Lessons From Herod: Overcoming Opposition

December 6, 2020
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(Mat 2:1-2 NIV) After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem (2) and asked, "Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star in the east and have come to worship him."

At Christmas It's All About Jesus
Some People Oppose Christ At Christmas

- The Christ of Christmas Is Under Attack
- By Those Who Don’t Know Him
- By Those Who Have Been Deceived
- By Those Who Reject Him
- By Those Who Are Rebelling Against Him
(Mat 2:3 NIV) When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him.

Herod Devised A Plan To Oppose The Coming Of Christ

READ: Matthew 2:4-8
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- Herod Was Against God’s Plan
- He Was Disturbed By God’s Plan And Purpose
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- **READ:** Matthew 2:16-23
- **Opposition Is A Sure Thing**
- When You Work For God Opposition Is A Sure Thing
- Satan Attempts To Raise Up An Enemy To Rage Against The Work Of God
Opposition:

- Does Not Mean That You Have Missed God
- Does Not Mean That You Are Outside His Will
- Does Not Mean That God Has Abandoned You
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 Every One Of The Great And Mighty People Of Faith Recorded In Scripture Have Been Opposed

 Opposition Will Come In Our Lives When We Are Living For God And Stepping Out In His Kingdom
Opposition In This World Comes From Satan

(Eph 6:12 NIV) For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.
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- The Kinds Of People Susceptible to Satan:
  - People Hungry For Power
  - People Hungry For Possessions
  - People Hungry For Position

- People Who Are Pretenders In The Faith Of Christ
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- (2 Cor 4:4 NIV) The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.

- (Eph 4:27 NIV) do not give the devil a foothold.

- Don’t Be Unaware Of His Schemes
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How To Overcome Opposition:

- To Win Battle We Must Fight The Battle
- To Overcome -- There Must Be Something To Overcome
- Opposition Is Going To Come For God’s People
- Jesus Faced It From His Birth All The Way To His Death
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- The Gospel Of The Kingdom Is Advanced Through Much Struggling And Contention

- (Mat 11:12 KJV) And from the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven suffers violence, and the **violent take it by force.**

- Advances Happen In The Kingdom Through Battles Being Fought And Won
We Must Put On The Mind Of Christ

- When We Have The Mind Of Christ We Remember:
  - What God Has Done
  - What God Is Doing
  - What God Is Going To Do
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- With The Mind Of Christ -- We Respond:
  - In Obedience
  - With Self Control
  - By Resisting The Enemy
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We Overcome In The Spiritual Realm Through:

- The Word Of God
- The Blood Of Jesus
- The Word Of Our Testimony
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- Herod’s Opposition Ended Like All Who Oppose God: In Defeat

- Herod Died As All Men Who Go Against God
  - His Plan Was Foiled
  - He Had To Stand Before God In Judgment

- Opposing God’s Plan Is Always Going To Fail
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- Herod Started His Opposition In His Unbelief
- Herod Opposed God When He Did Not Choose To Believe In Christ
- You Can Oppose The Plan Of God By Not Accepting His Son As Your Lord And Savior