

TAKING A CLOSER LOOK

What does the Bible say?

Jesus claimed he had come into the world as “light into the darkness”. He called people to leave the kingdom of darkness and become his followers. Not everyone was willing to recognize Jesus as the legitimate ruler of this world – or their lives. This study will examine Jesus, the disputed king.

“He came to his own...”

Take a look at John 1.1-14.

In these verses Jesus is referred to as “the Word” and “the Light”.

- How “old” is Jesus? (verses 1-2)
- What role did Jesus play in the creation of our world? (verses 1-3)
- According to John 1.1-14, why did Jesus come into the world? What verses answer this?
- How was he received? (verses 10-12)
- What does it mean to “receive” Jesus? What does it mean to “not receive” him? (verses 11-12)
- What happens to those who receive Jesus? (verses 12-13)

Look at Psalm 2.1-12.

- Who are “the nations” opposing and why? (verses 2-3)
- What is God’s response to man’s struggle for independence? (verse 6)
- How much of the earth has been given to Jesus as an inheritance? How determined is he to rule over it? What verses answer these questions?
- God has installed his Son as king over this earth. How are men advised to respond? What verses answer this question?

THINKING IT THROUGH

What does the Bible mean?

Jesus the King

Look at Luke 19:11-27. Fill in the chart below.

Verse	Parable		Represents
v. 12	The <i>man of noble birth</i>	=	
v. 13	The <i>servants</i>	=	
v. 14	The <i>subjects</i>	=	
v. 16-24	The <i>minas</i>	=	
v. 15	The <i>king's return</i>	=	

- What two types of people lived in the king's country?
- What was the first thing the king did when he returned? (verse 15)
- How did he deal with those who did not want him to be their king? (verse 27)

Look over Matthew 25:31-46.

- What principles stand out? What do these verses teach you about Jesus the king?

MAKING IT COUNT

How do I live what I've learned?

There are many pretenders to the throne, but only one rightful king of this earth. The Lord Jesus is seated at God's right hand, waiting for all things to be brought under his rule. When he returns he will reward his faithful servants and judge his enemies.

- Where is Jesus right now? (Hebrews 10:12-13)
- How should you live so that you're prepared for the king when he returns? (Matthew 25:34-40)