

*ACTS

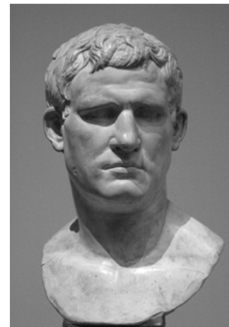
The Continuing Work of Jesus

*Acts 12:1-25

Tragedy, Triumph and Gospel Growth

Herod v. God

1. Renewed Opposition



Herod Agrippa I

- grandson of Herod the Great; mother was Jewish (father was executed)
- appointed ruler ("king") over most of Palestine by emperors Caligula and Claudius
- ruled Judea from A.D. 41-44

Herod v. God

1. Renewed Opposition

- the church will always face various forms of opposition and hostility
- this opposition results in real suffering, hardship and even death of Christians

Herod v. God

2. Divine Frustration

- *God frustrated the desires of Herod by...*
 - miraculously delivering Peter at the last hour
 - striking Herod dead in the midst of his pomp and vain-glory

Herod v. God

Principle:

- *The refusal to give God glory as God will result in God's judgment (cf. Rom. 1:21)*

Herod v. God

3. Continued Growth

- God appoints tragedy and triumph for the growth of the gospel
- nothing ultimately will thwart Jesus' building of His church

The Lord is for me; I will not fear;
What can man do to me?

(Psalm 118:6)

If God is for us, who is against us?

(Romans 8:31)