



Responding to New Realities

**After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in
Judea, during the time of King Herod,
Magi from the east came to Jerusalem**

MATTHEW 2:1

Responding to New Realities

and asked, “Where is the One who has been born King of the Jews? We saw His star when it rose and have come to worship Him.”

MATTHEW 2:2

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**When King Herod heard this he was
disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him.**

MATTHEW 2:3

Responding to New Realities

When he had called together all the people's chief priests and teachers of the Law, he asked them where the Messiah was to be born.

MATTHEW 2:4

Responding to New Realities

**“In Bethlehem in Judea,” they
replied, “for this is what the
prophet has written:**

MATTHEW 2:5

Responding to New Realities

““But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for out of you will come a ruler who will shepherd My people Israel.””

MATTHEW 2:6

Responding to New Realities

**Then Herod called the Magi secretly
and found out from them the exact
time the star had appeared.**

MATTHEW 2:7

Responding to New Realities

He sent them to Bethlehem and said, “Go and search carefully for the Child. As soon as you find Him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship Him.”

MATTHEW 2:8

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After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen when it rose went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the Child was.

MATTHEW 2:9

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**When they saw the star,
they were overjoyed.**

MATTHEW 2:10

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On coming to the house, they saw the Child with His mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped Him. Then they opened their treasures and presented Him with gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

MATTHEW 2:11

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And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.

MATTHEW 2:12

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When they had gone, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream. “Get up,” he said, “take the Child and His mother and escape to Egypt. Stay there until I tell you, for Herod is going to search for the Child to kill Him.”

MATTHEW 2:13

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So he got up, took the Child
and His mother during the
night and left for Egypt,

MATTHEW 2:14

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where he stayed until the death of Herod. And so was fulfilled what the Lord had said through the prophet:
“Out of Egypt I called My Son.”

MATTHEW 2:15

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**When Herod realized that he had
been outwitted by the Magi, he
was furious,**

MATTHEW 2:16

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and he gave orders to kill all the boys in Bethlehem and its vicinity who were two years old and under, in accordancy with the time he had learned from the Magi.

MATTHEW 2:16

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**Then what was said through the
prophet Jeremiah was fulfilled:**

MATTHEW 2:17

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**“A voice is heard in Ramah,
weeping and great mourning,
Rachel weeping for her children
and refusing to be comforted,
because they are no more.”**

MATTHEW 2:18

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**After Herod died, an angel of
the Lord appeared in a dream to
Joseph in Egypt**

MATTHEW 2:19

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and said, “Get up, take the Child and His mother and go to the land of Israel, for those who were trying to take the Child’s life are dead.”

MATTHEW 2:20

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**So he got up, took the Child
and His mother and went
to the land of Israel.**

MATTHEW 2:21

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But when he heard that Archelaus was reigning in Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. Having been warned in a dream, he withdrew to the district of Galilee,

MATTHEW 2:22

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and he went and lived in a town called Nazareth. So was fulfilled what was said through the prophets, that He would be called a Nazarene.

MATTHEW 2:23

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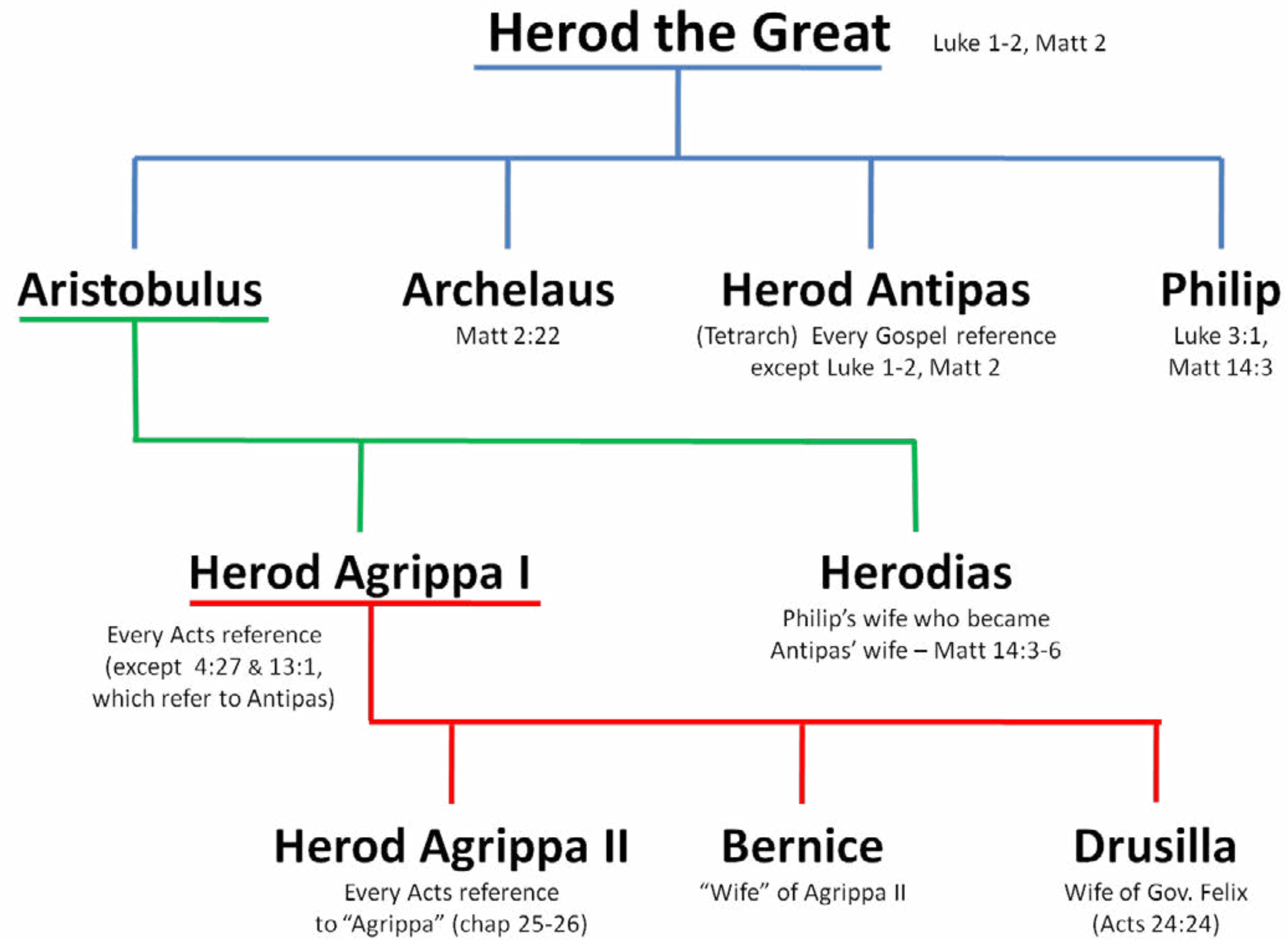
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Herod's Background (2:1-6)

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Herod's Background

Responding to New Realities



Responding to New Realities



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שורה 7
51 - 65

גוש ד
שורה 6
62

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“The concern of the populace was not directly about the Magi but about Herod’s reaction to them. By bitter experience they knew that Herod’s agitation usually meant maniacal bloodshed.”

JOHN MACARTHUR

Responding to New Realities

**“Herod’s fear meant rebellion,
bloodshed, and terrible suffering.”**

JOHN MACARTHUR

Responding to New Realities

“The arrival of this true King of the Jews presents a threat to Herod the Great’s throne and to Israel’s corrupt religious and political leadership in Jerusalem.”

ESV STUDY BIBLE

Responding to New Realities

“The spiritual state of the priests and the scribes is a sobering reminder that mere knowledge of the Scriptures is not enough. You can know the test well yet still miss the point.”

DAVID PLATT

Responding to New Realities

“These men who knew of the Messiah’s birthplace did absolutely nothing about it. These religious leaders were indifferent to Jesus.”

DAVID PLATT

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Herod gave the Jewish people what they wanted (prosperity, security, religious freedom) so they became increasingly unable or unwilling to see what God was doing among them. They became indifferent and distracted to the plans of God.

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Herod's Pretensions & God's Protection

(2:7,8, 12-15)

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Herod's Pretensions & God's Protection

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“Jesus’ return from Egypt was pictured by Israel’s calling from that same country many centuries earlier. The Exodus, therefore, was a type of Jesus’ return from Egypt with Joseph and Mary.”

JOHN MACARTHUR

Responding to New Realities

“As God had once brought the people of Israel out of Egypt to be His chosen nation, He now had brought out His greater Son to be the Messiah.”

JOHN MACARTHUR

Responding to New Realities

“Jesus is a second and greater Moses, who will lead His people out from spiritual bondage as His predecessor led the Israelites out from physical bondage.”

ROBERT MOUNCE

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Herod's Depravity & His Demise (2:16–23)

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Herod's Depravity & His Demise

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*Herod could have easily said,
“I could murder my own mother,
my own wife, most of my own sons,
and the people would still approve of
me.” That’s exactly what he did.*

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Herod had the Jews under his control because he brought security and a sense of stability. They were willing to overlook his massive set of flaws and his heart of wickedness.

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**“It was safer to be Herod’s pig
than his son.”**

ROMAN EMPEROR AUGUSTUS

Responding to New Realities

*Everybody has a kingdom.
Herod simply had a larger domain
than we do. We don't want God
to usurp our "throne." Herod
didn't, and neither do we.*

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“The circumstances of Jesus’ birth are not meek and mild. Any attempt to destroy the nation or the true ruler is futile. God will carry out and succeed in His purposes.”

ZAC HESS

Responding to New Realities

“Three basic responses to Jesus:
Some, like Herod, are *hostile* to Him;
some, like the chief priests and scribes,
are *indifferent* to Him; and
some, like the Magi, *worship* Him.”

JOHN MACARTHUR

Responding to New Realities

“The King of the universe has come to save sinners, and from the start He is defied and derided by the very sinners He came to save.”

DAVID PLATT

Responding to New Realities

“Whether it’s Herod, the chief priests, or the scribes, they are all setting themselves up against Jesus as His enemies.”

DAVID PLATT

Responding to New Realities

“The reality is, we do the same thing. If we’re honest, at the core of who we are, we probably identify most with king Herod.”

DAVID PLATT

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**“Instead of bowing in full
surrender before the King, we’re
afraid of how Jesus is going to
invade our kingdom, our lives, our
plans, and our desires.”**

DAVID PLATT

Responding to New Realities

“The reality is that in our minds and in our hearts, we have all rejected Him. This is the core of what it means to be a sinner, and this is precisely whom Jesus came to save.”

DAVID PLATT

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**God's salvation plan
succeeds while
highlighting spiritual
resistance along the way.**

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