


JANUARY 2

Text: Luke 1:5-25

Time: c. 5/4 – 4 BC

Summary: John's Birth Foretold to Zechariah



“In the days of Herod, king
of Judea, there was a
priest named Zechariah...”
(Luke 1:5a)



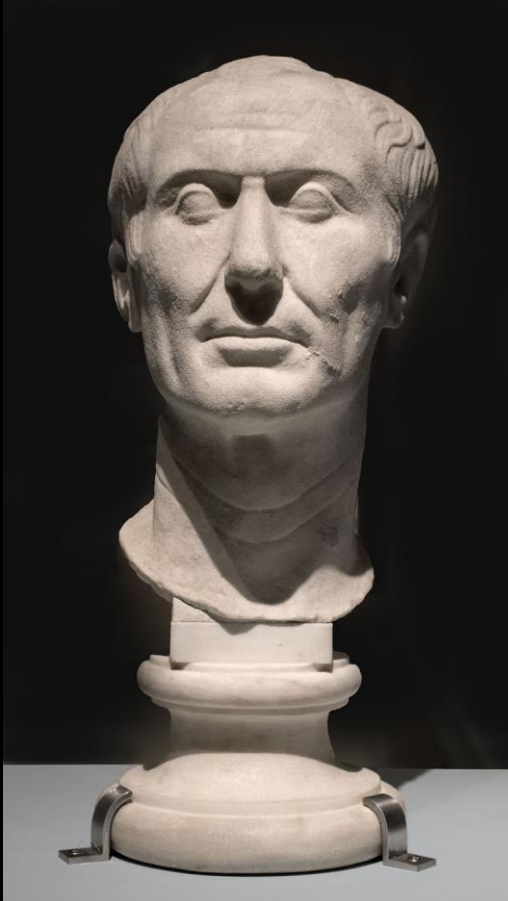
Herod the Great



- Racially Arab (Edomite)
- Religiously Jewish
- Culturally Greek
- Politically Roman



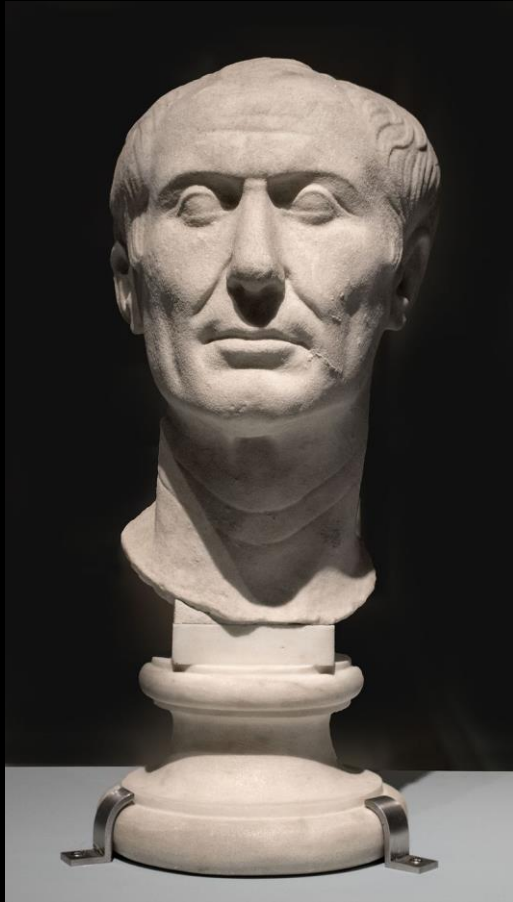
Pompey



Julius Caesar



Marc Antony

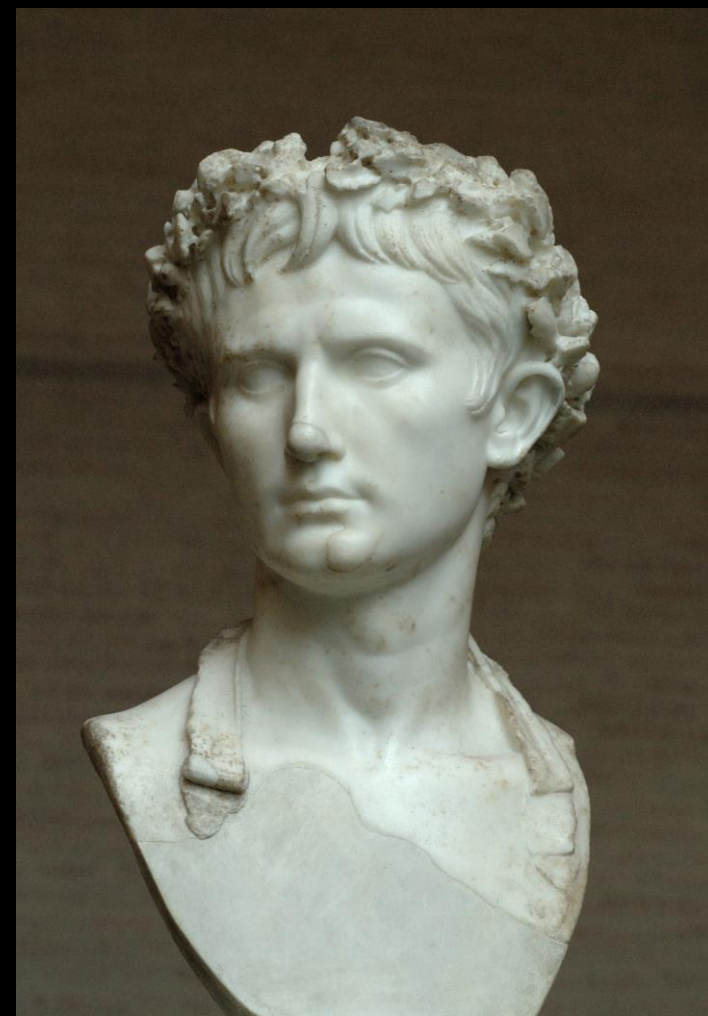


Julius Caesar





Antony & Cleopatra



Octavian



The Battle of Actium

“What I ask of you is to consider not whose friend, but what a good friend I was...” -Herod



Octavian (Caesar Augustus)



Masada



Herodium



Caesarea Maritima



Model of Temple Mount



Wailing Wall



Herod the Great



Execution of Mariamne



THE LIFE AND TIMES OF
HEROD
THE GREAT
STEWART PEROWNE
FOREWORD BY A.N. WILSON

SUTTON HISTORY CLASSICS




Zechariah

- Levite
- Priest
- “God remembers”

Elizabeth

- “God is my oath”
- Levite



“And they were both righteous
before God, walking blamelessly
in all the commandments and
statutes of the Lord.” (Luke 1:6)



“Thus the Lord has done for me...to take away my reproach among people.” (Luke 1:25)















JOHN = “YAHWEH IS GRACIOUS”

- He would bring joy to his parents and many others
- He would be great before the Lord
- He would turn many to the Lord
- He would go before the Lord “in the spirit and power of Elijah, to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children...”

“Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the great and awesome day of the Lord comes. And he will turn the hearts of fathers to their children and the hearts of children to their fathers, lest I come and strike the land with a decree of utter destruction.” (Mal 4:5-6)



No – John was not Elijah the Tishbite himself, returned from heaven.

Yes – John was Elijah in the sense that he was a prophet like Elijah, a “spiritual Elijah.”



JOHN'S LIFESTYLE

- He must not drink wine or strong drink
- He would be filled with the Holy Spirit from the womb.

Nazirite Vow of Numbers 6
(*nazir* = consecrated, devoted)



