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BAPTIST DISTINCTIVES 1611 KING JAMES VERSION ONE SOUL AT A TIME

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Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature. Promoting the Gospel of Jesus Christ in the Inner City. Illustration, photography, graphic design and journalism by Jim Robinson. Most all pictures link. Past Issues of *The Soulwinner* can be obtained from jartworks.org.

Herod Thought That He Was God The Price to Pay for Pomp

The book of Acts is known for the expansion of the church mostly based on Paul's work and missionary journeys. In its very early years, the church would not be expanded unless there was martyrdom. We saw it in [Acts 7:54-60](#) with Stephen and we see it again in [Acts 12](#) with Peter, who was spared his execution because of the **prayers** of the people of the churches.

In Acts 12, Herod was the ruler who killed James the brother of John in an effort to please the Jews and probably because he enjoyed the bloodshed himself.

When Herod saw the enjoyment the religious leaders got from the death of James, he wanted to martyr Peter also. So he put Peter in prison and kept him with excessive soldiers to be sure he would not escape. And if Peter did escape the soldiers lost their lives.

The church prayed for Peter for a long time that God might do something for him. And, quite to their surprise, God did save Peter from prison. The miraculous happened..

An angel came to Peter in the prison and freed him, and Peter came knocking on his friends' door that were in prayer for him.



In Acts 8, Stephen was stoned to death because he told the truth about the religious leaders of his day: they denied Jesus Christ as Savior. I wonder if those leaders didn't enjoy the bloodshed as much as Herod or ISIS as well?

The angel said, "Arise up quickly. And his chains fell off from his hands. **8** And the angel said unto him, Gird thyself, and bind on thy sandals. And so he did. And he saith unto him, Cast thy garment about thee, and follow me. **9** And he went out, and followed him; and wist not that it was true which was done by the angel; but thought he saw a vision. **10** When they were past the first and the second ward, they came unto the iron gate that leadeth unto the city; which opened to them of his own accord: and they went out, and passed on through one street; and forthwith the angel departed from him."

Herod had to make an oration to the people, and the people called him a god. Herod accepted that salutation and thus considered himself God. And God sent worms to eat up Herod's body and he died of the worms.

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