

# Fear that Forgets Christ

*John MacArthur*

I. Introduction.

- A. Text: Matthew 14:1-13.
- B. The fear of man brings a trap.
- C. Luke 9 and Mark 6 are parallel passages.

II. John the Baptist had done miraculous works, so Herod was afraid that Jesus was John risen from the dead when he did miraculous works.

III. Characters.

- A. John was a righteous man of God. (Matthew 11; 3)
- B. Herod was evil. John the Baptist disturbed him.
- C. Herodias was Herod's brother's wife.
  - 1. It was also an incestuous relationship because she married her uncle.
  - 2. John confronted the incestuous relationship.
- D. The daughter of Herodias after pleasing Herod with a dance asked for John the Baptist's head.
  - 1. Herod did this out of the fear of man.
  - 2. John in contrast would not compromise.

IV. Herod wanted to see Jesus, but he never did. Herod rejected Christ, and Christ rejected Herod. (Luke 9:9; 13:32-33; 23:8)

**Application Questions:**

1. What wrongs were Herod guilty of?

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2. Many claim that Jesus never addressed issues of sexual deviance in the Bible. How might these passages counter that claim?

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3. How does this passage reflect many attitudes towards Jesus today? Explain.

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