

HANDLE WITH HONESTY

Christmas in Herod's Hands

Text: Matthew 2:1-8

Handling Christmas (Part 6)

Questions for Reflection & Discussion

1. Who or what is your Herod – that voice or influence with unusual control over you?
 - An misplaced ambition?
 - A confused set of priorities?
 - An addiction?
 - A long-standing wound or hurt?
 - An anger toward someone?
 - A political worldview?
 - A cultural or economic orientation?
 - A religious or secular mindset?
 - Something else?
 - I don't know
2. How well is that Herod managing the kingdom under his control? What are the benefits or costs to his control?
3. Have you honestly invited Christ to take the throne? What would be some signs that Jesus is actually...
 - In the back seat of your life?
 - In the side seat?
 - On the throne?
4. Where do you especially pray that Christ's management will make a greater difference in your life? Why is this particularly important to you?
5. Of the following qualities or roles of Jesus described in Isaiah 9:6-7, which would you like to see more of and why?
 - Wonderful Counselor
 - Mighty God
 - Everlasting Father
 - Prince of Peace

¹ M. Craig Barnes, "Herod the Great," *Preaching Today*.