

## **The Folly of Fighting Against God (Acts 12)**

1. The hand of God (11:19-24)
2. Barnabas: The Encourager (11:25-26)
3. In Antioch the believers were first called “Christians” (11:26)
4. Famine in the Land (11:27-30)

### **I. If You Resist Jesus, You Lose**

#### A. Herod’s two deep desires

- i. Self-exaltation and seeking the praise of men (12:2-3)

**John 5: 44** *“How can you believe who receive glory from one another & don’t seek the glory of God”*

- ii. Herod’s lust to be perceived as powerful (12:20-23)

v. 21 *On a set day Herod, arrayed in royal apparel sat on a throne & gave an oration to them*

- iii. Herod arrayed Himself like a god: great pomp & ceremony (12:22)

v. 22 *“and the people shouted, “The voice of a god, and not a man”*

### **II. God Opposed Herod and Frustrated His Plans**

- i. Rescuing Peter, Herod’s prize prisoner (12:11)

- Peter is saved and James is martyred: God’s plan (Mark.10:39)

- ii. Taking Herod’s life (12:23)

- Daniel 2:21; 4:30,32

- iii. Making the Word of God grow and multiply (12:24)

- Herod exalted God not himself: Jesus’ reputation spread not his