

Small Group Study Notes

Tell the group of 1 thing you love to be the "expert" on?

The struggle of our world is a question of **rulership**. It can be summed up with 2 questions: (1) Who is the ruler? (2) Is He your Ruler?

Read Psalm 2:1-5

- What is the title of the LORD's "Anointed One"? (Hint: look at verse 5)
- If the "Anointed One" is appointed by God as King, how does that role or rank heighten the offensiveness of the actions and words of the <u>nations</u> from verses 1-3?
- Give an example from today's world where you see people standing against the rulership of Jesus?

(Be careful, this is not a gripe session - make your observation short)

- Give an example from your own life where you see a resistance against the rulership of Jesus?

(You can make this discussion longer - if your brave enough)

Read Matthew 16:13-16

- What is the striking difference between Peter's answer and the people's answer? What does "Christ" mean?
- Do you think it is possible to mis-believe in Jesus: to misunderstand who He is?

Read Matthew 16:21-23

- What was Peter's failure in understanding what it really means to call Jesus "the Christ"? (Hint: vs 23c) How does this relate to Psalm 2:1-3?
- See if anyone can recall by memory the **Apostles' Creed**? Talk with the group through the significance of each line?
- How do you answer these 2 questions:
 - (1) Who is the ruler?
 - (2) **How** is He your Ruler?