

THE GOSPEL *of*

**MARK**



## Gospel of Mark

- cryptic & direct
- Peter's accounts compiled by John Mark
- Inspired by Holy Spirit – encounter Gospel
- covers the three years of Jesus Public Ministry

## Proclaimed as the Promised One

- John the Baptist, Spirit of God, Enemy

## Authority Revealed

- teaching, leading, over demons, over sick



## John the Baptist – the man

- born to Elizabeth, Mary's cousin
- prophecy in Isaiah about Him
- Matthew 3 – gives you a picture
- arrested for confronting sin in powerful people
- asks about Jesus in Matt 11:2-11

## John the Baptist – the Message

- Behold the Lamb of God
- Repent and be Baptized

# THE GOSPEL of **MARK** 6:14-29

**Mark 6:14-29** “King Herod heard of it, for Jesus' name had become known. Some said, “John the Baptist has been raised from the dead. That is why these miraculous powers are at work in him.” But others said, “He is Elijah.” And others said, “He is a prophet, like one of the prophets of old.” But when Herod heard of it, he said, “John, whom I beheaded, has been raised.” For it was Herod who had sent and seized John and bound him in prison for the sake of Herodias, his brother Philip's wife, because he had married her. For John had been saying to Herod, “It is not lawful for you to have your brother's wife.”



# THE GOSPEL of **MARK** 6:14-29

And Herodias had a grudge against him and wanted to put him to death. But she could not, for Herod feared John, knowing that he was a righteous and holy man, and he kept him safe. When he heard him, he was greatly perplexed, and yet he heard him gladly. But an opportunity came when Herod on his birthday gave a banquet for his nobles and military commanders and the leading men of Galilee. For when Herodias's daughter came in and danced, she pleased Herod and his guests. And the king said to the girl, "Ask me for whatever you wish, and I will give it to you."

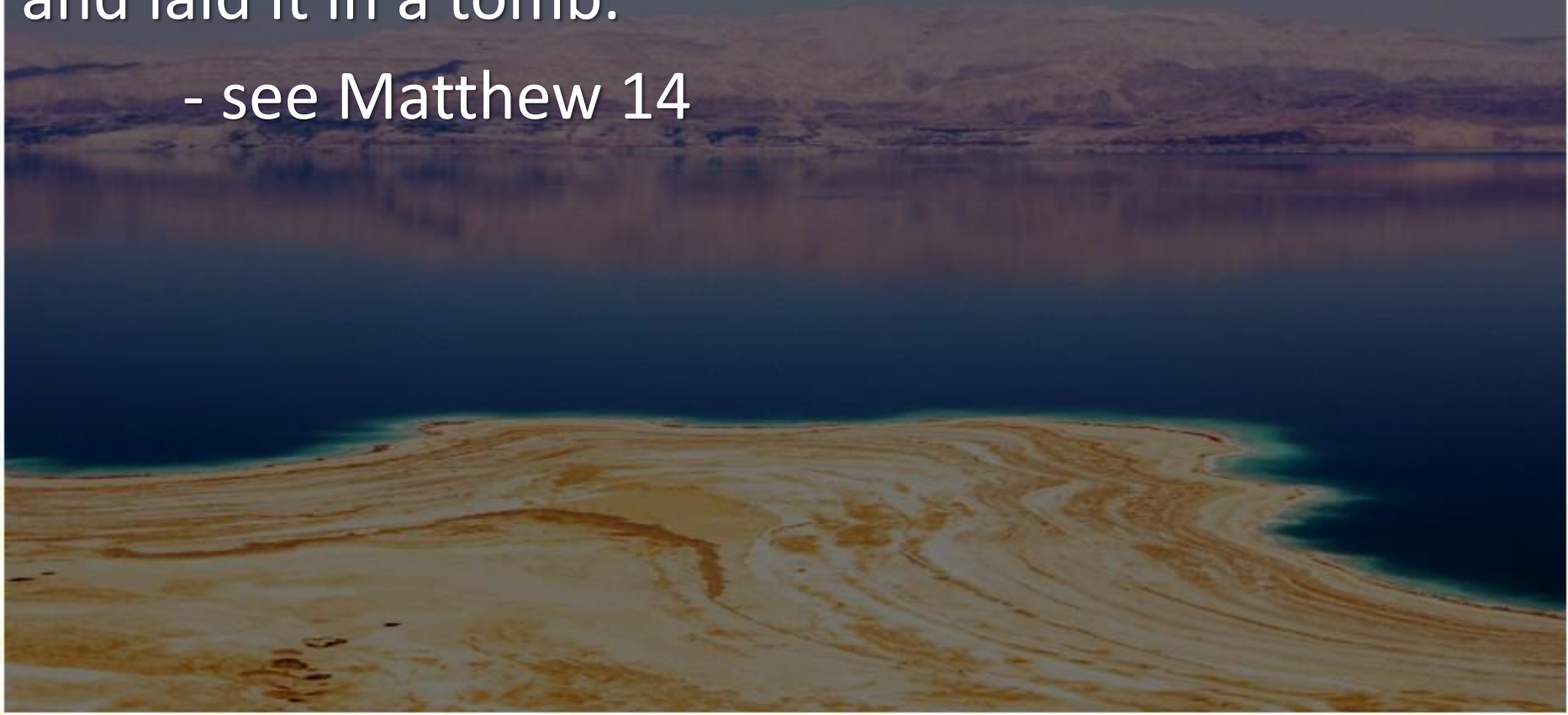
And he vowed to her, “Whatever you ask me, I will give you, up to half of my kingdom.” And she went out and said to her mother, “For what should I ask?” And she said, “The head of John the Baptist.” And she came in immediately with haste to the king and asked, saying, “I want you to give me at once the head of John the Baptist on a platter.” And the king was exceedingly sorry, but because of his oaths and his guests he did not want to break his word to her. And immediately the king sent an executioner with orders to bring John's head. He went and beheaded him in the prison



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and brought his head on a platter and gave it to the girl, and the girl gave it to her mother. When his disciples heard of it, they came and took his body and laid it in a tomb.”

- see Matthew 14



## 1. The Angry Parent

- called out for her choices, publicly
- goes looking for revenge against John
  - Has Herod arrest him – pushing for death
  - Manipulates daughter – implicates her
- squanders amazing opportunity
- makes daughter responsible for Johns death
- driven to get her way, silence this voice



## 2. Careful What you Commit To

- Herod knew John 'righteous & holy'
- perplexed but interested to listen – intrigued
- setting plays a part in this
  - party and related substances
  - powerful people – showing off
  - what's up with the dance? (creepy)
- oath – up to half my kingdom
- pride drives him to do what He knows is wrong

### 3. Crummy Ending

- prophet speaks of this one coming
- recognized and responded to
- huge movement preparing the way
- wanted to decrease – Jesus increase
- spoke the truth – relationship was wrong
  - message consistent – repent & turn
- jailed – not easy, look at reassurance asked for
- beheaded in early thirties – life ended by enemy



## So What?

### 1. Deal with Your Sin

- be a person of repentance, healing & wholeness
- your revenge, bitterness, vows in anger impact
  - those close to you
  - friends and extended family
  - your choices & perspectives
- starts with who do you think you are, show you
- revenge, not contrition & change

# THE GOSPEL of **MARK**

6:14-29

- message of John the Baptist
  - repent & be baptized
  - bear fruit in keeping with repentance
  - don't justify – turn from and follow Jesus
  - how you deal with sin, offense, will have an impact on your relationships and others around you.

Romans 12:18-19 “If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God”



## 2. Watch Your Words

- promises, oaths made have weight
- Eccl. 5:2-7 “Be not rash with your mouth, nor let your heart be hasty to utter a word before God, for God is in heaven and you are on earth. Therefore let your words be few. For a dream comes with much business, and a fool's voice with many words. When you vow a vow to God, do not delay paying it, for he has no pleasure in fools. Pay what you vow. It is better that you should not vow than that you should vow and not pay. Let not your mouth lead you into sin”

- develop a good filter
- be ready for pride and peer pressure
- determine now – will do what God desires
  - thy kingdom come, thy will be done
- practice repentance – not letting pride drive
- be aware of your circumstances
  - avoid – set some guardrails



### 3. Wrestle with Difficult Realities

- God had a role for John – prepared
- John was faithful – participated
- John was killed unjustly – premature death?

#### a) need a theology around this

- more martyrs today than any time in history
- God is with us in all things
- God weeps with us over the sin & brokenness
- God is returning to rule & reign
- Scripture clear – will be trouble in this life

b) God has numbered our days on earth

- allotted our time, all die & face God (Heb 9)

c) We live in a broken world

- sin & its curse affect our lives

d) God is for us, not about us

- invited to participate, be his children

- clear what He is accomplishing in world

- never leave or forsake – through all things

e) All of us need to wrestle and keep perspective

- reveals harmful lies world likes to spin