

OF KINGS AND MEN
Matthew 13:53-14:14

INTRODUCTION: Today's passage is sort of an _____ interlude.

- A. Chapter 13 contained the great _____ of Jesus' teaching.
- B. As we move on to the next section of Scripture, we will look at some of Jesus's great _____.
- C. But today's passage illustrates our life as followers of Jesus Christ, in terms of our situation, our _____, and our _____ in the midst of a dark and fallen world.

I. Matthew's Gospel is the Gospel of the _____.

- A. It was written primarily for the _____ people; and its particular viewpoint of Jesus is as the long-awaited King of the Jews.
- B. There are _____ accounts of Jesus teaching in the synagogue at Nazareth.
 - 1. That passage (Isaiah 61:1-2) was clearly understood to be a _____ prophecy.

II. The _____ king in this passage.

- A. The fact that he hadn't heard about these things before that time simply underscores how uninvolved a ruler he was.
- B. Though Herod apparently didn't know much about _____, he did know something about the one who _____ Jesus' coming.

1. *The whole family of the Herodians was an _____ and _____ bunch.*

C. *John dared to tell Herod what the _____ of _____ said.*

1. *He wanted to silence that righteous tongue of his; and by doing so, silence the _____ he received from the word of God.*

D. *And here's where we see Herod's _____ fearfulness and confusion.*

E. And now, the time of John's release would come . . . and so had Herodias' _____ against him.

A. *It was Herod's _____.*

B. *The Scripture tells us that Herod, "was _____."*

1. *He was irrational because of _____; and fearful that it was John the Baptist, risen from the dead.*

Conclusion: *Jesus _____ John.*

A. *He was Jesus' earthly _____.*

B. *As it turned out, whatever _____ they sought didn't last long.*

1. *He reacted as He always does toward those who _____ for Him and seek Him. He felt compassion toward them, and welcomed them to Himself, and loved them.*