

The Rejection of His Hometown & His Earthly King

Matthew 13:53-14:12

I. Rejected by His Hometown (13:53-58)

- a. **When Jesus had finished** is the same phrase or formula that marks the ending of all 5 of Jesus' Discourses in Matthew (cf. Matt. 7:28; 11:1; 19:1; 26:1)
- b. Jesus' adopted hometown of Capernaum had rejected Him and cursed themselves, so He **departed from there** (cf. Matt. 11:23-24)
- c. **His hometown** = Nazareth (cf. Matt. 2:23; 4:12-13)
- d. I believe Jesus' visit to Nazareth recorded in Luke 4:16-30 was a separate earlier visit with a similarly tragic ending.
- e. As usual the people were astonished by His wisdom and miraculous powers (cf. Matt. 7:28-29; 19:25; 22:33)
- f. But they would not accept Him as their Messiah, so they made up excuses:
 - i. **carpenter** = *tektōn* (τέκτων) = "one who uses various materials (wood, stone, and metal) in building—'builder,' 'craftsman'"
 - ii. **His mother Mary** (cf. Matt. 1:25; 12:46-47; Luke 1:47; 2:7; John 7:10; Acts 1:14)
 - iii. **His brothers, James and Joseph and Simon and Judas?**⁵⁶ **And His sisters**, (cf. Matt. 12:46; Mark 3:31; 6:3; Luke 8:19-21; John 2:12; 7:3-5; Acts 1:14)
- g. The KEY is that even with all of this firsthand knowledge of Jesus, the people of His hometown still Rejected Him!
- h. **offense** = *skandalizō* (σκανδαλίζω) = "to cause someone to experience anger, or to stumble—to cause one to be offended" (cf. Isa. 8:14; 28:16; Jer. 6:21; Matt. 11:6; 13:21)

- i. **"A prophet is not without honor except in his hometown and in his own household."** = "familiarity breeds contempt" (cf. Mark 6:4; Luke 4:24; John 4:44)

- j. **He did not do many miracles there because of their unbelief** does not mean His power was limited; because one's faith is not what heals someone (cf. Matt. 8:14-16; Luke 17; 22:51)

- i. Instead, the people simply did not give Him opportunities to heal their family and friends (cf. Mark 6:5)

II. Rejected by His Earthly King (14:1-12)

a. Herod's in the Bible:

- i. **Herod the Great**—Matt. 2
- ii. **Herod Antipas, the tetrarch**—Luke 23:6-16
 1. Antipas ruled the middle provinces of Galilee & Perea
 2. His half-brother Philip the tetrarch (cf. Luke 3:1) ruled the northeastern provinces of Trachonitis & Iturea
 3. His other brother Archelaus ruled the southern provinces of Judea and Samaria
- iii. **Herod Philip**—Matt. 14:3
- iv. **Herod Agrippa I**—Acts 12:23
- v. **Herod Agrippa II**—Acts 25 & 26

- b. The KEY is that even though Herod Antipas was Jesus' earthly king, because He lived in Galilee, with all his power, privilege, and opportunity he still Rejected Him!

- c. **Herodias** was the daughter of another of Herod the Great's sons, Aristobulus. She originally married her half-uncle Herod Philip, so she was both Herod Antipas' niece and his brother's wife violating Leviticus' and Deuteronomy's laws against incest and adultery! (cf. Lev. 18:6-26; 20:21; Deut. 25:5-10)

- d. **legō (λέγω)** = to speak or talk = kept on saying

- e. **the daughter of Herodias** = Salome = **girl** = *korasion* (κοράσιον) "a girl about the age of puberty—'little girl'" (cf. Josephus, *Antiquities*, 18.5.4)