DISTURBED… Very different meanings

frightened
curious, positively opened
nervous
very frightened and upset
confused
shaken
distracted
anoid
troubled
displeased

DISTURBED JERUSALEM IN OUR DAILY LIFE?

Failing in communication, fake news, not knowing anymore what the truth is, and what really has happened…
What is the role, the task of the ‘ruler’?
Where to find peace and silence? Hiding for all those different opinions, not knowing where to listen anymore, what is true…
In the middle of a lot of information, wanting to find a place to sit in peace. Afraid that all those troubles from outside will come in. For now I’m safe…
Flowers with roots that have not enough room, they are not comfortable because they need more soil otherwise they will be lost. But still there are flowers…
Wo soll das enden? Where is this going to end?
Prohibited areas make it impossible to meet family…

DISTURBED JERUSALEM…DISTURBED HEROD

I’m king Herod. You are not familiar to me. I do not trust strangers, because enemies are everywhere. I feel strong after all these years: I became more clever, cruel, violent than all the rest.

I’m king Herod, a very strong king but now I am anxious and afraid: could there be someone even more strong than me? No! I am very angry and disturbed!

I am king Herod, I am a wise king. How may I help you? I know there is a newborn king somewhere. Please tell me where!

I am king Herod, a strong king, ruling for a long time already, I have lots of power! But still, if you look into my soul, my inner feelings, I am a child, longing for love, wanting to be respected. Please see ee

I am king Herod. Why was I not informed about this? I am the one in lead here, you should have told me! Keep an eye on everything happening here and tell me!

I am king Herod, I feel very relaxed. Why are you making such a fuzz?! I am so powerful, I know who I am. I don’t give a damn about that newborn king.

I am king Herod. I am curious about all this fuzz: what does it mean? At the same time: it doesn’t bother me, nothing can happen to me. I am the king!

INTERVIEW – OPEN CHAIR WITH HEROD…

There is a same kind of king nowadays, very powerful, and afraid of nothing. Do you have an advice for him?
- As long as you say you are the greatest, you àre! Don’t doubt your own position!
- You need a strong information system, and spies.
- Trust no one!
- Use violence, much of it!

You are quite old, king Herod. What do you gain from it? Why are you so important to yourself?
- I need the feeling of being respected, so I cannot retire!
- It is me or them: I choose ME!
- I deny that I have any age, I am just here!

King Herod, I am curious about the reason you had to call the magi secretly. Why not in the open?
- I secretly don’t like those magi at all: they only tell things they think I’d like to hear, but is it the truth?
- Divide and rule! Trust no one!
- Spread some information here and there, some fake news, just to divide. It makes ruling much easier!

Do you believe in God, king Herod?
- I àm the God!
- God? Which god? There are a thousand of them claiming to be thè God!
- I pray to all of them: that’s safe!
- I believe in God when it suits me!

LAST MESSAGE TO KING HEROD?
- Watch out for the enemy, especially the one in your own heart.
- Who are you really? You put so much energy in showing who you are not!
- Just remember: everyone is going to die sometimes.
- Can you stand against prophecy?
- Stay wise to your people.
- Try to imagine that God really loves you.
- Don’t be so ignorant. Don’t take yourself that high.

WHAT IS YOUR GIFT AS A MAGI TO THE NEWBORN KING?

* I offer you a place at my table. Just to be here and relax.
* I offer you oil pastels, many colors, because I know all kids like to draw. You will always be a child bringing color to the world.
* I offer you a woolen blanket to keep you warm and cozy all the time.
* I offer you a mouth mask to keep you alive. It means I give you all my love, all my life.
* I offer you a bottle filled with colorful stones, to play with others, to experience community. I wish you the colors and nice sounds of it, and music in your heart always.
* I offer you hot water and wish you to be a warm person, and to have a warm person around you. I will be near to you, try to be close to you.
* I offer you a box of matches, so that you will have fire with you to heat and to be the fire and bring warmth to us.
* I offer you a pair of shoes, good shoes, because you will walk far. I wish you to go a good way!

THE MAGI, MEETING AGAIN AFTER GOING HOME BY A DIFFERENT ROAD…
What did the encounter with the newborn king do to your life?

* After leaving Betlehem I found the sea, ships, harbours. I discovered islands, special fruits, … To explore the world, new shores, was so precious to me. And I am happy to see everyone safe back home.
* I didn’t go any particular way. But wherever I go since, I carry a kind of light with me!
* I came home only yesterday, I was wandering around for years, looking for someone to give me peace. That newborn child gave it to me, like no one else did before.
* I sometimes tried to get some news about that newborn king, but didn’t hear much: where did he go to, what became of him? Feels as if soon I will know!
* Still waiting for him. Hoping…
* Along the way I danced and sang that the king of peace was born. I announced to the world, the king of peace.
* It was very special to me to travel with you and meet that baby. It gave me another look at babies: in every one of them there is a dream about the world. It made me more careful to my own dreams and to the rules. Now I am more prepared to follow a star instead of a king!
* It gives me so much joy, still!

LAST WORD TO FINISH… (pictures)

* If you carry your light, it is always with you.
* Where is peace to be found in the world?
* Maybe you know what you are looking for but you never know what you find.
* Light that emerges, it comes out of the darkness, from dark experiences.
* In my place there is still the pandemic, but a star is born: I have high hopes!
* ORIENTation… Do we find orientation in dark times?
* Disturbed Jerusalem, disturbed experiences in my life: even if they are dangerous, they bring me to think about it!