

A Desire to See Him

by Linville Dunaway, Corinth Christian Church

Luke 9:7-9, "Now Herod the tetrarch heard of all that was done by him :and he was perplexed, because that it was said of some, that John was risen from the dead; And of some, that Elias had appeared; and of others, that one of the old prophets was risen again. And Herod said, John have I beheaded :but who is this, of whom I hear such things? And he desired to see him."

You would think it a good thing that Herod, or anyone, would have a desire to see Jesus. At first thought it would seem to be the best thing that a person could want to do. However, it could be one of the worst things for the person who wanted this for the wrong reason. Herod definitely was one who wanted to for the wrong reason. **Luke 23:8**, "And when Herod saw Jesus, he was exceeding glad :for he was desirous to see him of a long season, because he had heard many things of him; and he hoped to have seen some miracle done by him."

A miracle was all that Herod wanted to see. He wasn't interested so much in who Jesus was as in

seeing a miracle done by him. Herod wanted to be entertained with a show and to see if the things that he had heard were true. Did this evil minded, worldly ruler even think that he had sins and that he needed to be forgiven? He was interested, like so many others, in only what pleased him at the moment. If he gave any thought about Jesus and who he was, there is no indication of it. He was blinded by the thought of getting to see a miracle performed for his pleasure.

Jesus knew when anyone wanted to see Him for some material profit that catered to the flesh. **John 6:25-26**, "And when they had found him on the other side of the sea, they said unto him, Rabbi, when camest thou hither? Jesus answered them and said, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Ye seek me, not because ye saw the miracles, but because ye did eat of the loaves, and were filled." On this occasion they didn't take into consideration that he performed a miracle with the loaves and fish, but only that they had food provided for them. He was telling them that they were not seeking food for the soul, but only wanted him to feed their fleshly bodies.

It is a fact that the body needs to be taken care of with food and the other things that the flesh re-

quires. It is just as important that the spirit needs are met as well. If a person only concerns himself with feeding the body and neglects the spirit then he will leave this life lost and without the Lord. Then will be the realization that a great mistake was made, but at that time it will be too late. Now is the time that each of us should seek the Lord for all of our needs, both physical and spiritual.

People go to church for different reasons, just as people went to see Jesus for different reasons as we read in scripture. I was told of one man who said he went to church because it was good for his business. He probably made contacts at church with people who became his customers. Also people may have thought that since he went to church he would be honest and a good person to deal with. This may have helped his business, but if he didn't believe and live for the Lord it wouldn't help his soul.

What about us, I mean you and me, why do we seek the Lord? If it is for anything but salvation then we are missing the point. Jesus is the Son of God, the Savior of mankind, to be saved we must believe in him and obey the gospel. To be forgiven of our sins and to have our names in the Book of Life will lead us to praise the Lord forever.

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This is a dramatized version of facts taken from the Book of Genesis intending to show some of the customs of these ancient and traditional times

ABRAM IN EGYPT
TERRIFIED BY THE THOUGHT THAT ABRAM'S GOD HAS STRUCK HIM WITH A PLAGUE BECAUSE HE TOOK SARAI AWAY FROM ABRAM AND BROUGHT HER TO HIS COURT, PHARAOH HAS SENT FOR ABRAM, NOW....

WHY DIDST THOU SAY THY WIFE WAS BUT THY SISTER?

I MIGHT HAVE MADE HER MY WIFE AND BEEN DESTROYED BY YOUR GOD!

...PHARAOH SPEAKS WITH GREAT BITTERNESS....

BEHOLD THY WIFE! TAKE HER AND LEAVE MY LAND!

WITH GREAT RELIEF, ABRAM AND SARAI LEAVE PHARAOH'S PALACE....

...AND STRAIGHTWAY LEAVE EGYPT! AND ALL THE PRECIOUS GIFTS THAT PHARAOH GAVE TO ABRAM GO WITH HIM - FOR THE RULER OF EGYPT REFUSES TO TAKE THEM BACK! THIS THEN IS THE FIRST SIGN TO ABRAM THAT GOD WILL PROTECT AND LOOK AFTER HIM WHERE EVER HE MAY WANDER - THAT HE WILL ALWAYS BE SAFE BECAUSE OF HIS TRUST IN THE LORD - ALL OF WHICH IS RECORDED IN GENESIS :CHAP.12

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