

A Dishonorable Mother!

Herodias

Mark 6:17-29

Observations

- The name Herodias is the feminine form of the name Herod, which actually means heroic
- There are many examples in the Bible for Godly women to follow (Sarah, Esther, Hannah, Mary) just to name a few who were indeed heroic!
- Herodias is not one of those examples

“And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds are evil. For everyone practicing evil hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed.”

John 3:19-20

Dysfunctional Family #1

- Herod the Great was the king that was responsible for the massacre of all Jewish children up to age 2, in Bethlehem and the surrounding area (Matthew 2)
- Herod the great was insanely suspicious in his later years, and murdered many in his own family. Herodias' father, according to Jewish history, was one of his victims
- Herodias married her uncle Herod Phillip, who was her father's brother. They had a daughter named Salome

Dysfunctional Family #1

- Once when Herod Antipas, ruler of Galilee and Peraea visited Rome, he was entertained by his brother Phillip, and his wife Herodias
- When it came time for Herod Antipas to leave, he took his brother's wife, Herodias, and her daughter, Salome back home with him
- He divorced his wife from Arabia, and made Herodias his new queen
- This was a *scandal* at the highest level in the Jewish hierarchy, but John the Baptist called it *Sin*
- Our background and circumstances may influence who we are, but *we are responsible* for who we become ,
James 1:13-15

Notice Herodias' Influence on Her Husband, King Herod

Mark 6:17

“For Herod himself had sent and laid hold of John, and bound him in prison for the sake of Herodias, his brother Phillip’s wife; for he had married her. Because John had said to Herod, “It is not lawful for you to have your brother’s wife.”

Leviticus 18:16 -Don't have sex with your brother's wife

Leviticus 20:21 -Don't marry your brother's wife (while your brother is alive)

Herodias' Influence on Her Husband, Herod, Verse 19

“Therefore Herodias held it against him and wanted to kill him (Herod’s grandfather killed all of his enemies), but she could not; for Herod feared John, knowing that he was a just and holy man, and he protected him. And when he heard him, he did many things, and heard him gladly.”

Observations

- John the Baptist showed Herodias that she had sinned according to God's word, and from then on she didn't like him. All John stood for was against her wants and desires (He exposed her)
- Her need to hold a grudge cost John the Baptist his life (remember Cain in Genesis)
- John the Baptist showed Herod the same information and he was touched and was drawn to John's message, but the influence of his wife Herodias was too much
- Herod is a man who could have possibly moved in a different direction if his wife had manifested a different mentality
- Be careful who you marry! The opinions of your spouse will weigh heavily on your spiritual judgment

- At her husband's birthday party, this mother, Herodias capitalizes on one of her husband's weaknesses
- Wives know their husbands' weaknesses. Evil ones exploit them. Good ones try to help strengthen them
- On his birthday, Herod Antipas gave a feast for all of his high officers, nobles, and chief men of the city
- At this celebration, Herodias allowed her daughter to perform "a lap dance" to entertain their guest and her own stepfather
- Good mothers don't stand idle, while their children experiment with the "edges of morality , and wrongdoing!"

- Herod was so dazzled by the sensual overtures of his stepdaughter's dance routine, when she finished, he made an offer to give her up to one-half of his kingdom, Mark 6:23
- One of Herod's weaknesses was impulsivity
- Now this is a life-changing offer for Salome: property, houses, money, servants, chariots, her own business, what??
- She ran and asked her mother to help her make this potentially career advancing decision

Herodias Replied:

***Ask for the head
of John the Baptist!***

Pride was another of Herod's weaknesses. He was too stubborn to say 'I'm sorry, I made a mistake!'

"And the king was exceedingly sorry; yet, because of the oaths and because of them that sat with him, he did not want to refuse her."

Mark 6:26



*Christians, When You Promise
Someone A Sinful Favor, But
God Gives You Time To Rethink
Your Decision,*

*It's Not Too Late To
Reverse It!*

The Plan Of Salvation

Hear the Gospel

Acts 15:7

Believe the Gospel

Acts 15:7

Repent of Sins

Acts 17:30

Confess Christ

Acts 8:37

Be Baptized

Acts 8:38