



Small Group Guide: The King Rejected (Week 9)

Key Takeaways

1. **The New Testament tells the SAME story as the Old Testament** - The apostles aren't starting something new; they're continuing the narrative that began with Moses.
2. **The Toledot/Genesis pattern continues** - Matthew opens with "the book of the genealogy" (biblos geneleos), deliberately connecting to Genesis and the entire Old Testament story.
3. **Israel's predicted cycle**: Blessing → Disobedience → Exile → Repentance → Restoration → Blessing to the nations
4. **Jesus is the fulfillment of multiple roles**: Judge, Priest, King, and Prophet - the true image bearer Israel was waiting for.
5. **The Gentile mission has a specific purpose** - To make Israel jealous (Deuteronomy 32:21; Romans 11:11-14) and ultimately bring them to repentance.
6. **We are part of the ongoing story** - The church today still plays a role in God's redemptive plan.

Discussion Questions

7. **Before this study, how did you view the relationship between the Old and New Testaments?** What surprised you about seeing them as one continuous story?
8. **Read Deuteronomy 32:1-21.** How does Moses' song predict the entire storyline of Israel? What specific elements can you identify?
9. **Why do you think it's important that Matthew starts his gospel with "the book of the genealogy"?** What would we miss if we didn't understand this connection?

10. **The study identified Jesus as fulfilling multiple roles: Judge, Priest, King, and Prophet.** Can you find examples in the Gospels where Jesus demonstrates each of these roles?
11. **Read Matthew 11:28-30 and Isaiah 9:2-7.** What is the "yoke" that was on Israel? What does Jesus mean when He offers His yoke instead?
12. **Isaiah's ministry was to make Israel blind, deaf, and lame (Isaiah 6:9-10).** Why did Jesus perform miracles of healing the blind, deaf, and lame? What was He signaling?
13. **Read Romans 11:11-14.** How does Paul explain the purpose of Gentiles coming into the faith? How does this connect to Deuteronomy 32:21?
14. **Read Philippians 2:14-15.** Why does Paul tell Gentile believers to live "blameless and innocent...in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation"? Who is that generation, and what's the purpose?
15. **How does understanding that we (as Gentiles) were brought in "to make Israel jealous" change your perspective on your role in God's story?**