

Crown

King Herod vs. King Jesus

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. How would you briefly describe the economic, social, political and religious context in first century Syria? In light of this context, why would people want to follow Jesus?
2. How do you think growing up in Nazareth shaped Jesus' life?
3. What advantages did the Roman Empire offer to Jesus' ministry in terms of spreading his Kingdom message?
4. How would you describe the lives of the average Jew who lived under Roman rule during Jesus' lifetime?
5. Do you know of any references Jesus made, as recorded in the New Testament, about Herod the Great and his successors who ruled Judea and Galilee? What can we learn from Jesus' example?
6. What compromises did the Jews have to make as a nation and in their own lives to live under Herod's rule and that of his successors? Can you identify with these pressures in our context?
7. Besides the comparisons between these two kings offered at the end of this video, did any other comparisons come to mind?
8. Herod's kingdom highlighted military power, manipulation, greed, and fear of Roman and foreign invasion. How does Jesus characterize his kingdom?