HEROD

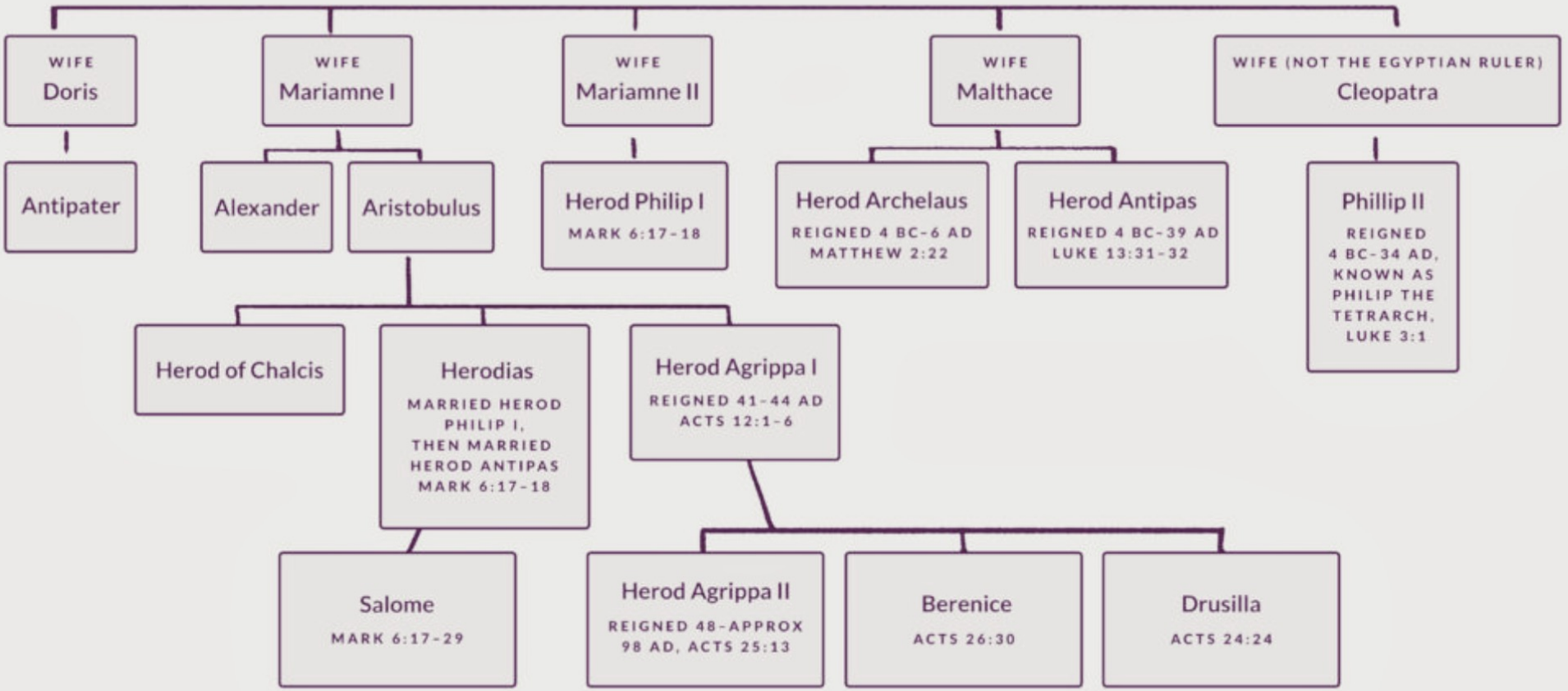
A Judean Dynasty

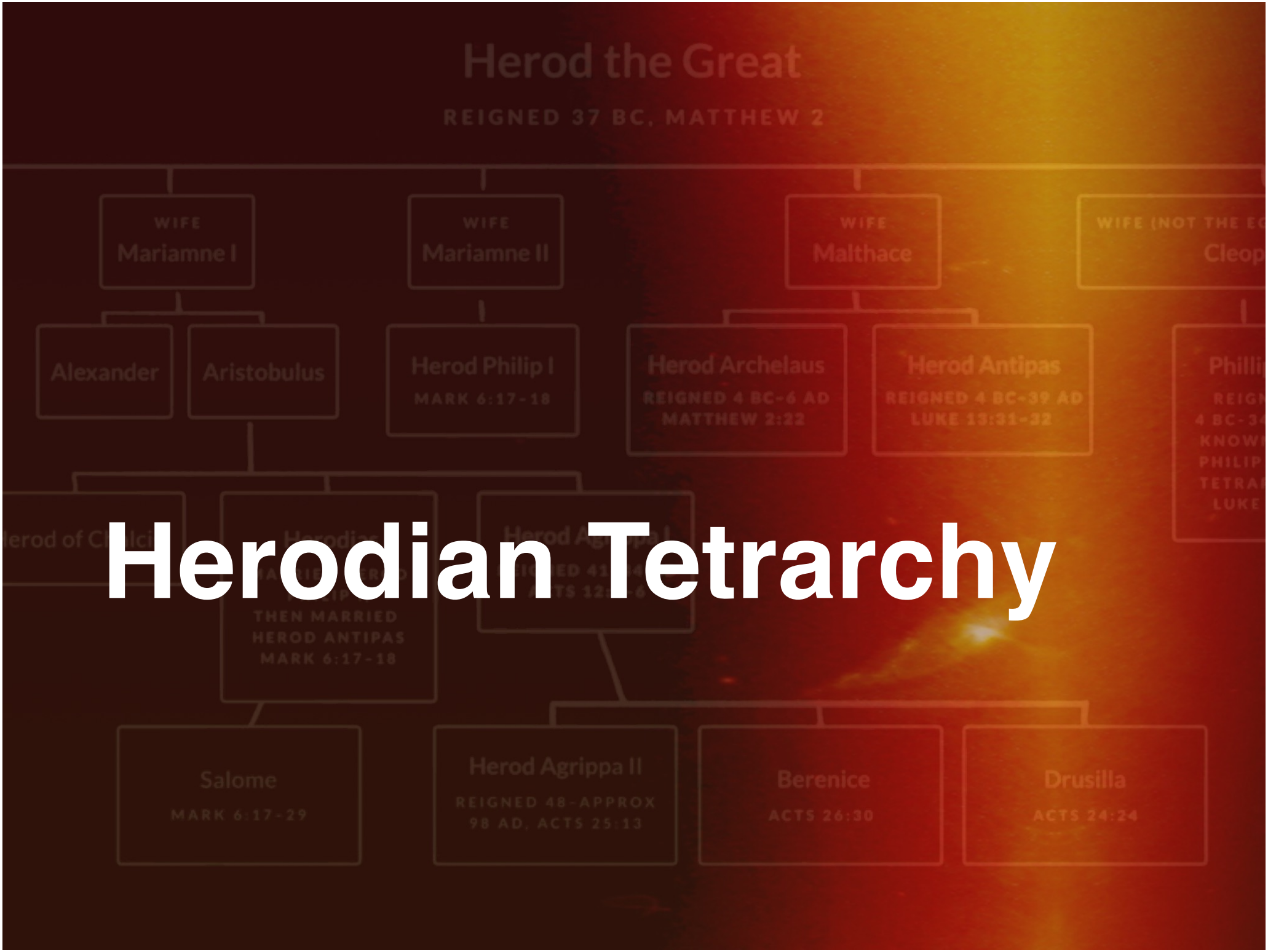
A Judean Dynasty

- The name “Herod” appears numerous times in the New Testament from Matthew 2 through Acts 26 covering a period of *at least 50* years (could be longer).
- These references are *clearly* not to a single individual but instead represent a ruling dynasty in Judea that is interwoven into the narrative of the Gospels and Acts of Apostles.

Herod the Great

REIGNED 37 BC, MATTHEW 2





Herodian Tetrarchy

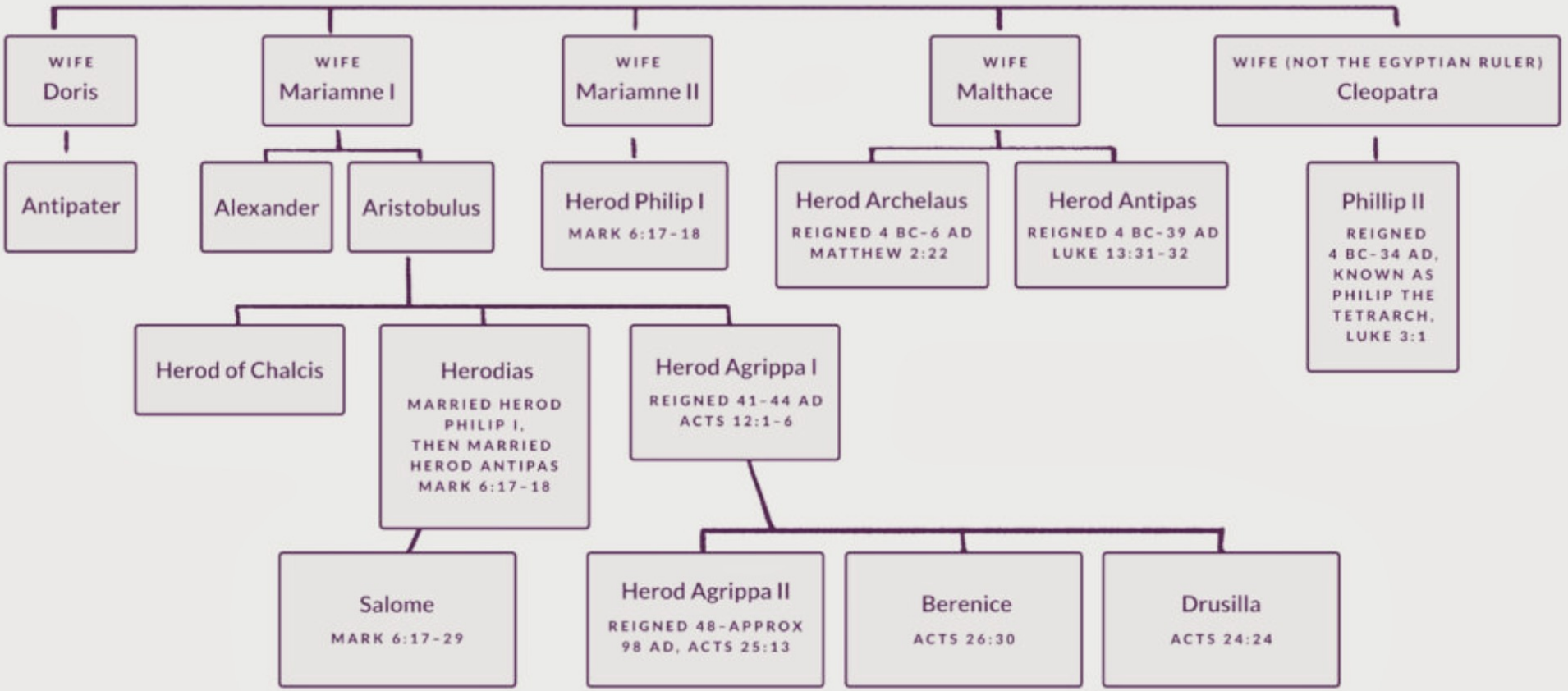
Damascus
Tyre
Caesarea Philippi
Lake Tiberias
Ptolemais
Julias
Tiberias
Hippos
Sepphoris
Gadara
Gabae
Abila
Dora
Caesarea
Pella
Dium
Scythopolis
Sebaste
Gerasa
Antipatris
Jordan
Joppa
Phasaelis
KINGDOM OF ARABIA
Archelais
Philadelphia
Jamnia
Azotus
Livias Julias
Jerusalem
Ascalon (Free City)
Agrippias
Gaza
Dead Sea
Raphia
0 10 20 30 40 50 mi
0 20 40 60 80 km
© Encyclopædia Britannica, Inc.

Herodian Tetrarchy

- **Herod Archelaus (4 B.C. – 6 A.D.)**
  - Ethnarch of Samaria, Judea, & Idumea
  - *Son of Herod the Great & Malthace*
  - Matthew 2:19-23
- **Herod Antipas (4 B.C. – 39 A.D.)**
  - Tetrarch of Galilee and Perea
  - *Son of Herod the Great & Malthace*
  - Matthew 14:1-12; Mark 6:14-29; Luke 3:1; 9:7-9; 13:31-35; 23:6–12; Acts 13:1

Herod the Great

REIGNED 37 BC, MATTHEW 2



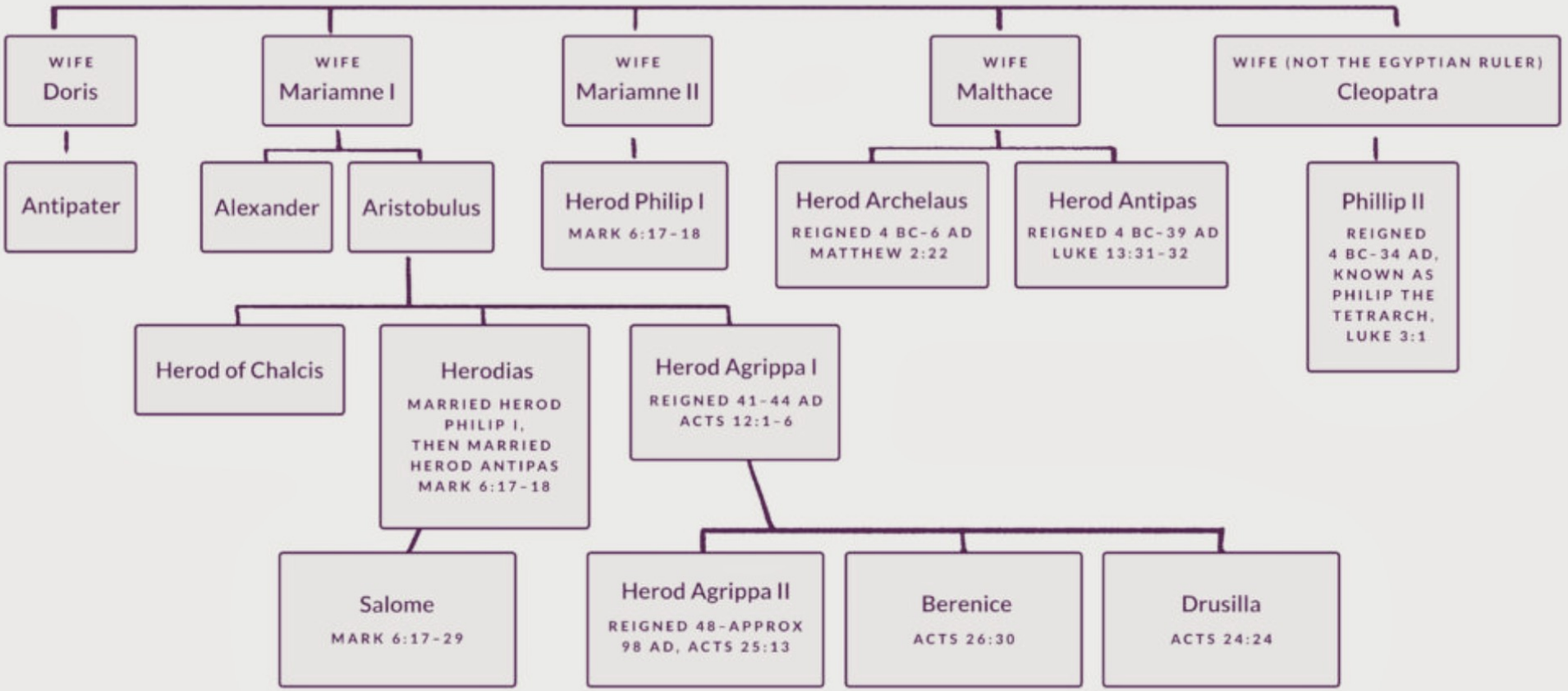
Mediterranean Sea
PHOENICIA
ITUREA
SYRIA
GALILEE
GAULANITIS
TRACHONITIS
BATANEA
AURANITIS
DECAPOLIS
SAMARIA
JUDEA
PEREA
IDUMEA
NABATEAN KINGDOM
Sidon
Sarepta
Tyre
Abila Lysaniae
Damascus
Mt. Hermon 2814 m
Caesarea Philippi
Kedesh
Lake Huleh
Aere
Ptolemais
Chorazin
Capernaum
Bethsaida (Julias)
Gamala
Neue
Raphana
Shahba
Jotapata
Gennesaret
Magdala
Sea of Galilee
Hippos
Canatha
Nelkomia
Soada
Mt. Carmel 525 m
Sepphoris
Nazareth
Gabae (Hippeum)
Yarmuk
Gadara
Abila
Adraa (Edrei)
Dora
Jezreel Valley
Jezreel
Caesarea Maritima
Scythopolis
Bostra
Salecah
Ginae
Pella
Sharon Plain
Samaria (Sebaste)
Amathus
Gerasa
Apollonia (Sozusa)
Neapolis
Schechem
Jabbok
Antipatris
Alexandrium
Joppa
Ramathaim
Phasaelis
Gadora
Thamna
Archelais
Philadelphia (Rabbah)
Lydda
Gophna
Jamnia
Gazara
Emmaus (Nicopolis)
Jericho
Cypros
Beth Haram
Azotus (Ashdod)
Jerusalem
Bethany
Heshbon
Bethlehem
Hyrcania
Medeba
Ascalon
Herodium
Baitogabra
Callirrhoe
Anthedon (Agrippias)
Gaza
Machaerus
Adora
Hebron
Dead Sea
Dibon
Engaddi
Arnon
Masada
Areopolis (Rabbath-Moab)
Raphia
Beersheba
Malatha
Haluza
Herodian Tetrarchy
4 BC – 10 AD
Archelaus Ethnarchy
Roman province since 6 AD
Antipas Tetrarchy
Philip Tetrarchy
Salome Toparchy
Syria Province
Administrative capital
Notable city
Village
Fortress
Summit
Equirectangular projection
WGS84 datum
(km)
(mi)
0
50
30
33°
32°
35°
36°

Herodian Tetrarchy (cont.)

- **Philip the Tetrarch (4 B.C. – 34 A.D.)**
  - Tetrarch of Northeastern Territories (Iturea, Gaulanitis, Batanea, Trachonitis, Auranitis)
  - Sometimes referred to as Philip II
  - *Son of Herod the Great & Cleopatra of Jerusalem*
  - Luke 3:1
- **Salome I (4 B.C. – 10 A.D.)**
  - Toparch of Iamnia, Azotus, Phasaelis
  - *Sister of Herod the Great*
  - *Not mentioned in scripture*

Herod the Great

REIGNED 37 BC, MATTHEW 2



Mediterranean Sea
PHOENICIA
ITUREA
SYRIA
GALILEE
GAULANITIS
TRACHONITIS
BATANEA
AURANITIS
DECAPOLIS
SAMARIA
JUDEA
PEREA
IDUMEA
NABATEAN KINGDOM
Sidon
Sarepta
Tyre
Abila Lysaniae
Damascus
Mt. Hermon 2814 m
Caesarea Philippi
Kedesh
Lake Huleh
Aere
Ptolemais
Chorazin
Capernaum
Bethsaida (Julias)
Gamala
Neue
Raphana
Shahba
Jotapata
Gennesaret
Magdala
Sea of Galilee
Hippos
Canatha
Nelkomia
Soada
Mt. Carmel 525 m
Sepphoris
Nazareth
Gabae (Hippeum)
Yarmuk
Gadara
Abila
Adraa (Edrei)
Dora
Jezreel Valley
Jezreel
Caesarea Maritima
Scythopolis
Bostra
Salecah
Ginae
Pella
Sharon Plain
Samaria (Sebaste)
Amathus
Gerasa
Apollonia (Sozusa)
Neapolis
Schechem
Jabbok
Antipatris
Alexandrium
Joppa
Ramathaim
Phasaelis
Gadora
Thamna
Archelais
Philadelphia (Rabbah)
Lydda
Gophna
Jamnia
Gazara
Emmaus (Nicopolis)
Jericho
Cypros
Beth Haram
Azotus (Ashdod)
Jerusalem
Bethany
Heshbon
Bethlehem
Hyrcania
Medeba
Ascalon
Herodium
Baitogabra
Callirrhoe
Anthedon (Agrippias)
Gaza
Machaerus
Adora
Hebron
Dead Sea
Dibon
Engaddi
Arnon
Masada
Areopolis (Rabbath-Moab)
Raphia
Beersheba
Malatha
Haluza
Herodian Tetrarchy
4 BC – 10 AD
Archelaus Ethnarchy
Roman province since 6 AD
Antipas Tetrarchy
Philip Tetrarchy
Salome Toparchy
Syria Province
Administrative capital
Notable city
Village
Fortress
Summit
Equirectangular projection
WGS84 datum
(km)
(mi)
0
50
30
33°
32°
35°
36°

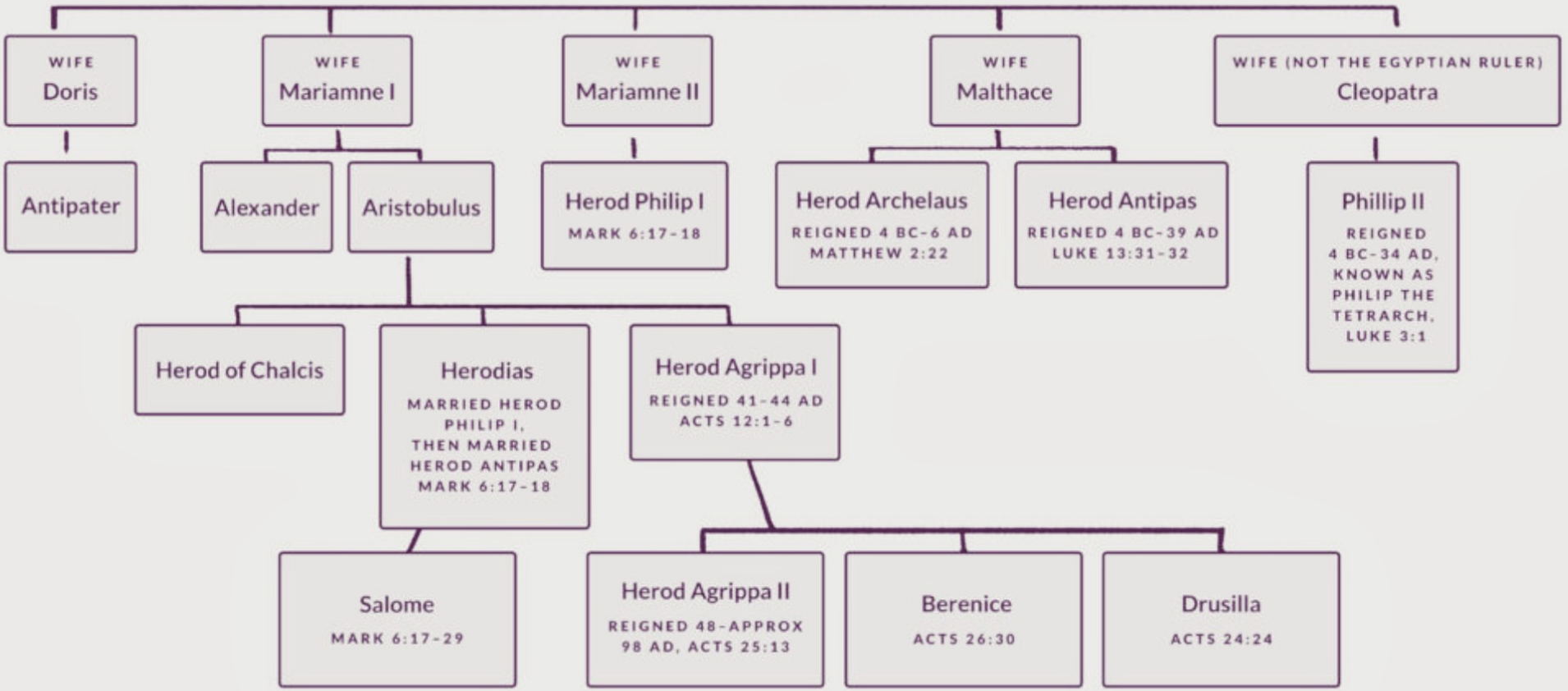
Herodian Tetrarchy (cont.)

- The word “tetrarch” literally means “a fourth”, which suggests Herod the Great’s kingdom was divided into four parts...
- However, there were effectively only three rulers after his death.
- Archelaus received approximately half of the kingdom as Ethnarch, and the remaining half was divided between Antipas and Philip as Tetrarchs.
- Salomne I had very little territory

Mediterranean Sea
PHOENICIA
ITUREA
SYRIA
GALILEE
GAULANITIS
TRACHONITIS
BATANEA
AURANITIS
DECAPOLIS
SAMARIA
JUDEA
PEREA
IDUMEA
NABATEAN KINGDOM
Sidon
Sarepta
Tyre
Abila Lysaniae
Damascus
Mt. Hermon 2814 m
Caesarea Philippi
Kedesh
Lake Huleh
Aere
Ptolemais
Chorazin
Capernaum
Bethsaida (Julias)
Gamala
Neue
Raphana
Shahba
Jotapata
Gennesaret
Magdala
Sea of Galilee
Hippos
Canatha
Nelkomia
Soada
Mt. Carmel 525 m
Sepphoris
Nazareth
Gabae (Hippeum)
Yarmuk
Gadara
Abila
Adraa (Edrei)
Dora
Jezreel Valley
Jezreel
Caesarea Maritima
Scythopolis
Bostra
Salecah
Ginae
Pella
Sharon Plain
Samaria (Sebaste)
Amathus
Gerasa
Apollonia (Sozusa)
Neapolis
Schechem
Jabbok
Antipatris
Alexandrium
Joppa
Ramathaim
Phasaelis
Gadora
Thamna
Archelais
Philadelphia (Rabbah)
Lydda
Gophna
Jamnia
Gazara
Emmaus (Nicopolis)
Jericho
Cypros
Beth Haram
Azotus (Ashdod)
Jerusalem
Bethany
Heshbon
Bethlehem
Hyrcania
Medeba
Ascalon
Herodium
Baitogabra
Callirrhoe
Anthedon (Agrippias)
Gaza
Machaerus
Adora
Hebron
Dead Sea
Dibon
Engaddi
Arnon
Masada
Areopolis (Rabbath-Moab)
Raphia
Beersheba
Malatha
Haluza
Herodian Tetrarchy
4 BC – 10 AD
Archelaus Ethnarchy
Roman province since 6 AD
Antipas Tetrarchy
Philip Tetrarchy
Salome Toparchy
Syria Province
Administrative capital
Notable city
Village
Fortress
Summit
Equirectangular projection
WGS84 datum
(km)
(mi)
0
50
30
33°
32°
35°
36°

Herod the Great

REIGNED 37 BC, MATTHEW 2

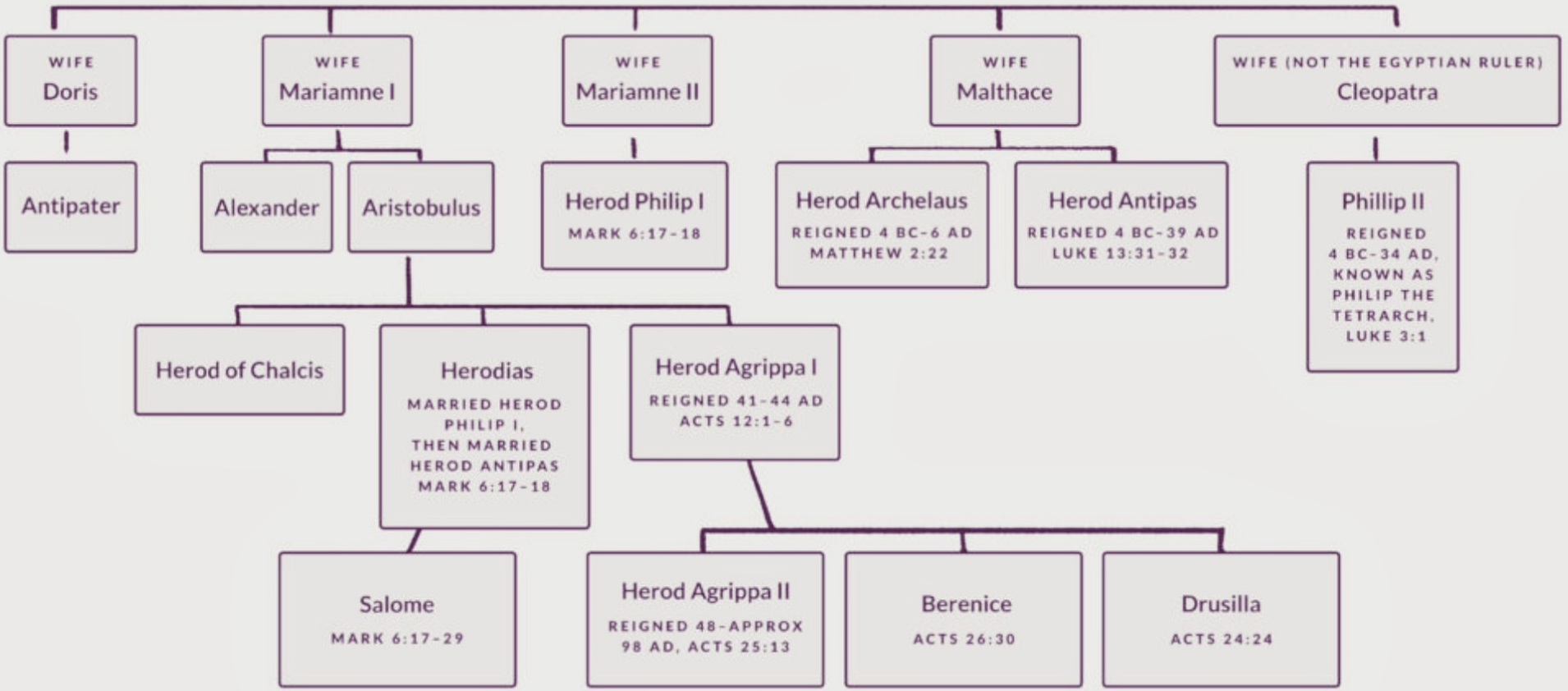


Alexander & Aristobulus

- Alexander & Aristobulus were Sons of Herod the great and his second wife Mariamne I...
- They were direct descendants of the Hasmonean Dynasty, who were educated in Imperial court of Rome in the household of Caesar Augustus (Octavius).
- Upon their return to Jerusalem, their fame grew and Antipater II (Herod's first son) incited Herod's rage against them. Herod had them strangled on charges of treason in 7 B.C.

Herod the Great

REIGNED 37 BC, MATTHEW 2



Antipater II

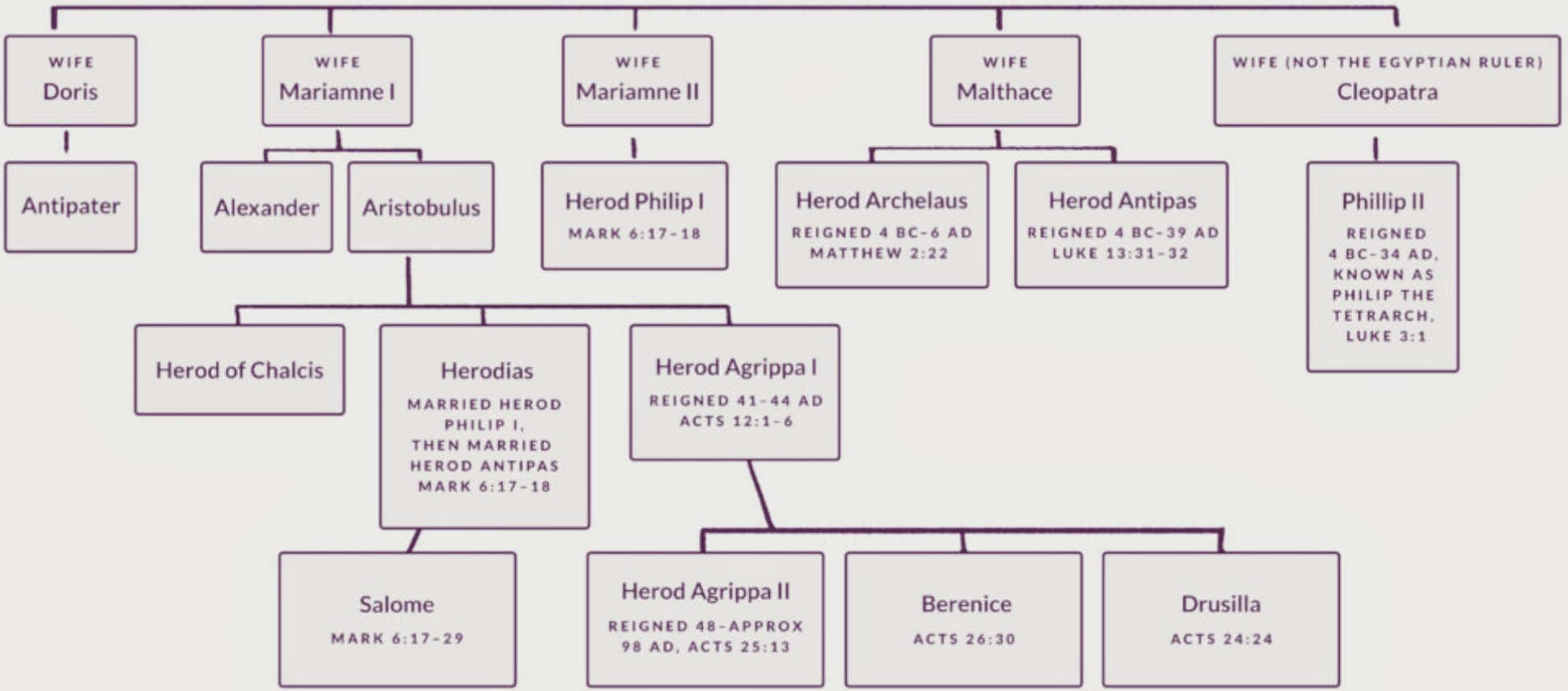
- Antipater II was Herod's oldest son with his first wife Doris. Named after his grandfather.
- He and his mother were exiled so Herod could marry Mariamne I. He was recalled in 13 B.C. and Herod made him his ***first heir in his will***.
- In 5 B.C. Antipater was brought before the governor of Syria and charged with the intended murder Herod.

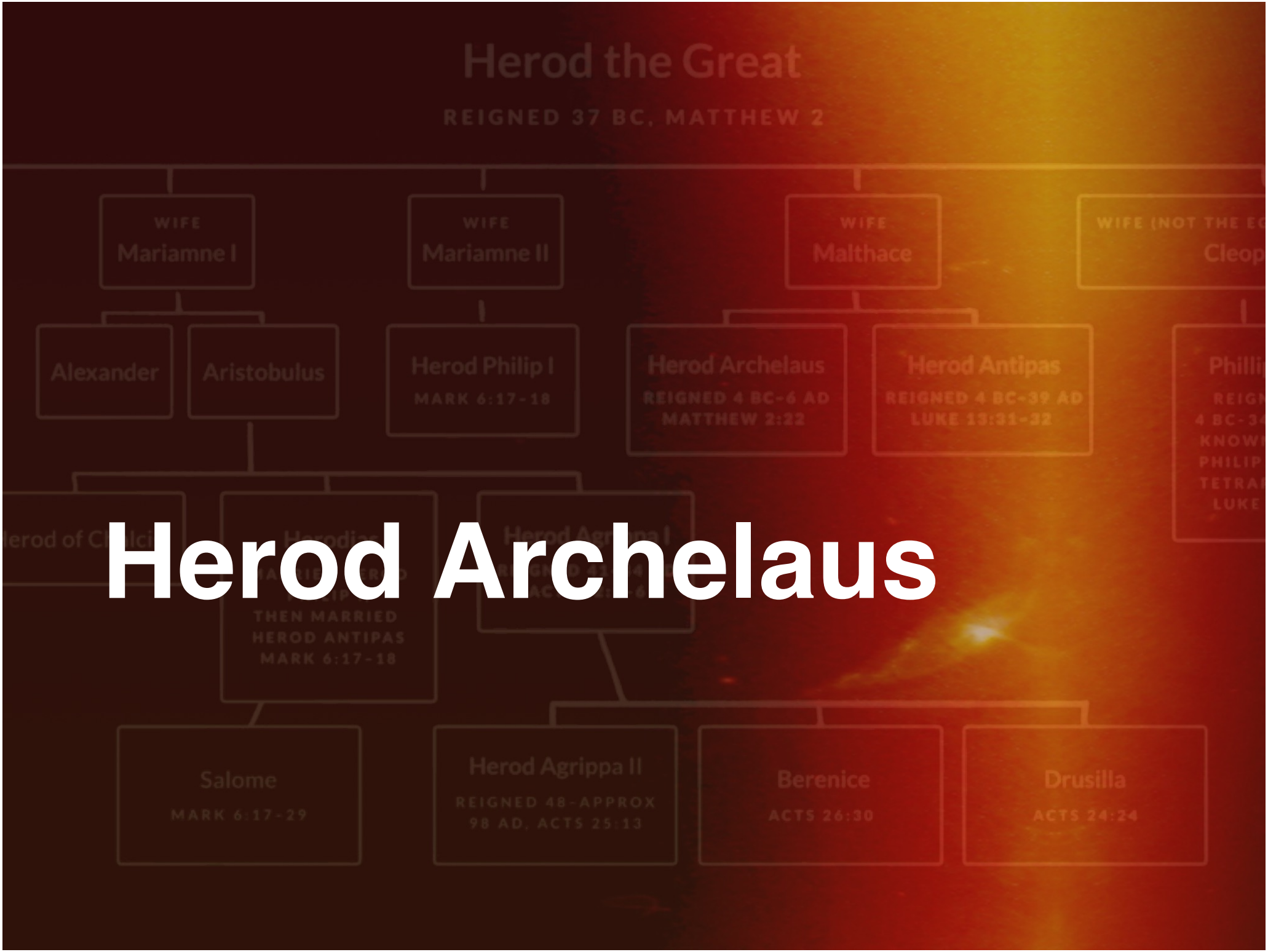
Antipater II & Philip I

- He was found guilty, and the verdict was approved by Augustus.
- **Mariamne II** (Herod's third wife) was also implicated in the plot of Antipater against her husband. As a result, Herod divorced her and removed her son **Philip I** (Herod II) from the line of succession in Herod's last will.
- Antipater was executed in 4 B.C.
- Antipater's position as successor was removed and granted to **Herod Antipas**.

Herod the Great

REIGNED 37 BC, MATTHEW 2





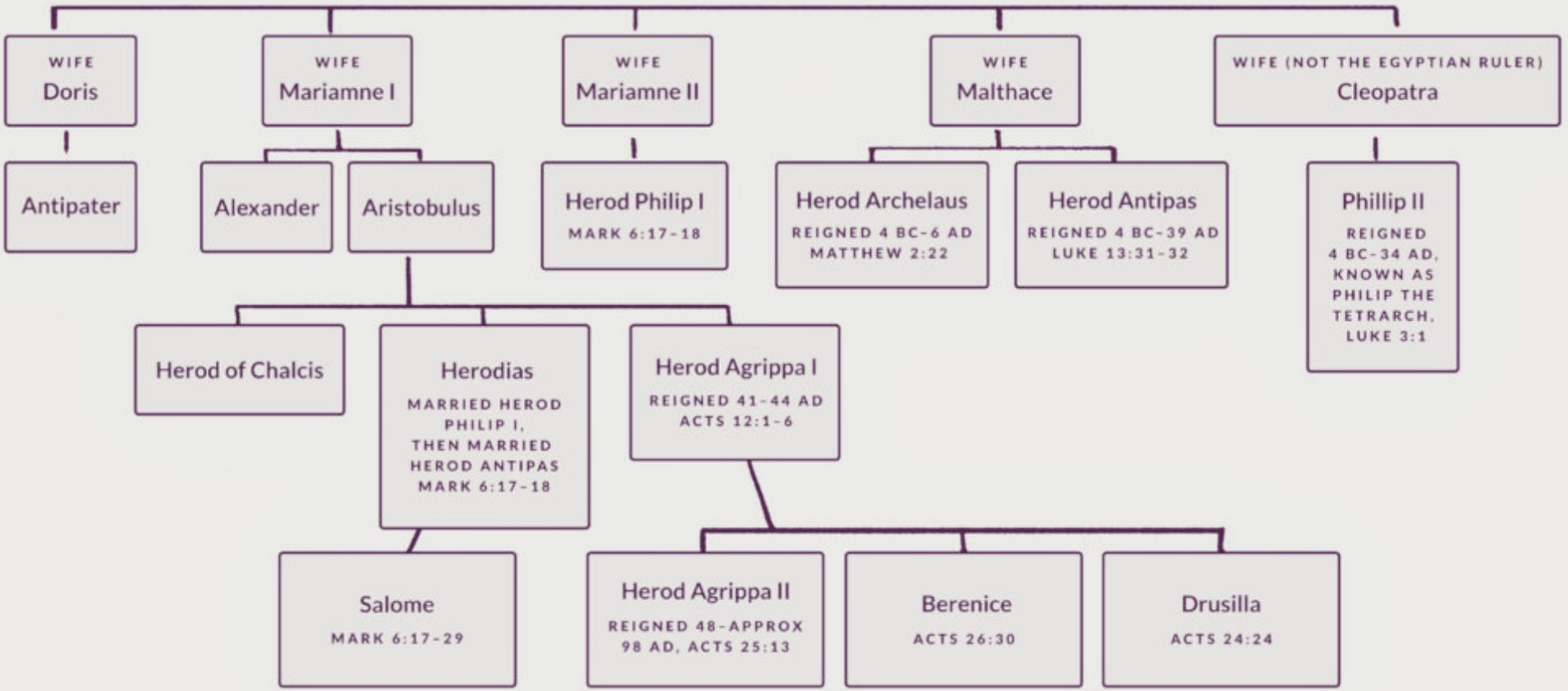
Herod Archelaus

Herod Archelaus (Cont.)

- **Herod Archelaus (4 B.C. – 6 A.D.)**
  - Ethnarch of Samaria, Judea, & Idumea
  - *Son of Herod the Great & Malthace*
  - Matthew 2:19-23
- **The Will of Herod:** Herod the Great designated Archelaus as his principal successor, granting him authority over the Judean kingdom. Per Josephus, ***this was a last-minute change from Herod Antipas just before his death in Jericho***.

Herod the Great

REIGNED 37 BC, MATTHEW 2



Herod Archelaus (Cont.)

- **The Passover Revolt:** Archelaus's ascension was immediately contested by his brothers and met with massive unrest during the Passover festival (~4 B.C.). Archelaus responded with overwhelming brutality, sending troops into the Temple to slaughter thousands of dissidents.
- **The Journey to Rome:** To secure the throne, Archelaus had to travel to Rome to seek official ratification from Caesar Augustus (Octavius).

Herod Archelaus (Cont.)

- **The Ethnarch Title:** Augustus confirmed Archelaus as ruler of Judea, Samaria, and Idumea, but withheld the title of "king," naming him “ethnarch” (ruler of an ethnic group). This was to emphasize his subordination to Rome.
- **Reign of Terror:** Archelaus's rule was deeply despised by his Jewish and Samaritan subjects. Josephus documents that his oppressive governance—including illegal marriages and harsh taxation—caused both to unite in lobbying Rome for his removal.

Herod Archelaus (Cont.)

- **Exile & Annexation:** Following a formal delegation to Rome, Augustus banished Archelaus to Vienne in Gaul (modern-day France) in 6 A.D. Judea was subsequently placed under direct Roman administration, paving the way for the era of Roman governors. (e.g. Pontius Pilate)
- **Biblical Impact:** After being warned in a dream about Archelaus, Joseph settles his family in Galilee (Matt 2:19-23) which was governed by Archelaus's brother, Antipas.