

**Lesson Title:** The Revelations of Jesus—King

Key Concept: This series of lessons explores various revelations of the one true God of Israel in the person of Jesus. This lesson examines the revelation of Jesus as King, who must have complete authority in our lives.

**Scriptures:**

I am the LORD, your Holy One, Israel's Creator and King.
(Isaiah 43:15 *New Living Translation*)

You are my King and my God.
(Psalm 44:4 *New Living Translation*)

Pilate asked Jesus, "Are you the king of the Jews?"
(Mark 15:2 *New Living Translation*)

¹¹ Then I saw heaven opened, and a white horse was standing there. Its rider was named Faithful and True, for he judges fairly and wages a righteous war.
¹⁶ On his robe at his thigh was written this title: King of all kings and Lord of all lords.
(Revelation 19:11, 16 *New Living Translation*)

Context Scriptures: Matthew 2:1–2; John 12:13; Mark 15:2; John 19:15; John 19:19; Ecclesiastes 8:4; Mark 11:15–33; Philippians 2:9–11

**Lesson Thoughts:**

From the start of the New Testament the world was looking for a king. Shortly after the birth of Jesus, wise men from the east came seeking Israel's new king (Matthew 2:1–2). Near the end of his ministry, as he entered Jerusalem, the crowd declared Jesus their king (John 12:13). A week later, when Jesus was on trial for treason, Pilate asked if he were a king (Mark 15:2). Sadly, the crowd that hailed

him as king then rejected him (John 19:15). Then at Calvary, Pilate posted a sign declaring Jesus the “King of the Jews” (John 19:19).

So, what’s the deal with being king? Why were so many people eager to know if Jesus was their long-awaited king? These people were looking for hope, redemption, justice, power, the restoration of national pride, and peace. All of these ideals were tied to the return of Israel’s king, but King Jesus didn’t do what they expected. They missed their king’s arrival and we can easily do the same.

It can be hard for us to recognize Jesus as king because we don’t have a modern equivalent in a democratic society. Kings are not like politicians. They are not elected, they are not concerned with the popular vote, and they don’t ask permission to rule. Kings are sovereign—they have absolute power—and they exercise this authority with impunity (Ecclesiastes 8:4). Jesus demonstrated this sovereignty when he cleansed the temple and refused to explain his actions (Mark 11:15–33). Kings don’t need to be liked, they expect to be obeyed.

As our king, Jesus expects submission and obedience, and he must have the final say in our decisions. This isn’t as comforting as the aspects of his parental, redemptive, or healing roles, but it’s just as important. So, we are all faced with a choice: we can willingly submit now and live under the blessing of his rule, or we can be forced to obey at his second coming and face his eternal judgment (Philippians 2:9–11). Either way, Jesus is King!



Discussion Questions:

- 1) Why do you think so many people missed that Jesus was King at his first coming?
- 2) Is the idea of a “king” good or bad to you? Why?
- 3) Has Jesus ever asked you to do something you did not want to do? Did you submit or just obey? Was this difficult?
- 4) How does Jesus differ from earthly kings, past and present?
- 5) What does it mean for Jesus to be King in our lives?

Notes and Reflections

- 1) Find and listen to Natalie Grant's song "King of the World." Does this song comfort or disturb you? Why?
- 2) Read Philippians 2:9–11. Now read Revelation 19:11–16. Finally, read Revelation 21:5–8. Contemplate the weight of your decision whether or not to submit to King Jesus.

Notes and Reflections, cont.