

# The First New Testament Pagan Politician

Acts 12:20-25

## Introduction:

Chapter 12 saw:

1. A mountain
2. Moved by prayer
3. “the gates of death” did not prevail
4. Old testament cross references
5. Two world views are introduced
  - Open
  - Closed

So...

What will become of Herod?

We will see

1. Great Authority
2. Great Pride
3. Great Evil
4. Great Wrath

For the next 20 centuries, kings will face the God of the church.  
This is the first.

v 20.

- leading cities
- that have offended Herod
- they seek reconciliation
- because Herod feeds them
- and approach through a mediator

Sound familiar?

So leaders are “servants of God”

v 21. “A king with bling”

v 22. The seduction of leaders is to be deities

v 23. He wanted to be sovereign and unaccountable

“You are most assuredly *not* supreme!”

He is a dead man walking

Point: No government will oppose the church successfully.

It reminds one of Nebuchadnezzar in Daniel 4.

His arrogance made him insane until he lifted his eyes to God.

v 24. But look who wins!

v 25. And Paul saw this

## Conclusion: