1 – **Why John Died**

Mark 6:14-29

2 - **The Context of Mark 6**

* Jesus sends out the 12 who work miracles. (vs. 13)
* Herod hears of it and the people were alleging that John had risen from the dead.
* Herod reflects that he had personally beheaded John.

3 - **Because Of A Lack Of Courage & Conviction**

* **Herod knew John was a good and righteous man**.
(Mark 6:20), yet he would not stand for what he believed.
* Just as **Pilate** knew Jesus was innocent yet would not free Him. (Matthew 27:19; Luke 23:4, 14, 22)
* **Felix** never found it convenient to respond by faith and conviction. (Acts 24:25)
* Succumbed to **peer pressure**. (Mark 6:21, 26;
cf., Galatians 2:11ff)
* **Be careful!** (1 Corinthians 15:33; Exodus 23:2)

4 - **Because Of Sound Preaching About Sin and Repentance.**

* ***“It’s not lawful for you to have her”***. (Mark 6:18).
* What must Herod do, to no longer be ***“unlawful”***? He must **stop “having” her**! (Luke 3:7-14)
* Demands of repentance. (Luke 19:8)
* ***“Have I become your enemy?”*** (Galatians 4:16)
* ***“Preach the word…”*** (2 Timothy 4:2-5)
* How? “***Great patience and instruction***”; “…***in love***” (Ephesians 4:15); “***with gentleness***” (2 Timothy 2:25)

5 - **Because The Wicked Will Seek To Silence The Truth.**

* ***“Herodias had a grudge against him and wanted to put him to death…”*** (Mark 6:19)
* **Truth cannot be refuted** but only silenced or suppressed.
(Acts 4:15ff; Romans 1:18)
* **Example: King Ahab** (1 Kings 18:17-18; 21:20; 22:8)

6 - **Because Of A Rash Vow**

* **Herod was not careful with his words**. (Mark 6:23-24)
* **Be careful with what we say**. (Ecclesiastes 5:2-5)
* The point is: **Do what we say we will do**.
(Matthew 5:33-37)
* **Our words must be controlled**. (James 3:2-6)
* **What have we promised**? (Our marriage vows?)
**What commitment have we made**? (Luke 9:57-62)
* What has God promised to us?

7 - **Why John Died?**

* **Because of the same reason Jesus died…
Because of sin! Our sins… My sin!**
* **Jesus died for our sin and forgiveness is found only through His blood.**(Romans 6:3-4; 1 John 1:7-9)