

TOP 10

BIBLICAL
VILLAINS

HERODIAS

Sunday, August 27, 2023, 9:00am
13th Sunday after Pentecost
Divine Service, Setting V
Top Ten Biblical Villains...Herodias

Another mother-daughter tale with a tragic end.

Herodias was the woman responsible for the death of John the Baptist, ruthlessly sacrificing her daughter's modesty to plot the murder of the person she most hated.

Prelude

#908, Lord, Open Now My Heart to Hear

1 Lord, open now my heart to hear, And through Your Word to me draw near;
Let me Your Word e'er pure retain; Let me Your child and heir remain.

2 Your Word inspires my heart within; Your Word grants healing from my sin;
Your Word has pow'r to guide and bless; Your Word brings peace and happiness.

3 To God the Father, God the Son, And God the Spirit, Three in One,
Shall glory, praise, and honor be Now and throughout eternity.

Text: Johann Olearius, 1611–84; (sts. 1, 3): tr. Matthias Loy, 1828–1915, alt.; (st. 2): tr. Mark A. Jeske, 1952

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P: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness. Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C: who made heaven and earth.

P: I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C: and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

(Silence for reflection and self-examination)

P: O Almighty God, merciful Father,

C: I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent,

bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

P: Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

[1948, All Glory Be To God Alone]

1 All glory be to God alone, Forevermore the highest one, Who did our sinful race befriend
And grace and peace to us extend. Among us may His gracious will
All hearts with deep thanksgiving fill.

2 We praise You, God; Your name we bless And worship You in humbleness;
From day to day we glorify The everlasting God on high. Of Your great glory do we
sing, And to Your throne our thanks we bring.

3 Lord God, our King on heaven's throne, Our Father, the Almighty One.
O Lord, the sole-begotten One, Lord Jesus Christ, the Father's Son,
True God from all eternity, O Lamb of God, to You we flee.

4 You take the whole world's sin away; Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.
You take the whole world's sin away; O Lord, receive our prayer this day.
From God's right hand Your mercy send, To all the world Your grace extend.

5 You only are the Holy One And over all are Lord alone. O Jesus Christ, we glorify
You and the Spirit, Lord Most High; With Him You evermore shall be
One in the Father's majesty.

Text: attr. Martin Luther, 1483–1546, abr.; tr. W. Gustave Polack, 1890–1950, alt.

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P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Together, we pray,

C: Almighty God, whom to know is everlasting life, grant us to know Your Son, Jesus, to be the way, the truth, and the life that we may boldly confess Him to be the Christ and steadfastly walk in the way that leads to life eternal; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever, Amen.

Children's Time

Isaiah 51:1–6

“Listen to me, you who pursue righteousness, you who seek the Lord: look to the rock from which you were hewn, and to the quarry from which you were dug. Look to Abraham your father and to Sarah who bore you; for he was but one when I called him, that I might bless him and multiply him. For the Lord comforts Zion; he comforts all her waste places and makes her wilderness like Eden, her desert like the garden of the Lord; joy and gladness will be found in her, thanksgiving and the voice of song. “Give attention to me, my people, and give ear to me, my nation; for a law will go out from me, and I will set my justice for a light to the peoples. My righteousness draws near, my salvation has gone out, and my arms will judge the peoples; the coastlands hope for me, and for my arm they wait. Lift up your eyes to the heavens, and look at the earth beneath; for the heavens vanish like smoke, the earth will wear out like a garment, and they who dwell in it will die in like manner; but my salvation will be forever, and my righteousness will never be dismayed.”

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Romans 11:33—12:8

Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are His judgments and how inscrutable His ways! “For who has known the mind of the Lord, or who has been His counselor?” “Or who has given a gift to Him that He might be repaid?” For from Him and through Him and to Him are all things. To Him be glory forever. Amen. I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your Spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect. For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another. Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith; if service, in our serving; the one who teaches, in his teaching; the one who exhorts, in his exhortation; the one who contributes, in generosity; the one who leads, with zeal; the one who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

#518, *By All Your Saints in Warfare*

- 1 By all Your saints in warfare, For all Your saints at rest, Your holy name, O Jesus,
Forevermore be blest! For You have won the battle That they might wear the crown;
And now they shine in glory Reflected from Your throne.
- 2 Our thanks for John the Baptist Who, till his dying day, Made straight paths for the Savior
And heralded His way! In witnessing to Jesus Through times of threat or shame
May we with faith and courage The Lamb of God proclaim.
- 3 Then let us praise the Father And worship God the Son And sing to God the Spirit,
Eternal Three in One, Till all the ransomed number Fall down before the throne,
Ascribing pow'r and glory And praise to God alone.

Text (sts. 1, 3): Horatio Bolton Nelson, 1823–1913, alt.; (st. 24): Gregory J. Wismar, 1946

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P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 6th chapter.

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

King Herod heard of it, for Jesus' name had become known. Some said, "John the Baptist has been raised from the dead. That is why these miraculous powers are at work in him." But others said, "He is Elijah." And others said, "He is a prophet, like one of the prophets of old." But when Herod heard of it, he said, "John, whom I beheaded, has been raised." For it was Herod who had sent and seized John and bound him in prison for the sake of Herodias, his brother Philip's wife, because he had married her. For John had been saying to Herod, "It is not lawful for you to have your brother's wife." And Herodias had a grudge against him and wanted to put him to death. But she could not, for Herod feared John, knowing that he was a righteous and holy man, and he kept him safe. When he heard him, he was greatly perplexed, and yet he heard him gladly. But an opportunity came when Herod on his birthday gave a banquet for his nobles and military commanders and the leading men of Galilee. For when Herodias's daughter came in and danced, she pleased Herod and his guests. And the king said to the girl, "Ask me for whatever you wish, and I will give it to you." And he vowed to her, "Whatever you ask me, I will give you, up to half of my kingdom." And she went out and said to her mother, "For what should I ask?" And she said, "The head of John the Baptist." And she came in immediately with haste to the king and asked, saying, "I want you to give me at once the head of John the Baptist on a platter." And the king was exceedingly sorry, but because of his oaths and his guests he did not want to break his word to her. And immediately the king sent an executioner with orders to bring John's head. He went

and beheaded him in the prison and brought his head on a platter and gave it to the girl, and the girl gave it to her mother.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

[#953, We All Believe in One True God]

1 We all believe in one true God, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, Ever-present help in need,
Praised by all the heav'nly host; All He made His love enfolds, All creation He
upholds.

2 We all believe in Jesus Christ, Son of God and Mary's son, Who descended from His
throne And for us salvation won; By whose cross and death are we
Rescued from all misery.

3 We all confess the Holy Ghost, Who from both in truth proceeds,
Who sustains and comforts us In all trials, fears, and needs.
Blessèd, holy Trinity, Praise forever be to Thee!

Text: Tobias Clausnitzer, 1619–84; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.

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The Sermon *Herodias*

The Gathering of our Gifts and Tithes

The Prayers of His Children

P: Lord, in Your mercy, **C: hear our prayer.**

P: We trust, O Lord, in Your great mercy to hear and answer us; through Jesus
Christ, our Lord.

**C: Amen. Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy
kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day
our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass
against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine
is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

God's Benediction

#661, The Son of God Goes Forth to War

1 The Son of God goes forth to war A kingly crown to gain. His blood-red banner streams
afar; Who follows in His train? Who best can drink His cup of woe,
Triumphant over pain, Who patient bears his cross below—
He follows in His train.

2 The martyr first, whose eagle eye
Could pierce beyond the grave, Who saw his master in
the sky And called on Him to save. Like Him, with pardon on His tongue
In midst of mortal pain, He prayed for those who did the wrong—
Who follows in his train?

3 A glorious band, the chosen few, On whom the Spirit came, Twelve valiant saints—their
hope they knew And mocked the cross and flame. They met the tyrant's brandished
steel, The lion's gory mane; They bowed their necks their death to feel—
Who follows in their train?

4 A noble army, men and boys, The matron and the maid, Around the Savior's throne
rejoice, In robes of light arrayed. They climbed the steep ascent of heav'n
Through peril, toil, and pain. O God, to us may grace be giv'n
To follow in their train!

Text: Reginald Heber, 1783–1826, alt.

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Ministry Announcements

Postlude