

NOTES: BEHOLD THE KING

Pastor Wayne Hartsgrove – December 22, 2013

READ Matthew 2:1-23

Introduction: The reality of Christ coming into the world forces us to deal with an important issue. Will we accept our King or reject His Kingship and, in the process, usurp His place as ruler over our lives by insisting that we alone are kings?

The Bible teaches us that we must make a choice about Jesus as King. We will submit to Him or place ourselves on the throne... with disastrous results when we choose to become our own king!

1. THE MAN WHO WOULD BE KING *(Matthew 2:1-18)*

A. PROMISE *(Matthew 2:1-2)*

- a. Herod had been appointed ruler over Judea in 40 BC
- b. He requested from Rome the official title “King of the Jews” which was granted
- c. Herod would not submit to anyone
- d. When the promise of Messiah was given (“King of the Jews”), it infuriated Herod

B. HEROD WENT CRAZY WITH ANGER

- a. Herod could not see the rule of Christ in his life as the most important thing in his own life.
- b. Christ’s crown was different from Herod’s crown
 - i. Herod wore a crown of gold; Christ wore a crown of thorns
 - ii. Herod’s crown brought death; Jesus’ crown brought life
 - iii. The crown of thorns represents Christ’s price to save us from our sins and give us eternal life

2. THE KING WHO WOULD BE MAN *(Matthew 2:19-23)*

A. JESUS, WHO HAD BECOME MAN, WAS THE TRUE KING

- a. While Herod dies, Christ lives
- b. Only Christ’s rule makes a difference for all people of all times
- c. As the “King of Kings”, He brings life to all who put their faith in Him
- d. Christ’s rule will never end; He came as a child but that did not diminish His power as King

B. GOD’S PLAN CANNOT BE OVERTHROWN BY SINFUL MAN *(Matthew 2:23)*

- a. The King of the Jews is now “King of Kings, Lord of Lords, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace, Wonderful Counselor, Almighty God”

CONCLUSION: Herod had a great opportunity to worship the King of the Jews, but he would not. This is the decision we all face... to submit to His authority or ours. There is only one king... is it Christ or is it you?