

## Chapter 12

### “Peter and Herod”

#### Summary

- 44 A.D.
- Jerusalem - vs. 1-19
- Caesarea - vs. 20-24

#### Outline

- I. Herod’s Persecution
  - A. Herod has James killed - vs. 1-2
  - B. Then arrests Peter - vs. 3
- II. Peter’s Escape from Prison
  - A. Peter kept in prison - vs. 4-6
  - B. An angel leads Peter out of prison - vs. 7-10
  - C. Peter realizes what has happened - vs. 11
  - D. Peter goes to Mary’s house - vs. 12
  - E. No one believes Rhoda - vs. 13-15
  - F. They let him in - vs. 16
  - G. Peter tells what has happened - vs. 17
  - H. The stir caused by Peter’s escape - vs. 18-19
- III. Herod’s Death
  - A. Herod’s vanity - vs. 20-22
  - B. Herod’s death - vs. 23
- IV. State of the Church
  - A. Church continues its mission - vs. 24
  - B. Barnabas, Saul, and John Mark are back in Antioch - vs. 25

## Notes

#### Misc. Notes

- vs. 2 - James, the brother of John, one of the Apostles
- vs. 3 - “unleavened bread” is Passover.
- vs. 4 - *Quaternion* = a group of four soldiers, thus 16 soldiers guard Peter
- vs. 4 - The word “Easter” may be the most debated word used in the translation of the King James Bible. It may refer to Herod celebrating a pagan holiday after the Jewish Passover, or might refer to the Passover itself. It is interesting that most references to the Passover separate Passover itself from the days of unleavened bread. Either way it doesn’t really affect the timeline of events.
- vs. 15 - “his angel” - guardian angel
- vs. 17 - James, leader of church at Jerusalem, not an Apostle.
- vs. 20 - Herod Agrippa had probably stopped export of food to Tyre and Sidon for something that had angered him. Tyre and Sidon seem to be trying all sorts of political moves to regain his favor.
- vs. 21-23 - Josephus gives slightly different account which I think is complimentary to the account in Acts. See *Antiquities of the Jews*, book 19, chapter 8, paragraph 2.

## Even More Notes

### The Herods of the Bible

- **Herod the Great** (73 - 4 BC)
  - Son of Antipater the Idumaeon and Cyprus (a Nabatean)
  - King of Judaea from 40 to 4 B.C.
  - The Herod of the Nativity story - Matthew 2
- **Herod Archelaus** (23 BC - 18 AD)
  - Son of Herod and Malthace
  - Ethnarch (means “rule of the people/tribe”) of Judea from 4 BC to 6 AD
  - Reigned after Herod - Matthew 2:22
- **Herod Antipas** (20 BC - 39 AD)
  - Son of Herod and Malthace
  - Tetrarch (means “ruler of a quarter”) over Galilee and Perea from 4 BC to 39 AD
  - Had John the Baptist killed - Mark 6:22-25
  - Interrogated Jesus - Luke 23:7-15
- **Herod Philip** (27 BC - 34 AD)
  - Son of Herod and Cleopatra (not that Cleopatra)
  - Tetrarch of Iturea and Trachonitis from 4 BC to 34 AD
  - First husband of Herodias, father of Salome - Matthew 14:3,6
- **Aristobulus** (31 - 7 BC)
  - Son of Herod and Mariamne (Jew)
  - Killed by Herod in 7 B.C.
- **Herod Agrippa I** (10 BC - 44 AD)
  - Son of Aristobulus and Berenice, grandson of Herod
  - King of the Jews from 37 to 44 A.D.
  - Arrested Peter - Acts 12
- **Herod Agrippa II** (27 - 93 AD)
  - Son of Aristobulus and great-grandson of Herod
  - Tetrarch of Chalcis from 48 to 53 AD
  - Interrogates Paul - Acts 25-26

### The Jameses of the Bible

- Note - the name James is the Greek form of the name “Jacob”
- **James the Apostle**
  - Called the James the Less or James the Younger
  - Son of Alphaeus
  - Matthew 10:1-3, Mark 3:14-19, Luke 6:13-16, and Acts 1:13
- **James the Apostle**
  - Son of Zebedee
  - Brother of John the Apostle
  - One of the “inner circle” of disciples with Peter and John
  - Killed by Herod Agrippa I in Acts 12
- **James**
  - Author of the Book of James
  - Half brother of Jesus Christ - Galatians 1:19
  - Leader in church at Jerusalem - Acts 15:13 and 21:18
  - Some think he is the same as James the son of Alphaeus