

carrying messages of love and salvation to all who do not know Jesus?

John the Baptist, the Messenger—Draw outline of a prison, also outline of a palace. Tell briefly the story of John the Baptist and the message he brought.

Here he is in this prison at Machærus (map), put there because he was a faithful messenger of King Jesus.

In this palace—prison—at Machærus lived Herod Antipas, the king (tetrarch, governor) of that part of Palestine, a wicked man (one of the four sons of that Herod who had all the little boy babies in Bethlehem killed, thinking the baby Jesus would be one of them).

While John was telling people to give up all their wicked ways and get ready for Jesus, Herod Antipas did a very wicked act. (Stole his brother Philip's wife, Herodias, and took her to his own palace.) John told him that God was very angry with him. Herod listened to John, and feared the brave, good man, but did not undo the wicked deed. Herodias was a wicked woman, and was very angry at John the Baptist, and would have killed him, but she

did not dare; so she coaxed Herod to shut him up in prison. He was for ten long months a prisoner. (Sometimes Jesus lets His dear friends suffer, to make them truer and stronger.)

John's Death—One day Herod Antipas made a birthday supper, and invited all his great men. The young Salome, daughter of the wicked queen, came in and danced before the king to entertain the guests. Herod and his friends were no doubt drunken with wine. (Teach Golden Text. Drinking strong drink leads to many sins.) Tell the rest of the story. Do not make the picture too vivid. There is no use in filling the little minds with this horrible scene. Let the chief thought be John's faithfulness to his king's orders, and the joy that comes from dying in the service of King Jesus.

Faithful unto Death; Joy in Service—A young soldier boy was shot in battle. As he lay dying, he said to his comrades who were bending over him, "Tell them at home not to grieve for me; I am glad to die in the service of my queen. Oh, it is a glorious death!" Tell some story of a child martyr.

BLACKBOARD REVIEW

**Trifling
Tampering
Con Temning** WHERE IT ALL ENDS

See less.

The lesson is a dismal one—a king, a queen, a princess, all involved in the foul crime of murder. The practical truth which the Review may be used to impress on the scholars is that which has come to the surface repeatedly in the course of teaching the lesson—WHERE IT ALL ENDS, our wrong dealing with conscience. Get the scholars to tell what conscience is. The story of Theodore Parker (Points and Paragraphs) will help. Then show Herodias' daughter trifling with conscience in her giddiness and excitement; Herod tampering with conscience in his foolish fondness for Herodias, and his foolish sticking to a wrong promise; and, finally, Herodias contemning conscience—utterly despising its voice, until the voice ceased altogether. The sure end of it all—sin, wrong, wretchedness; all infinitely sad, but powerful as a warning.