

Bible Study – May 16, 2018

“Breaking Generational Cycles”

UNSUNG: Major Lessons from ‘Minor’ People – Pt. 2

Character Study: Agrippa II

SCRIPTURE: Acts 25-26

We are going to get to know as much as we can about the man whose name was Agrippa.

Who was Agrippa?

His full name was Marcus Julius Agrippa II. He was quite popular with Roman ‘royalty’. But because he was so young when his father died, he was not allowed to take his place as ruler. Instead, he was given some lesser authority, which he used wisely; trading up, so to speak until he had supreme power in Jewish religious life. He was last in leadership of the Herodian Dynasty of rulers who ruled Judea. His father was King Agrippa and his great grandfather was Herod the Great. Herod “the Great” ruled as king of the Jews under Roman authority for thirty-three years, from 37–4 BC. He is remembered in the gospel as attempting to have all the baby boys killed in an attempt to kill Jesus after the wise men didn’t come back to report Jesus’ whereabouts. Herod was a cruel, jealous, and ruthless tyrant who crushed any potential opposition. He executed his wife when he suspected she was plotting against him. Three of his sons, another wife, and his mother-in-law met the same fate when they too were suspected of conspiracy.

KING Agrippa I

Herod Agrippa, also known as Herod or Agrippa I was a King of Judea from 41 to 44 AD. He was the father of Herod Agrippa II, and the grandson of Herod the Great. Herod Agrippa felt he had to appease the more conservative people in his constituency to ensure their support for his autonomous Jewish vassal state—and this meant persecuting a couple of early Christians. He persecuted the church in Jerusalem and had the apostle James, the brother of John and son of Zebedee, put to death by the sword. James became the first apostle to be martyred. Herod saw that some of the people liked this, so he decided to arrest Peter, as well (Acts 12:1-5). He died suddenly in 44AD in Caesarea after refusing to give glory to God (Acts 12:23).

Question: Based upon what we know about Herod the Great and King Agrippa I, what were some of the generational cycles in Agrippa II’s family line?

Keys to Breaking a Generational Cycle:

NOTES:
