

Family Worship

Peter & Herod

15·11·2020

Opening Prayer

Our Heavenly Father, thank you for our family.

And thank you for the privilege of coming together for worship.

Help us to understand Your Word and obey it with a joyful heart.

In Jesus name, we pray. Amen.

Worthy Is the Lamb / Agnus Dei

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LiohGVxzDPc>



Catechism Time!

Bible truths for teaching children

Question 25

Q: Does Christ's death mean all our sins can be forgiven?

A: Yes, because Christ's death on the cross fully paid the penalty for our sin, God will remember our sins no more

This means...

Our disobedience is completely covered by the obedience of Jesus — all of our sins dealt with forever.

Bible verse (2 Corinthians 5:21)

Christ had no sin. But God made him become sin. God did this for us so that in Christ we could become right with God.

Last week we met David and Goliath.

Their paths crossed.

This week we will meet two other men.

Their paths also crossed...

Peter and Herod



Peter was an apostle, jailed
for his faith in Jesus

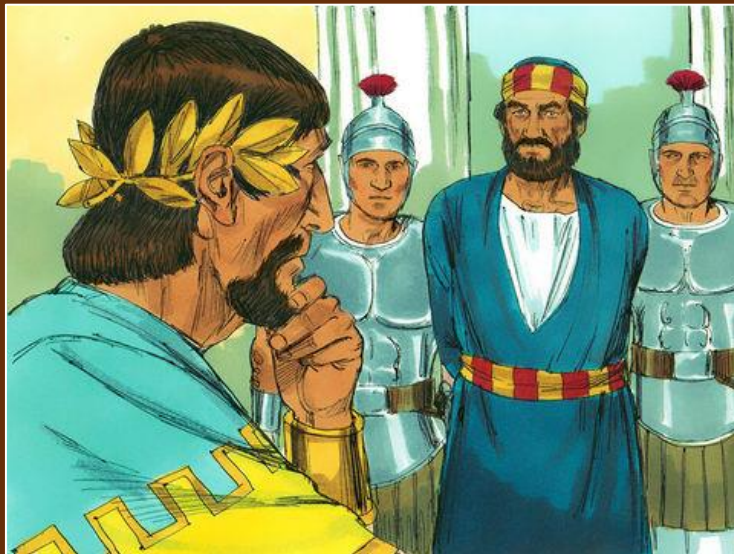
Herod was a king



Peter's Miraculous Escape from Prison

(Acts 12: 1-19)

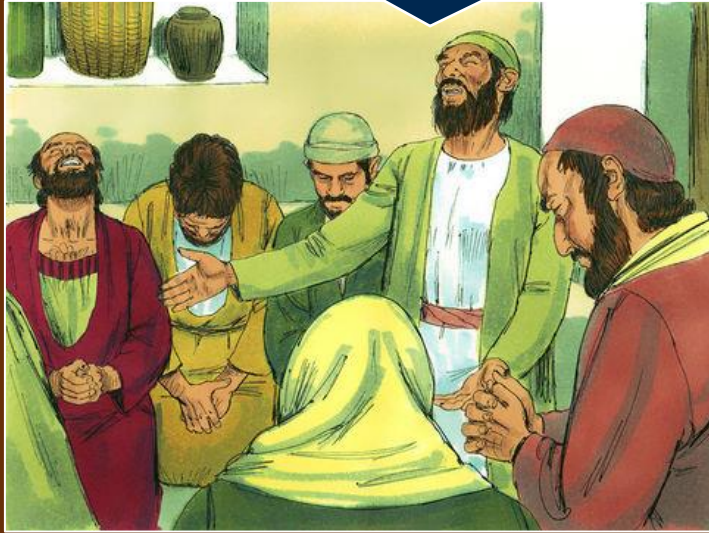
During that same time King Herod began to do terrible things to some who belonged to the church. He ordered James, the brother of John, to be killed by the sword. Herod saw that the Jews liked this, so he decided to arrest Peter, too. (This happened during the time of the Feast of Unleavened Bread.)



After Herod arrested Peter, he put him in jail and handed him over to be guarded by 16 soldiers (4 teams, each with 4 soldiers). Herod planned to bring Peter before the people for trial after the Passover Feast.

So Peter was kept in jail.

Dear Jesus, we pray
for our brother Peter...



But the church kept on praying to God for him.

The night before Herod was to bring him to trial, Peter was sleeping. He was between two soldiers, bound with two chains. Other soldiers were guarding the door of the jail.

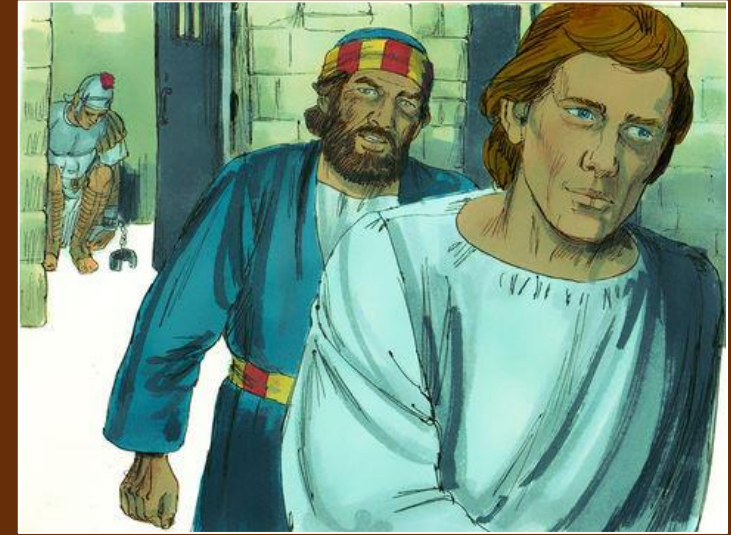
Suddenly, an angel of the Lord stood there. A light shined in the room. The angel touched Peter on the side and woke him up. The angel said, "Hurry! Get up!" And the chains fell off Peter's hands. The angel said to him, "Get dressed and put on your sandals." And so Peter did this. Then the angel said, "Put on your coat and follow me."



Peter...Hurry! Get up!

So the angel went out, and Peter followed him. Peter did not know if what the angel was doing was real. He thought he might be seeing a vision.

They went past the first and the second guard. They came to the iron gate that separated them from the city. The gate opened itself for them. They went through the gate and walked down a street. And the angel suddenly left him.



Then Peter realized what had happened. He thought, "Now I know that the Lord really sent his angel to me. He rescued me from Herod and from all the things the Jewish people thought would happen."

When he realized this, he went to the home of Mary. She was the mother of John. (John was also called Mark.) Many people were gathered there, praying.

Peter knocked on the outside door...



OMG!!!



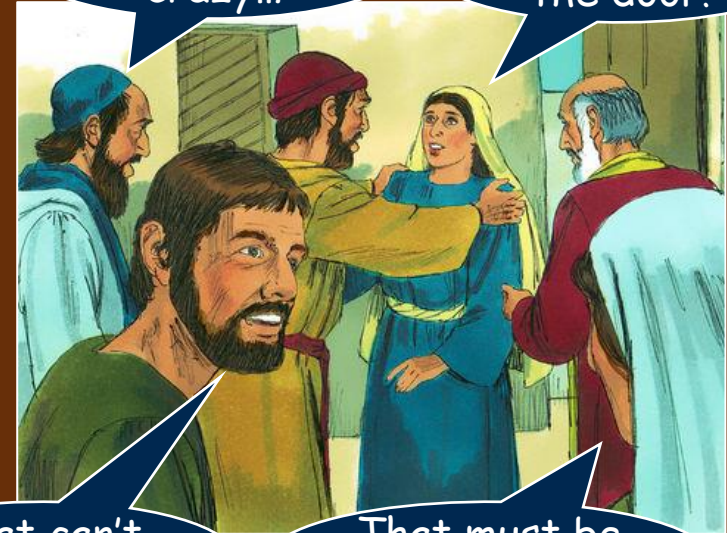
Hey, open the door!
It's me...Peter

A servant girl named Rhoda came to answer it. She recognized Peter's voice, and she was very happy. She even forgot to open the door. She ran inside and told the group, "Peter is at the door!"

They said to her, "You are crazy!" But she kept on saying that it was true. So they said, "It must be Peter's angel."

You're
crazy...

Peter's at
the door!

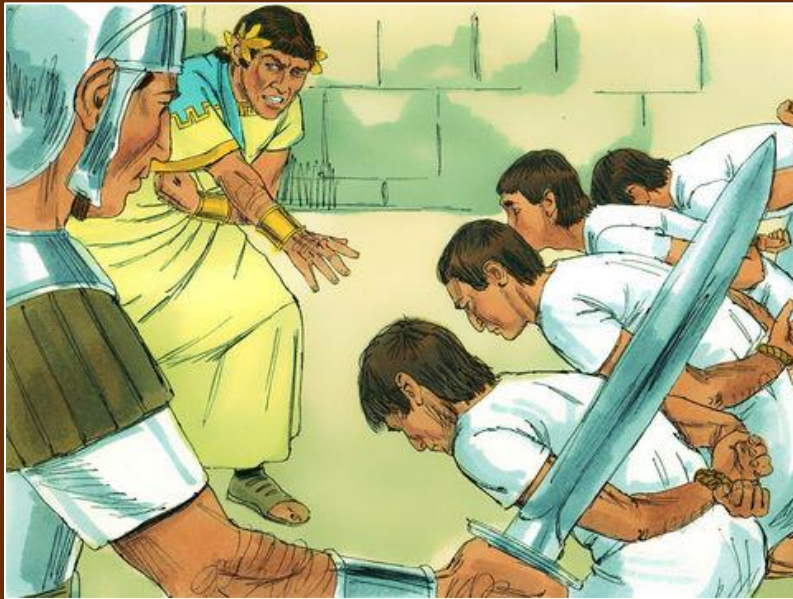
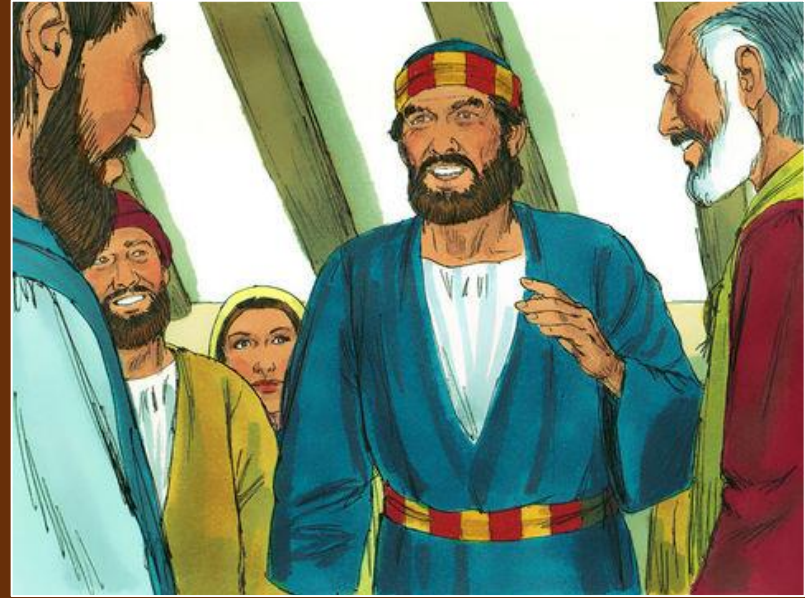


That can't
be true!

That must be
Peter's angel

Peter continued to knock. When they opened the door, they saw him and were amazed !

Peter made a sign with his hand to tell them to be quiet. He explained how the Lord led him out of the jail. And he said, "Tell James and the other believers what happened." Then he left to go to another place.

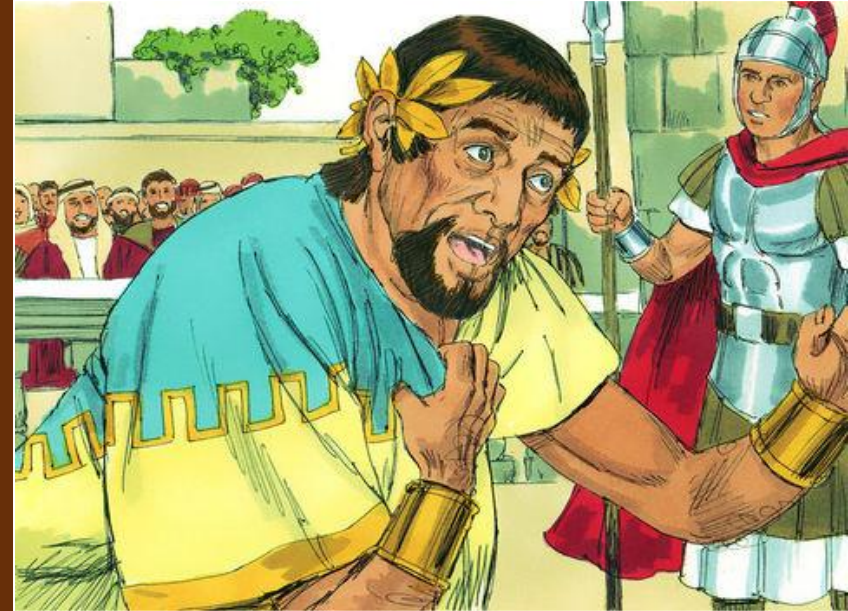


The next day the soldiers were very upset. They wondered what had happened to Peter. Herod looked everywhere for Peter but could not find him. So he questioned the guards and ordered that they be killed.

The Death of Herod Agrippa

(Acts 12: 19-25)

Later Herod moved from Judea and went to the city of Caesarea, where he stayed for a while. Herod was very angry with the people of Tyre and Sidon. But the people of those cities all came in a group to Herod. They were able to get Blastus, the king's personal servant, on their side. They asked Herod for peace because their country got its food from his country.



On a chosen day Herod put on his royal robes. He sat on his throne and made a speech to the people. They shouted, "This is the voice of a god, not a man!" Herod did not give the glory to God. So an angel of the Lord caused him to become sick. He was eaten by worms and died.

God's message continued to spread and reach more and more people.

Family Discussion

1. Last week we learnt about the famous story of David & Goliath. This week we look at the story of Peter & Herod. What are the similarities between these 2 stories?
2. Peter was guarded by 4 squads of 4: that's 16 soldiers guarding one man! Even at sleep Peter was chained to two soldiers. Along his escape route he passed a first guard, a second guard, finally an iron gate. Acts tells us all these details because...

- Herod was making sure Peter could not escape
- Peter's escape was a total miracle
- Nothing can stop God

Do you agree?

3. Were those who prayed for Peter expecting him to be freed miraculously?
 - If they were praying for a miracle, why didn't they believe in Rhoda?
 - How should we pray in a "hopeless" situation? (God answers "immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine" (Ephesians 3:20))

Family Discussion

4. Herod opposed God's kingdom

- he killed James and jailed Peter
- Like Goliath, he challenged God. Was this Peter's fight or God's fight?

5. Herod valued people's praise more than God's praise

- He imprisoned Peter to please the Jews
- Do you feel that sometimes you seek praise from people more than God's praise? Any example?

6. Herod did not give glory to God

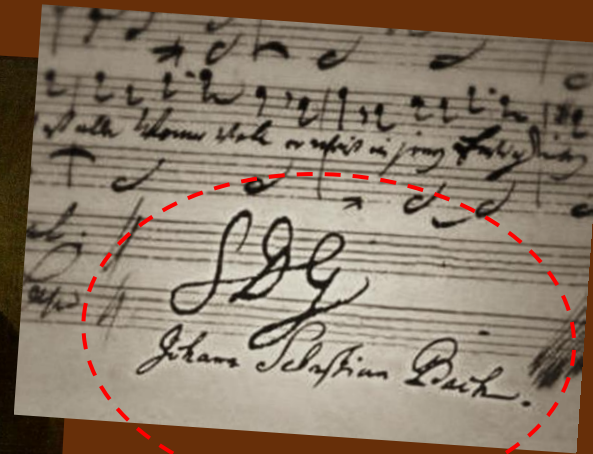
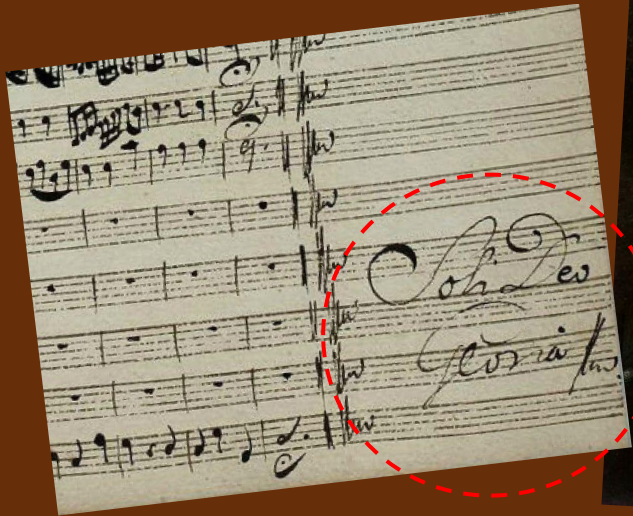
- Why is it important to give glory to God for what you do?
- How do you give glory to God?

3 Lessons

1. God allowed James' life to be taken
 - His death shows the cost of following Jesus
2. God saved Peter's life
 - God wanted Peter to carry on shepherding His Church
3. God took Herod's life
 - God is the King of kings, so his people should not feel small and powerless

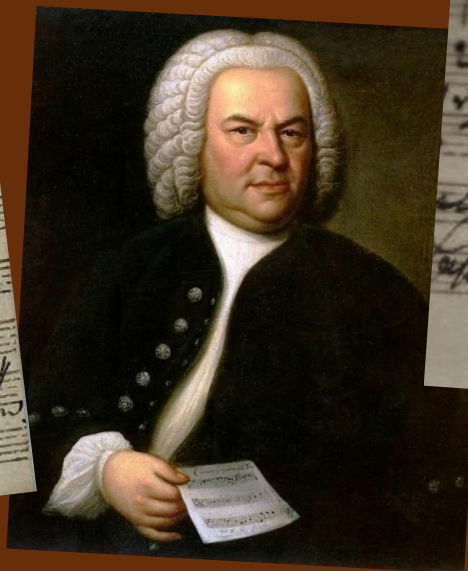
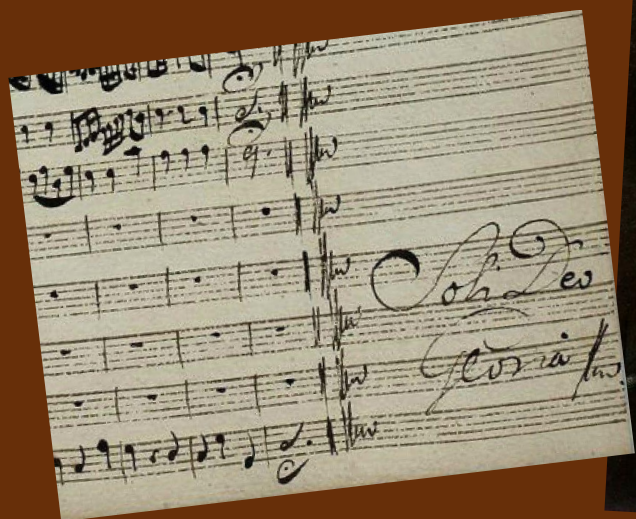
Bach

- ❖ Many consider Bach the greatest composer ever lived.
- ❖ He loved God and gave glory to God through his music.
- ❖ He always signed his composition "Soli Deo Gloria" or simply SDG.
- ❖ This Latin phrase means "For the Glory of God Alone"
- ❖ He also wrote "JJ" at the top of his composition - "Jesu Juva," or "Jesus, help me."



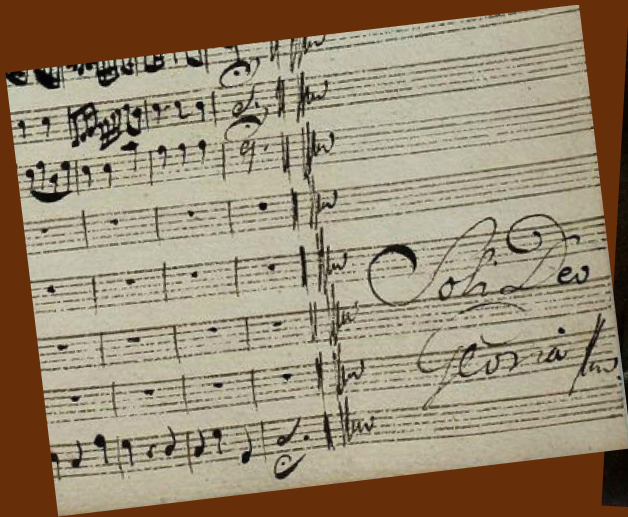
Watch Bach

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hcNeEUmqi5Y>



Bach

- ❖ Bach began his work with "Jesus, help me". He ended his work with "For the Glory of God Alone".
- ❖ God is pleased that we humble ourselves before Him to ask for help. He is also pleased that whatever we do, we do it for God's glory and not our own.



Family Prayer Time

1. Thank God for His Word and help so we may learn from Him.
2. Ask your children to pray for what they have learned just now.
3. Ask your family how you can pray for them specifically.

To God Be the Glory

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ukQajOmgDGk>

**O come to the Father
through Jesus the Son,
and give Him the glory
great things He hath done**