

Read Mark 6:14-20

14 Herod Antipas, the king, soon heard about Jesus, because everyone was talking about him. Some were saying, "This must be John the Baptist raised from the dead. That is why he can do such miracles."

15 Others said, "He's the prophet Elijah." Still others said, "He's a prophet like the other great prophets of the past."

16 When Herod heard about Jesus, he said, "John, the man I beheaded, has come back from the dead."

17 For Herod had sent soldiers to arrest and imprison John as a favor to Herodias. She had been his brother Philip's wife, but Herod had married her.

18 John had been telling Herod, "It is against God's law for you to marry your brother's wife."

19 So Herodias bore a grudge against John and wanted to kill him. But without Herod's approval she was powerless,

20 for Herod respected John; and knowing that he was a good and holy man, he protected him. Herod was greatly disturbed whenever he talked with John, but even so, he liked to listen to him.

Who did the people think Jesus was (vv. 14-15)? John the Baptist or Elijah or a prophet

Who do you say that Jesus is? The Jewish Messiah. My Savior. My Lord.

Who did King Herod think He was (v. 16)? John the Baptist

What did King Herod do to John the Baptist (17)? He had him put into prison. Then Herod had John killed by cutting off his head (later on in Chapter 6).

Why did Herod have John put in prison? Because his wife Herodias didn't like John.

Did John deserve to be put in prison? No. He didn't break any laws.

Did he complain about being in prison? No **Why not?** He trusted his life to God.

Do you think you would complain if you were put into prison and didn't deserve it? (Optional: Discuss Matthew 5:10-11)

What had John been saying to Herod (v. 18)? It was against the law to marry your brother's wife (Herodias).

How did Herodias respond to what John said (v. 19)? She hated John and wanted to kill him.

Why did Herodias respond like she did? She was prideful. She didn't like being told that she was wrong and had broken the law.

Why couldn't she have John killed (v. 20)? Because Herod respected John and protected him.

What did Herod think of John the Baptist? He thought John was a religious person. He liked John and liked to listen to what he had to say even though he didn't understand it. His heart was convicted by what John had to say.