

# Luke 23:15

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

No, nor yet Herod: for I sent you to him; and, lo, nothing worthy of death is done unto him.

## Analysis

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**No, nor yet Herod: for I sent you to him**—Pilate invokes Herod's examination as corroborating evidence of innocence. The phrase **nothing worthy of death is done unto him** (οὐδὲν ἄξιον θανάτου ἔστιν πεπραγμένον αὐτῷ, ouden axion thanatou estin pepragmenon autō) employs the perfect passive participle pepragmenon—'has been done' with ongoing results. Pilate declares no capital crime exists in Jesus's record—neither Herod nor himself found anything deserving execution.

This dual testimony (Pilate and Herod) fulfills the Deuteronomic requirement: 'at the mouth of two witnesses...shall the matter be established' (Deuteronomy 19:15). Ironically, two hostile witnesses establish Jesus's innocence, while the Sanhedrin's false witnesses failed to establish guilt (Mark 14:56-59). The phrase axios thanatou (worthy of death) echoes Roman legal language and appears in Paul's defense (Acts 25:11, 25, 26:31)—Luke consistently demonstrates Christianity's innocence before Roman law.

## Historical Context

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Herod Antipas's concurrence with Pilate's verdict carried political weight. Though subordinate to Rome, Herod governed Galilee with significant autonomy and knew Jesus's ministry firsthand. His sending Jesus back to Pilate without sentencing effectively constituted acquittal—he found no basis for execution. This

collaboration would soon cement their friendship (v. 12), united in their treatment of Christ.

## Related Passages

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**James 2:17** — Faith and works

**Hebrews 11:1** — Definition of faith

## Study Questions

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1. How does the double testimony of Pilate and Herod to Jesus's innocence intensify the guilt of those who demanded his death?
2. What does it mean that Jesus was found worthy of death by false religious accusers but innocent by pagan political authorities?

## Interlinear Text

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ἀλλ' οὐδὲ Ἡρώδης ἀνέπεμψα γὰρ ὑμᾶς πρὸς αὐτῷ.

No	nor yet	Herod	I sent	for	you	to	him
G235	G3761	G2264	G375	G1063	G5209	G4314	G846

καὶ οὐδὲν ἄξιον θανάτου ἐστὶν πεπραγμένον

and	lo	nothing	worthy	of death	is	done
G2532	G2400	G3762	G514	G2288	G2076	G4238

αὐτῷ.

him

G846

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