

FREE DOWNLOAD
CHRISTMAS
THROUGH THE EYE
OF HEROD



A
SERMON SERIES

FREE DEVOTIONAL



DAY 1

Scripture: Matthew 2:1-3 (NKJV)

“When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled...”

Most people celebrate the light of Christmas. But Herod didn't. When the Magi announced the birth of Jesus, Herod wasn't comforted, he was threatened.

Why?

Because light exposes what darkness tries to conceal. God's arrival felt dangerous to him because he was trying to protect a throne he was never meant to sit on.

Herod teaches us something uncomfortable but necessary: Sometimes God's presence feels disruptive before it feels redemptive.

When God shines light in areas we haven't surrendered: pride, habits, hidden motives, and the need for control. That light doesn't feel warm... it feels like a warning.

But that discomfort is grace.

The light comes not to shame you, but to save you from what you refuse to confront.

Pastor Isaac A. Lane



Reflection Questions:

Where is God shining light in your life right now?

Is there an area where His presence feels more threatening than comforting?

What “throne” might you be trying to protect?

Prayer:

“Lord, give me courage to welcome Your light, even when it exposes what I’d rather hide. Help me see every discomfort as an invitation to surrender.”



DAY 2

Scripture: Matthew 2:7-8

“...that I may come and worship Him also.”

Herod used the language of worship, but not the life of worship.
Words are cheap when the heart is not surrendered.

Herod wanted information about Jesus, but not transformation
from Jesus.

He wanted to know where Jesus was not bow where Jesus reigns.
This is the silent war every believer faces:
Who sits on the throne of my heart?

You can say “Jesus is Lord”
and still run your life like you’re the king.
You can lift your hands in worship
while desperately holding onto your own crown.

This devotional is not asking whether you sing.
It’s asking whether you’ve surrendered.



Reflection Questions:

What area of your life do you still try to control instead of surrender?

Where have you said “Lord” without truly yielding to His lordship?

What crown do you need to lay at His feet?

Prayer:

“Jesus, dethrone whatever competes with You. Break the pride that resists surrender. Take Your rightful seat on the throne of my heart.”



DAY 3

Scripture: Matthew 2:16

“...Herod... sent forth and put to death all the male children...”

When Herod lost control, he lost himself.

Paranoia becomes cruelty.

Fear becomes rage.

Control becomes destruction.

This is what happens when we cling to our own throne too tightly.

The tighter your grip,
the more your heart slips.

Herod teaches us a serious truth:

If you don't surrender your fear, your fear will start ruling you.

If you don't surrender your control, your control will start consuming you.

Herod didn't hate Jesus

he hated the idea of losing power.

And when the heart worships power, it always hurts someone.

Sometimes that “someone” is the people you love.

Sometimes it's yourself.



Reflection Questions:

Where do you see control turning into stress, fear, or unhealthy patterns?

What have you harmed emotionally because you refused to release it?

What would peace look like if you stopped gripping your throne?

Prayer:

“Lord, free me from the need to control outcomes. Heal what my fear has harmed. Give me the strength to surrender fully to You.”



DAY 4

Scripture: Matthew 2:13-14

“...for Herod will seek the young Child to destroy Him.”

Herod strategized, but heaven countered.

Herod planned, but God redirected.

Herod attacked, but God protected.

Before Herod even issued the order,

God was already speaking to Joseph.

God was already preparing the escape.

God was already outplanning the enemy.

What feels like “delay” in your life
may really be divine protection.

What feels like “retreat”
may be God’s way of positioning you for survival.

Jesus wasn’t running away in weakness. He was moving in God’s
timing.

And so are you.



Reflection Questions:

Where might God be protecting you by redirecting you?

What situation feels like retreat but may actually be strategic?

Do you trust God's timing even when His plan interrupts yours?

Prayer:

“Father, help me trust Your countermoves.

When You lead me away from something, remind me You're leading me toward purpose.”



DAY 5

Scripture: Matthew 2:19–20

“But when Herod was dead...”:

Herod dies.

Jesus lives.

That is the story of Scripture.

That is the story of Christmas.

That is the rhythm of redemption.

Tyrants fall.

Threats pass.

Fear fades.

But the Word lives forever.

Herod’s throne crumbles.

Christ’s throne increases.

Herod’s kingdom ends.

Christ’s kingdom has no end.

And here’s your hope:

What God placed inside you carries the same protection,
the same preservation,
the same unstoppable destiny.

Your calling is covered.

Your purpose is preserved.

Your future is guarded.

Because you can’t kill what God sent.





Reflection Questions:

What promise from God have you been doubting?

What has the enemy attacked that God still intends to fulfill?

Where do you need to declare: “This cannot die, God sent it”?

Prayer:

“Lord, thank You that no weapon can cancel Your will. Strengthen my faith to trust what You’ve spoken, believe what You’ve ordained, and walk boldly in what You’ve sent into my life.”