

HEROD – Scene 3

Roman Soldier #1: Halt! Where do you think you are going?

Guide: We seek passage through the palace to continue onto Bethlehem to turn in the census.

Roman Soldier #1: You may pass.

Servant: O great and magnificent King Herod, there are some more visitors here.

Herod: What? Who is interrupting my dinner this time? What do these people want?

Servant: What is the reason for your visit?

Guide: We are but humble travelers on our way to Bethlehem to complete the king's census.

Herod: Do they know anything about the "new king" that is supposed to be born in Bethlehem?

Servant: Oh dear... Have you heard anything about a new king being born?

Guide: Umm...

Herod: There is only one king here in Judea, and that's me!

Roman Soldier #1 and #2: Yes, Sire!

Herod: Greetings to you and welcome to my palace! I'm so glad you could stop and take a break from your travels to visit. Please make yourselves at home.

Now, what's this I hear about a baby king? I AM THE KING! There is no other.

I had three visitors a few days ago. Kings from afar that came to inquire about a newborn king of Judea. But I am the king and if it is as they say; then, I would like to meet this new king... oh yes... I'd like to meet Him... I'll meet Him alright. I'd like to hold Him and take His tiny little head and... and put a crown on it... yes that's it.

Good travelers, if you find this newborn king, would you be so kind as to come back here and tell me all about Him? For you see, I would like to find Him and... and worship Him as well and tell Him exactly... what... I... think... of... Him.

Ah! Well, off with you. Quickly. Do take care. So long. Off you go to find the baby king. Bye now.

Can't you make them leave faster?

Roman Soldier #2: Go on! You heard the king! Off you go!

Guide: Please give me your census papers. It will be safer and easier if I carry them all to Bethlehem.