

SUNDAY, JANUARY 4, 2026

THE SILENT LAMB

JESUS BEFORE HEROD

LUKE 23:6-11

- Introduction: Last week we began the section of Luke's Gospel that deals with Christ's trials before Gentile authorities, specifically Pilate and Herod.
- Luke's narrative of the events that led to the crucifixion show us two categories of reaction toward the reality that Jesus is the Christ:
 - Those that refuse to acknowledge:
 - Pilate wanted to rid himself of Jesus
 - Herod wants to be entertained by Jesus
 - The unbelieving thief wants to be bailed out by Jesus
 - Those that acknowledge by faith:
 - The believing thief takes Jesus as Savior
- Today's text: We will think about Jesus' silent response to Herod and the volumes that it spoke:
 - Main idea: Jesus was silent before Herod because He was assured of His Father's plan for his sacrificial work.
- The character and work of Herod – V8
 - Revealed in his attitude toward Jesus: He wanted to see Jesus for fleshly satisfaction
 - To Him Jesus, was for an entertaining spectacle (emotional highs and temporal benefits) rather than genuine faith and repentance.
 - Revealed Christ's characterization: Lk 13:31-32
 - Jesus calls him a fox which speaks of his craftiness or deceitful way of doing business
 - Revealed in his approach to marriage: Divorced his 1st wife after an adulterous and incestuous relationship with his sister-in-law who was also his niece.
 - Revealed in his dealings with John the Baptist: Matt 14:1-12, Lk 9:19-28
 - Revealed in his response to Jesus' silence: The condition of his heart revealed
 - When his desires are unmet, he loses interest and takes his place among those that acknowledge no significance to the Person of Jesus Christ
- The character and work of the Savior – v9
 - Revealed divine authority: Unthreatened by the power of man - Psalm 2:1-12
 - Revealed the sanctity of truth: Didn't cast pearls before swine - Matt 7:6, Pro 23:9
 - Revealed the control of His temper: He who revolts at even the smallest transgression of the heart, kept Himself silent in the hands of sinners
 - Revealed the sentence of condemnation: No further revelation given
 - The other authorities received some level of response, but not this wretched man.
 - Revealed Christ as the Lamb made an offering for sin: Isa 53:7-8
 - Jesus accepted the unjust judgments of men to accept the righteous judgment of God so that sinners could receive His perfect record.