the fortress included storehouses, barracks, an armory, the palace, and cisterns that were refilled by rainwater.
    3. Even had a swimming pool
  4. Masada remembered as the last of the Jewish rebellion from 66-73 AD
    1. Flavius Silva was the Roman General that finally breached Masada after a siege of about 6 months.
3. Caesarea
  1. Built a deep sea harbour about 25-15BC
  2. Poured “Concrete” to help build the port
4. Jerusalem Temple
  1. Built 20-19 BC
  2. Took another eighty years to totally complete
  3. Destroyed in 70 AD

