

Outline – October 24, 2021
Matthew 2:7-18
Herod: The Psychopath
The Antisocial Personality Disorder

The Sick Soul

- I. What is a sick soul (psychopath)?**
 - A. The antisocial personality disorder
 - 1. The bully
 - 2. The abuser
 - 3. The manipulator
 - B. The one that brings pain, suffering, heartache into the lives of many
- II. What are the traits of the psychopath? The antisocial personality disorder?**
 - A. Overly charming – generally intelligent
 - B. Disregard for rules, laws, morals. Doesn't apply to them.
 - C. Lying is a way of life
 - 1. Distorts reality
 - 2. Justifies lies
 - D. Limited in their emotions
 - 1. No fear
 - 2. No sadness
 - 3. Anger – daily
 - 4. Disgust - toward most
 - 5. Rarely feels happy
 - 6. Feels satisfaction when painfully dominating
 - E. Lacks empathy
 - 1. Hurts others without guilt or shame
 - F. Impulsive – acts without thinking about consequences
 - G. Bullies others/gaslight others
 - 1. Causes the victim to feel they are deserving the abuse
 - 2. Convinces the victim they need the abuser
 - H. When exposed, psychopath plays the victim
 - I. They never accept responsibility for their actions
 - 1. Blame others for their behavior
 - 2. Everyone else is at fault
 - J. Hold on to resentment, plans revenge
 - K. Acts superior, and believes the inferior deserves mistreatment
 - 1. Unstable in relationships
 - L. Manipulation comes naturally
- III. The etiology (cause)**
 - A. Genetic factors
 - B. Neurological factors (faulty wiring) in prefrontal cortex

IV. Meet King Herod (known as Herod the Great)

- A. Who was he?
 - 1. A “client king” for the Roman empire
 - 2. He solved problems for Rome
- B. Called by Rome “The King of the Jews”
- C. A master builder
 - 1. Palace fortress – Masada
 - 2. Harbor at Caesarea
 - 3. Restructured Jewish temple
- D. Married Mariamne
 - 1. Killed his wife
 - 2. Killed her brother
 - 3. Killed his 2 sons
 - 4. Killed members of Sanhedrin
- E. A tyrant

V. Herod’s encounter with the Magi

- A. They were the opposite of Herod
 - 1. They loved prophecy
 - 2. Believed in the one true God
 - 3. Had a reverence for Scripture
 - 4. Venerated the prophet Daniel
 - 5. Came to worship Messiah
 - 6. Came to crown Him King
- B. Herod was concerned
 - 1. A huge entourage
- C. Various responses
 - 1. Hostility
 - 2. Indifference
 - 3. Worship
- D. Herod’s response
 - 1. When was He born?
 - 2. Find out
 - 3. I too will go worship Him
 - 4. The plot to kill Messiah
 - 5. Used his power, psychopathy to destroy
- E. The result
 - 1. Children killed
 - 2. Families destroyed
 - 3. Grief abundant
 - 4. No remorse

VI. The eternal impact and difficulty with this disorder

- A. Often will not ever acknowledge their sin, guilt, shame or wrong (Luke 18:10)
- B. They will not turn to Jesus and believe (thus they miss salvation)
 - 1. This is nonsense
 - 2. Life is about here and now
- C. Tried to be saved by works...
 - 1. Herod had a list of accomplishments
 - 2. Had a list of titles
- D. Resisted the revelation of the Holy Spirit
 - 1. Face to face with Magi
 - 2. Scripture confirmed
 - 3. Messiah 5 miles away
 - 4. Could have worshipped Him, but did not
- E. No salvation after death

VII. What might have been

- A. He had opportunity
- B. Could have had a different ending
- C. Could have had a different eternal destination
- D. Power, prestige, temporal pleasure destroyed him
- E. Like his ancestor Esau...
 - 1. Sold it all for a bowl of stew
 - 2. The story could have been different

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