

“Jail Break”
Or
Herod and His Worms
(Acts 12)
By Tom Taylor

Barnabas and Saul, on mission, arrived in Jerusalem
‘Round th’ time Herod decided all Christians should be dead....
So he began by arresting James, brother of John
And, soon – to the great delight of the Jews – he had him killed, just as he’d said

Thus encouraged by the response, Herod then put Peter in jail
Some 16 Soldiers guarded him....the church began praying, without fail
The night before Peter was to die, between two guards he slept in chains
Every door was guarded....What happened next just proves Who Reigns ~

For, suddenly, an angel appeared, and filled the darkened cell with Light
Peter didn’t wake up! Did the angel poke’im? I’m thinkin’ “Yeah, y’got that right!”
Peter opened an eye... – “Wake up...get dressed” – and he did as the angel said
But, did Peter really believe what was happening? No, he tho’t it was a vision, instead

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Still, when he got up, the chains – all by themselves - dropped right down to the floor
“Follow me,” said the angel – Peter did – and they walked right out the door
Except, of course, it wasn’t a door, but an iron gate...that, by itself, opened wide
They walked down the street...the angel disappeared...
Peter then knew – it **was** true
He stood alone in the street . . . but he was **not** alone inside!

He knew where believers were praying for him, and, you know he went straight there
He had a story to tell, he could hardly wait, he hurried to the house and knocked on the
gate
Rhoda, a servant girl, answered the knock, heard his voice, and Rhoda *almost* hit th’
floor
She ran back to tell the others who she’d heard outside and left Peter standing at the
door!

“Impossible,” they cried, but they ran to the door and, sure’nuff, there he was
He told’em how the Lord had sent an angel of Deliverance, and they all praised Him
that He does

Meanwhile, back at the jail house, Peter’s disappearance was cause for dread
And before you know it, Peter’s 16 guards.... (thanks to Herod) each, and all – were
dead

Herod then went to a resort on the coast to hear himself make a speech
The crowd cried, "This is the voice of a god, not a man" – Herod smiled at his fans on
the beach

"They're right!" he tho't , "They're right!" Herod was filled with pride
An angel of God struck him down...he was infested with worms and died....

The work of the Lord continued to spread....The Lord's work continued to grow
The Light of Life continued to shine wherever His children did go
Barnabas and Saul had shared their Lord's Love, His Life – and His Light...in the Dark
They then left Jerusalem, returned to Antioch, this time taking their brother John Mark

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