

# Acts 12:19

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And when Herod had sought for him, and found him not, he examined the keepers, and commanded that they should be put to death. And he went down from Judaea to Caesarea, and there abode.

## Analysis

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**And when he had destroyed seven nations in the land of Chanaan, he divided their land to them by lot.** The Canaanite conquest's recounting emphasizes God's judgment on wickedness while fulfilling covenant promises to Abraham's descendants.

## Historical Context

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Seven nations (Deuteronomy 7:1—Hittites, Gergashites, Amorites, Canaanites, Perizzites, Hivites, Jebusites) represent complete conquest. Destroyed (Greek: kathaireo) means demolished/overthrew. Divided by lot (Joshua 13-19) ensured fair distribution. Paul's reference around 48 CE reminded hearers of God's faithfulness fulfilling ancient promises. The conquest typologically foreshadowed Christ conquering spiritual enemies and giving inheritance to His people.

## Related Passages

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**James 2:17** — Faith and works

**Romans 1:17** — The righteous shall live by faith

**1 John 4:8** — God is love

## Study Questions

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1. How does conquest demonstrate both divine judgment and covenant faithfulness?
2. What does complete victory teach about God's thorough redemption?
3. In what ways does land inheritance foreshadow spiritual inheritance in Christ?
4. Why recount conquest when preaching gospel centuries later?
5. What does fulfilling ancient promises reveal about God's reliability?

## Interlinear Text

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Ἡρώδης δὲ ἐπιζητήσας αὐτὸν καὶ μὴ εύρων  
Herod And had sought for him And not found him  
G2264 G1161 G1934 G846 G2532 G3361 G2147

ἀνακρίνας τοὺς φύλακας ἐκέλευσεν  
he examined the keepers and commanded  
G350 G3588 G5441 G2753

ἀπαχθῆναι καὶ κατελθὼν ἀπὸ τῆς Ἰουδαίας  
that they should be put to death And he went down from G3588 Judaea  
G520 G2532 G2718 G575 G2449

εἰς τὴν Καισάρειαν διέτριβεν  
to Caesarea and there abode  
G1519 G3588 G2542 G1304

## Additional Cross-References

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**Acts 16:27** (Parallel theme): And the keeper of the prison awaking out of his sleep, and seeing the prison doors open, he drew out his sword, and would have killed himself, supposing that the prisoners had been fled.

