**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?” (vv. 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