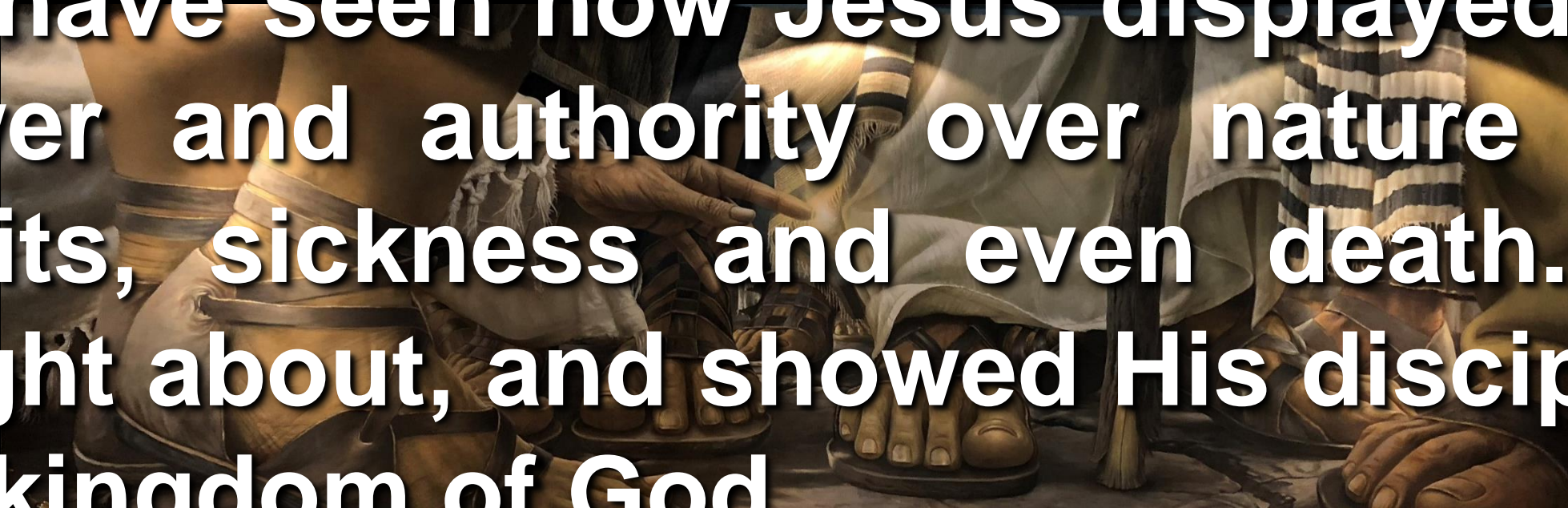


The Gospel according to **LUKE**

We have seen how Jesus displayed His power and authority over nature and spirits, sickness and even death. He taught about, and showed His disciples, the kingdom of God.



¹And He called the twelve together, and gave them power and authority over all the demons and to heal diseases. ²And He sent them out to proclaim the kingdom of God and to perform healing.

(Luke 9:1-2)



Notice the Importance of the message:

- Proclaim the kingdom of God
- It was to be done with Jesus' power and authority

³And He said to them, “Take nothing for your journey, neither a staff, nor a bag, nor bread, nor money; and do not even have two tunics apiece.”

(Luke 9:3)



Notice the Instructions to the messengers:

- **Take nothing for your journey; Travel light!**

4“Whatever house you enter, stay there until you leave that city. 5And as for those who do not receive you, as you go out from that city, shake the dust off your feet as a testimony against them.”

(Luke 9:4-5)



Notice the Instructions to the messengers:

- Take nothing for your journey; Travel **light**!
- Stay where you are welcomed
- **Move** on from where you are not welcomed

⁶Departing, they began going throughout the villages, preaching the gospel and healing everywhere.

(Luke 9:6)

⁷Now Herod the tetrarch heard of all that was happening; and he was greatly perplexed, because it was said by some that John had risen from the dead, ⁸and by some that Elijah had appeared, and by others that one of the prophets of old had risen again.

(Luke 9:7-8)

Herod Antipas



- Herod was perplexed by what he heard of Jesus

⁹Herod said, “I myself had John beheaded; but who is this man about whom I hear such things?” And he kept trying to see Him.

(Luke 9:9)

Herod Antipas



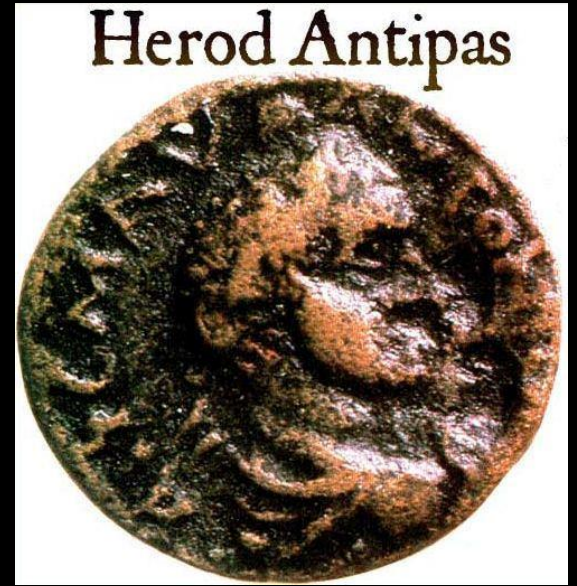
- Herod was perplexed by what he heard of Jesus
- Herod was haunted by the memory of John's death
- Herod was interested in seeing Jesus

“Herod Antipas.—He is shaken with superstitious fears when he is told of the mighty works of Christ and of His apostles. . . . ‘He desired to see Him.’ But it was the curiosity not of faith, but of unbelief—of a heart hardening, if not already hardened, against holy impressions. . . . His curiosity, when at length he saw Jesus as a prisoner, proved to be of the most frivolous kind: ‘he hoped to have seen some miracle done by Him’ (23:8). And he who had slain the Baptist became associated with Pilate in the murder of the Prince of life.”

[The Preacher’s Homiletic Commentary: Luke, p.247]



CONTRASTING LOYALTIES



- The Apostles lived in clarity and faith by keeping Jesus and the proclamation of the kingdom their focus
- Herod lived in confusion and fear because he loved the world more than God



“True service of Jesus is characterized by dependence on Jesus, and dependence on Jesus is signified by going where Jesus sends despite material shortfalls and unanswered questions. . . . They must trust him alone who sends them.” (James R. Edwards)



“Pilgrims travel light. If we have a great inheritance just around the corner we do not quibble over treasures here.” (John Piper)



Where is your furniture?

⁶But godliness actually is a means of great gain when accompanied by contentment. ⁷For we have brought nothing into the world, so we cannot take anything out of it either. ⁸If we have food and covering, with these we shall be content.

(1 Timothy 6:6-8)

⁹But those who want to get rich fall into temptation and a snare and many foolish and harmful desires which plunge men into ruin and destruction.

¹⁰For the love of money is a root of all sorts of evil, and some by longing for it have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs.

(1 Timothy 6:9-10)

⁵Make sure that your character is free from the love of money, being content with what you have; for He Himself has said, “I will never desert you, nor will I ever forsake you,” ⁶so that we confidently say, “The Lord is my helper, I will not be afraid. What will man do to me?”

(Hebrews 13:5-6)

CHALLENGE

Let us shed some materialistic weight in order to be spiritually fit for God's service.