

Fearless  
Matt 14:1-12

## I. The Story (including time and the players) 1-12

### A. Time Sequence 1-3

At that time Herod the tetrarch heard about the fame of Jesus,

<sup>2</sup> and he said to his servants, "This is John the Baptist. He has been raised from the dead; that is why these miraculous powers are at work in him."

<sup>3</sup> For Herod had seized John and bound him and put him in prison for the sake of Herodias, his brother Philip's wife,

### B. The Players 1-12

Disciples of John  
Servants of Herod  
Guests of Herod  
Phillip  
Executioner  
Herodias' daughter  
Herodias  
Jesus  
Herod  
John

## II. A Weak, Enslaved Ruler 2, 5, 9

### A. Fear of People 2, 5, 9,

2 This is John the Baptist  
5 – he feared the people  
9 – because of his oaths and his guests

### B. Ruled by others 5, 9

Mark 6:16 "John, whom I beheaded, has been raised."

<sup>5</sup> And though he wanted to put him to death, he feared the people, because they held him to be a prophet.

<sup>9</sup> And the king was sorry, but because of his oaths and his guests he commanded it to be given.

## III. The courage God demands and gives

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### A. A Courageous Man 4, 10

<sup>4</sup> because John had been saying to him, "It is not lawful for you to have her."

10 He sent and had John beheaded in the prison

### B. A Convicting Speaker 4

<sup>4</sup> because John had been saying to him, "It is not lawful for you to have her."

"never heard such preaching." It came to him "with the force of electric shock, bringing to at least one of his listeners more of a sense of God than any other man" he had known.

"If you mean by eloquence, what is usually intended by it in our cities, he had no pretensions to it. He had no studied varieties of voice, and no strong emphasis. He scarcely gestured or even moved, and he made no attempt, by the eloquence of his style, or the beauty of his pictures, to gratify the taste, and fascinate the imagination.

But, if you mean by eloquence the power of presenting an important truth before an audience, with overwhelming weight of argument, and with such intenseness of feeling that the whole soul of the speaker is thrown into every part of the conception and delivery, so that the solemn attention of the whole audience is riveted, from the beginning to the close, and impressions are left that cannot be effaced, Mr. Edwards was the most eloquent man I ever heard speak."