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 All Scriptures are printed verbatim with translations noted. • Pastor Joe's email is Joe@southreno.com.
 This passage can be found in the Pew Bible, in the New Testament on pages 1-2.

A barbaric, depraved, malevolent maniac...”
 -Flavius Josephus (1st C Historian) describing Herod

A. WHAT DO WE KNOW ABOUT HEROD?

- He is known as “King Herod,” “Herod the Great” and “Herod—King of the Jews”
- His Father was “Herod Antipater”
- At age 25, he was named the governor of Galilee.
- The Romans wanted this Herod to pacify the Jews.
- He captured the bandit leader Ezekias and executed him (which the Jews hated).
- He married into a leading Jewish Family—the Hasmoneans. (Wife: Mariamne)
- In 40 B.C., Rome gave him the title “King of the Jews” (which the Jews hated).
- I call him, “**Herod the Killer:**” He killed his wife, all three sons, his brother-in-law, five grandchildren, hundreds of his soldiers and 400 citizens that we know of.
- Caesar Augustus said, “*It would be safer to be Herod's sow than his son.*”
- He died of some terrible disease: “Body racked with pain, convulsions, foul breath, his skin covered with loathsome, bleeding sores, gangrene and he lost his mind” (according to Josephus).
- When Christ was born, Herod became “disturbed” (ie., to shake violently with hate).
- When Herod the Great died, the Jews called for a great celebration.

B. HEROD'S STORY

- 1. The Magi's _____ meeting with Herod.** (vv. 1-6)
 - A. The Magi's Requests:** “Where is the newborn king of the Jews?” (v. 1-2)
 - B. The Monarch's Response:** Notice His Concerned and Command
 - C. Minister's Reply:** “Bethlehem” (cf., Micah 5.2)
- 2. The Magi's _____ meeting with Herod.** (vv. 7-8)
 - A. Herod's Demand:** He asked them when they first saw the star (v. 7)
 - B. Herod's Deception:** “When you find the child...tell me....” (v. 8)
- 3. The Magi's _____ meeting with Christ.** (vv. 9-12)

A. The Witness of the Star

Matthew 2:9, NASB -⁹ *After hearing the king, they went their way; and the star, which they had seen in the east, went on before them until it came and stood over the place where the Child was.*

B. The Worship by the Magi

Matthew 2:10-11, NASB -¹⁰ *When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. ¹¹ After coming into the house they saw the Child with Mary His mother; and they fell to the ground and worshiped Him. Then, opening their treasures, they presented to Him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.*

C. The Warning to the Magi.

Matthew 2:12, NASB -¹² *And having been warned by God in a dream not to return to Herod, the magi left for their own country by another way.*

C. WHAT DO WE LEARN FROM HEROD'S STORY?

What Will You Do with Christ This Christmas?

- A. Hate Him like Herod?**
- B. Neglect Him like the Religions Leaders?**
- C. Worship Him like the Wise Men?**

Answers: 1. Public, 2. Private, 3. Profound