

Sunday, April 21, 2024
Pastor Matt Peek, FBC Moultrie

“Pick Your Price”

Matthew 14:1-12

Today's BIG IDEA:

Following Jesus and rejecting Jesus each come with a price, but only one is worth it.

1. An overview of Herod and John

A. The characters in today's text

- i. Herod the tetrarch (Herod Antipas)
 - Son of Herod the Great (*Matthew 2:1-20*)
 - Ruled Galilee from 4 BC - 39 AD

- ii. John the Baptist
 - Prophet and forerunner of Christ (*Matthew 3:1-17; 11:1-3*)

B. The background to today's text (v.1-2)

C. The events in today's text (v.3-12)

- Herod Antipas married the wife (Herodias) of his brother (Herod Philip)
- John called out Herod Antipas and Herodias for their sin and was imprisoned (v.3-5)
- Herod Antipas' step-daughter (Salome) danced at his birthday party, and he offered her whatever she wanted in return (v.6-7)

- Prompted by her mother (Herodias), Salome asked for John's head, and John was beheaded (v.8-12)

2. A side-by-side view of Herod and John

A. Their CONSIDERATION of Jesus

- i. John _____ for Jesus
(*Matthew 3:2,11-13; John 1:29*)

- ii. Herod _____ Jesus
(*Luke 13:31; 23:10-15; Acts 4:27*)

B. Their CONSCIENCE regarding sin

- i. John _____ sin
(*Matthew 3:1-12*)

- ii. Herod _____ in sin

C. The COST of their decisions

- i. John lost his _____
(*Matthew 11:11; 16:24-26a*)

- ii. Herod lost his _____
(*Revelation 21:8*)

(Application Questions on back)

APPLICATION QUESTIONS:

1. Why did Herod Antipas reject Jesus? Why do people reject Jesus today?
2. What do you think was going through John's mind while he was imprisoned (see Matthew 11:1-3)? What promises does God give to us when we suffer while following him?
3. Do you think John would say Jesus was worth dying for? Why/why not? How can we be sure that following Jesus is worth it?