

had killed John.

While John was preaching in the wilderness, Herod had stolen his own brother's wife, Herodias, from her husband; and John had said "You have done wickedly. God is not pleased with your ways."

For this Herodias hated John and got Herod to shut him in prison. Herod himself was partly afraid of the brave and holy prophet but he would not obey his warnings.

One day King Herod gave a birthday party to his great men. At this feast Herodias' daughter came in and danced before the king. Herod was greatly pleased and began to talk in a loud drunken voice and to make

foolish promises. He said "I will give you anything you ask, even to the half of my kingdom." Then the girl ran to her mother and said, "What shall I ask?"

"Go quickly," said the wicked woman, and say, "Give me the head of John the Baptist in a dish."

Herod was terribly ashamed and sorry. But he was afraid his friends would laugh, if he refused to keep his word. So he sent a soldier and brought the girl what she asked for, and she gave it to her mother.

When John's friends heard of it, they came and took away their master's body and laid it in a grave. Then they went and told Jesus.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

1. Whom did King Herod think Jesus was? Ans. John the Baptist risen from the dead. 2. What had Herod done to John? Ans. He had put him in prison. 3. What for? Ans. For telling the king and queen of their wickedness. 4. What did Herod do on his birthday? Ans. He gave a party to his lords. 5. Who pleased the king by dancing? Ans. The daughter of Herodias. 6. What did Herod promise her? Ans. Anything she

liked. 7. What did her mother tell her to ask? Ans. The head of John the Baptist. 8. How did Herod feel? Ans. He was sorry. 9. Why did he do wrong? Ans. He could not bear his friends to laugh at him. 10. What did John's disciples do with his body? Ans. They laid it in a grave. 11. What is the Golden Text? Ans. Be not drunk with wine wherein is excess; but be filled with the spirit.



I HAVE LEARNED
TO-DAY THAT

Serving Jesus brings Everlasting Joy



Primary Catechism—95. What did Jesus say the commandments teach us?

Jesus said the commandments teach us to love God with all our heart, and to love others as ourself.

Shorter Catechism—25. How doth Christ execute the office of a priest?

A. Christ executeth the office of a priest in his once offering up of himself a sacrifice to satisfy divine justice, and reconcile us to God; and in making continual intercession for us.

Lesson Hymn

O, what can little hearts do
To please the King of Heaven?
Our hearts, if God His Spirit send,
Can love and trust their Saviour Friend:
Such grace to mine be given.

Though small is all that we can do
To please the King of Heaven;
When hearts and hands and lips unite
To serve the Saviour with delight,
They are most precious in His sight:
Such grace to mine be given.

Amen.

—Hymn 532, Book of Praise