

“Herod Unwraps Christmas”

The Three Herods of the Bible

1. Herod the Great – “Christmas Herod” Luke 1:5
2. Herod Archelaus – Ruled for only 2 years, not over Galilee Matthew 2:19-22
3. Herod Antipas – “Crucifixion Herod” Luke 23:6-12
4. Other family rulers mentioned in the Bible: Philip and Lysanias Luke 3:1

Herod the Great – Architect and Ruler

- Born 73 BC, declared King in 36 BC, Died 4 BC
- The Temple - constructed in 20-19 BC and destroyed in 70 AD by Roman Emperor Titus.
- Masada and other fortresses to protect his family in case of insurrection.
- Underground water system for Jerusalem
- Extravagance and taxes
- More concerned with Rome than Jews
- Played the Pharisees and Sadducees against one another
- Anger and rebellion against Herodians resulted in Rome’s destruction of Jerusalem

Sequence and Dating - Jesus born between 6 and 4 BC

1. Herod’s death (4 BC)
2. Quirinius made governor of Syria by Caesar Augustus in 6 BC, census and taxes - Luke 2:1-2

Birth	Luke 2:1-20
Magi	Matthew 2:1-12
Presentation in the Temple and Purification	Luke 2:21-38
Warning and Flight to Egypt	Matthew 2:13-21
Nazareth	Matthew 2:22-23; Luke 2:39

Herod Unwraps Christmas for Us

- This account anchors the Nativity in _____
- Matthew 2 shows _____ fulfillment (Num. 24:16-17, Micah 5:2, Hosea 11:1, and Jer. 31:15)
- Matthew’s Gospel is bookended by the story of two Kings – one who kills to protect _____, one who dies to secure God’s protection for all.
- This Savior is for all _____ (Magi)
- This Savior welcomes all sinners, but not all will come (King and Shepherd contrast)
- This story is really an issue of _____

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