The Great Escape

Acts 12 1-19

Our God is a God who saves; from the sovereign LORD comes escape from death.

Psalm 68:20 Can you spot the differences between the pictures of Herod, Peter and Rhoda?

Record what each would have felt at the beginning and at the end of the story.

How would your feelings change if you woke up tomorrow and stood before the returned Lord Jesus?

What can you do to make sure you look forward to his return eagerly?

Readings for this week:

Luke 21:12-19 M John 21:12-19 T Acts 12:1-11 W Acts 12:12-24 Th 1 Thess 5:1-11 1 Thess 5:12-28 S

2 Thess 1

Digging Deeper

Who was Herod?

In 37BC Judea became part of the Roman Empire and Herod the Great was put in charge.

He wasn't a Jew but he was called the King of the Jews.

Read about him in Matthew 2

Read about the family of Herods and make a family tree from the following information.

Herod had 10 wives and 12 children.

There are 5 sons that are concerned with people mentioned in the Bible. They are Aristobulus,

Herod Philip I (Matthew 14:3), **Archelaus** (Matthew 2:19-23),

Herod Antipas (Luke 3:1-2, Matthew 14:1-12, Luke 23:7-12) and **Herod Philip II** (Luke 3:1).

On the death of Herod the Great, his kingdom was divided between the 3 sons (who were called Tetrarchs) marked in bold type.

The next generation - The children of Aristobulus were Herodias (Matthew 14:3 and she also married her other uncle, Antipas) and Herod Agrippa I (Acts 12:1-23 also called Herod the King)

Philip I's daughter (with Herodias) was Salome (Matthew 14:6)

The third generation — Three of Herod Agrippa's children were Agrippa II (Acts 25:13-26,32) Bernice (Acts 25:13) and Drucilla (Acts 24:24)

The complete story of this awful family is a sorry tale of plotting against and murdering each other, many marriages between close relations as well as the dreadful things some of them did that we read of in the Bible.

How did Jesus prepare Peter for his ordeal?

What have we been told to prepare for?

What tools are we given to help us through ordeals?

> Christ at his coming.