

**THE  
KING  
WHO  
LIKED  
TO  
LISTEN -  
MARK  
6:14-29**





**“When you hear a gospel sermon, and it is not in all respects to your satisfaction, be not too hasty to lay the blame wholly upon the preacher. ... Indeed, they have much to be ashamed of; but it will be more useful for you, who are a hearer, to consider whether the fault may not possibly be in yourself.**

*–John Newton*

**Perhaps you thought too highly of the man,  
and expected too much from him. Perhaps  
you thought too meanly of him, and  
expected too little. In the former case, the  
Lord justly disappointed you; in the latter,  
you received according to your faith.**

*–John Newton*

Perhaps you neglected to pray for him; and then, though he might be useful to others, it is not at all strange that he was not so to you. Or possibly you have indulged a trifling spirit, and brought a dearth [lack] and deadness upon your own soul; for which you had not been duly humbled, and the Lord chose that time to rebuke you.

*–John Newton*

# Start Before the Sermon Does

- Protect Sunday morning
- Pray for spiritual eyes
- Confess your sin
- Expect a corporate encounter with Jesus
- Arrive early 🙏



# Preach the Sermon with the Preacher

- Remove distraction
- Engage the text with curiosity
- Pray for the Holy Spirit to teach you
- Turn to Jesus



# Let the Sermon Linger for a While

- Review
- Apply
- Share





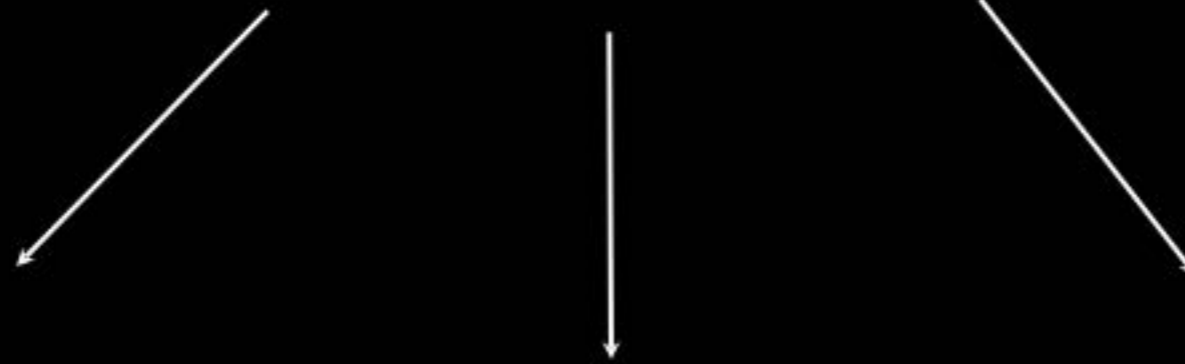
# The King Who Liked to Listen - Herod Antipas

Herod (Hérode), by French painter and Bible illustrator James Tissot, in the Brooklyn Museum





Herod the Great



Aristobulus

Herod  
Philip -  
married  
Herodias

Herod Antipas  
- Tetrarch of  
Galilee - was  
married to  
daughter of  
the king of  
Aretas



Herodias



# Send in the Executioner

**Herod's Banquet  
(detail) by Fra  
Filippo Lippi (15th  
century)**

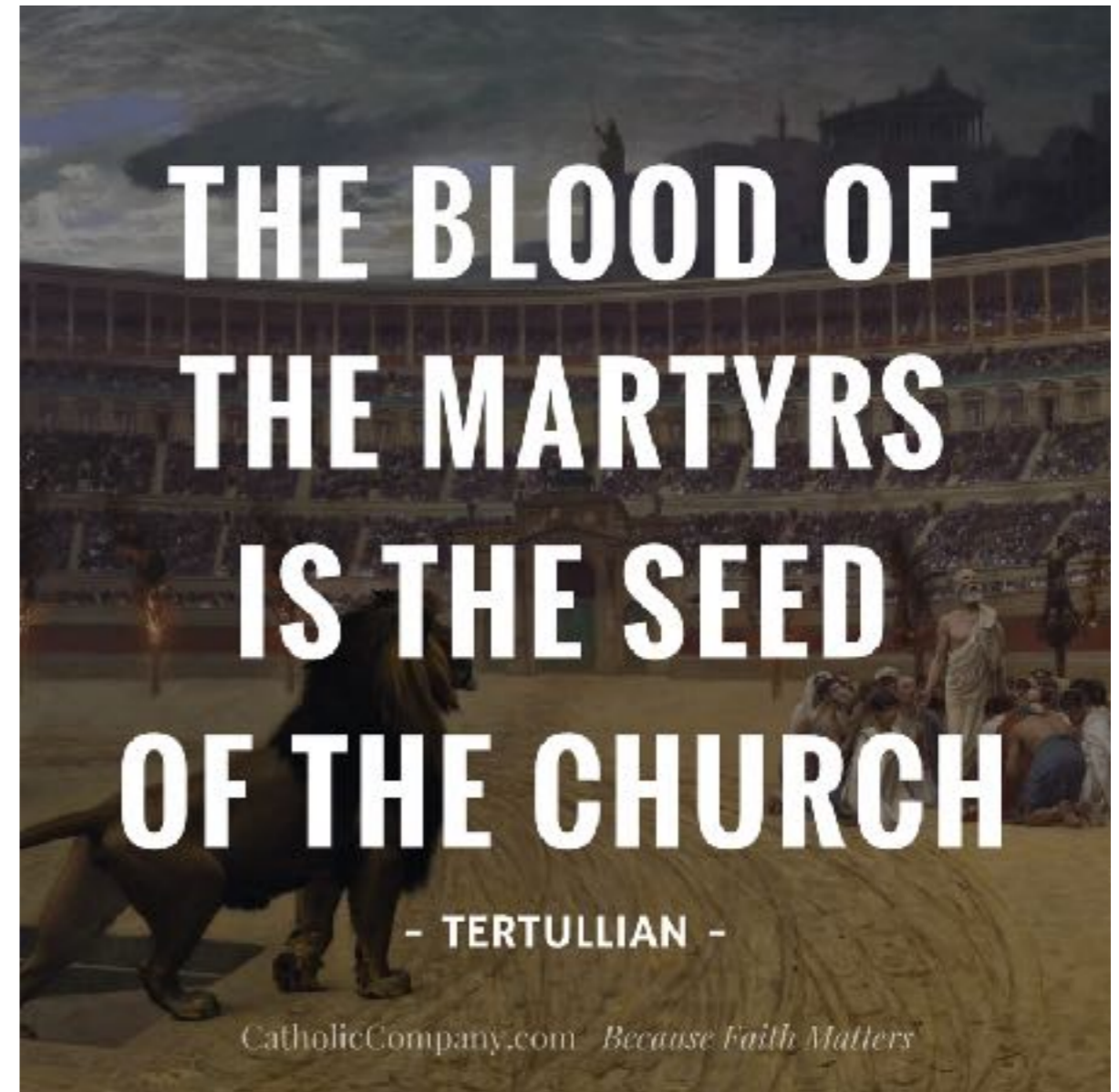


**Salome with the  
Head of John the  
Baptist-Caravaggio  
(1610)**



# The Guilty Conscience

- “Even though he is dead, he still speaks through his faith.” (Heb 11:4)







# The Silence of Jesus



**Jesus at  
Herod's Court,  
by Duccio, c.  
1310.**

# Rejecting God's Message

- Pluralism (many ways to God)
- Nominalism (existing in name only)
- Secularism (message is offensive)



**“Almighty God, by whose providence thy servant, John the Baptist, was wonderfully born, and sent to prepare the way of thy Son our Saviour, by preaching of repentance... Make us so to follow his doctrine and holy life, that we may truly repent according to his preaching; and after his example constantly speak the truth, boldly rebuke vice, and patiently suffer for the truth’s sake.”**

*–Thomas Cranmer - prayer to be recited at the Nativity of John the Baptist, a feast day on June 24th*