

March 7/8, 2009
“Only One King”

Revelation 4:1-11 - Pastor Mark Burch

I Samuel 8:6-7 *“Give us a king!...(the Lord said to Samuel)...it is not you they have rejected, but they have rejected me as their king.”*

Matthew 2:2-3 *“Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? When King Herod heard this he was disturbed...”*

Acts 17:7 *“...there is another king, one called Jesus!”*

The Stand-off Begins! In this corner – the King of kings!

Only One King – Creator, Lord & Savior!

The Political Challenge...

Dealing with the throne today...

Home Group Discussion Questions

History (Making it Personal)

1. Talk about a time in your life when you REALLY needed to know that God was indeed “on the throne.” What was happening in your life at that time? How did God make/show Himself real?
2. Living in a peaceful democracy it may be hard for us to understand the mind-set of those under an oppressive regime. If anyone in your group has experience with those living under the thumb of a dictator – share the story. How would this vision of Jesus give perspective?
3. Do you think that being our “own king” is easier to surrender to Christ? What has been your experience? Why is surrender often difficult?

Digging Deeper (Looking to the Bible)

4. Read Revelation 4:1-11
5. What are your impressions from the text? What stands out to you? What questions does it raise? What emotions does it inspire?
6. Talk about the concentric circles of praise – the rainbow, the creatures, the elders, the angels, and finally all creation? (adding in 5:11-13) An encounter with the powerful King of glory inspires praise! Do we need to change our approach to God?
7. Do some history work on the role of the king – and why people have always tended to reject King Jesus. Look through I Samuel 8, Matthew 2, Acts 17:7 and then talk about the bigger story behind chapter 4. Why was it significant that John presents King Jesus in all His glory? How would “King Caesar” have responded to this vision?
8. Talk about the political implications of saying there is no king but Jesus. What would it have meant to those first readers/hearers? What does it mean for believers today?
9. If you want to do some fun digging in the book – compare the Holy Trinity we see presented in chapter 4 with the unholy trinity of the beast, the dragon, and the prophet in 13 & 14. Is it not always like Satan to mimic God’s glory?!
10. What hope does chapter four inspire in you? How does the vision of worship in heaven affect your life today?

Taking It Home (Application)

11. Talk about the “little king” that loves to sit on his/her own throne and has so much trouble surrendering the “rulership” of life to the King of kings and Lord of lords...why is this such a struggle?
12. What are the issues this week that you need to turn over to a King who is more powerful than you? What comfort would that give?
13. Finally, spend some time praying for WPC, for our staff & elders during these days of economic uncertainty. Pray that we would give strong leadership and be carried along by the grace of God and the vision of His kingdom!