

***Jesus is the Prophet - Deuteronomy 18:15-22, John 4:7-26***  
**Notes, Family Worship, Bible Reading**

**Notes from the Sermon**

Including this week, the last three sermons in our *Jesus Is* series has examined Jesus as King, High Priest, and Prophet. These three titles are considered to be the key offices held by Christ, all of which come from the Old Testament story. So first, they are reminders that God has told a grand story in the pages of the Bible, and the climax and culmination of this story comes through the person and work of Jesus. We cannot understand Jesus without connecting Him to this story, and finding the ways the Old Testament point to Him. Second, each of these roles represent an aspect of God's relationship to His sinful people and picture something about God's glorious purpose of redemption. In other words, these roles showed something about how God mediated His presence to the nation of Israel and also pointed forward to a single individual would be the ultimate fulfillment of each role. We also must remember that these roles flow out of God's covenant with Israel, the basis of His special relationship with the descendants of Abraham. In the Old Testament people filled the roles, albeit imperfectly. So, in one way they demonstrated God's love and care for Israel. Yet, because humans brought their sinfulness to the role, each of these pointed to a future hope. Here is a reminder of what each of these roles represent and how Jesus is the true and better version.

- King - these people ruled for God, they were descendants of the great king David. Their one job was to point to God as their true King, yet the majority of kings failed in this role. Jesus came as the True King, ushering in the rule of God in the hearts of those who believe and in the world.
- High Priest - These people had to be in the tribe of Levi (or Levites) and they were the mediators, the go betweens for God and His people. They represented God to the people by interpreting and teaching the Torah. They represented the people to God by offering sacrifices. Jesus is the True High Priest who offered the perfect sacrifice of Himself, so that He is both the offerer and the offering.
- Prophet - People called by God to bring His very Word, to speak and reveal God to the nation, kings, and priests. Their most common phrases were "Thus saith the Lord," and "The Word of the Lord came to the prophet, saying," reminding us that their words were from God. Jesus not only spoke the Word of God, He is God among the people, the Word made flesh.

The prophets in the Old Testament were gracious gifts from a loving Father to His wayward people. He loved them, yet they ran to other gods, other spiritualities, and deep into awful sinful practices to their destruction. The prophets revealed God to the people, reminding them that they were saved and called by the One True and Living God of Israel, and that their blessing and prosperity as a people and individuals depended on their return to Yahweh and trust in Him. For us, the prophets are a reminder that our faith is a revealed faith. God speaks, and He sent His Word through the prophets. When we pick up the Bible we are not just reading human thoughts about a mysterious yet unknowable God. We are reading the very Word from the majestic God who has made Himself known and has come near to us. In Deuteronomy 18 God promises the coming of other prophets after Moses, but also points to one true and better prophet who will represent the very presence of God and make God known.

Throughout the New Testament several people realize that Jesus is a prophet, but most of the time they think he is the next prophet in a long line of people. Yet, Jesus understanding of Himself and the conviction affirmed by those who believe was that He was and is The Prophet promised to Moses. He came to make God known. In fact, Jesus goes as

far as to say things like, “If you have seen me you have seen the Father,” and “I and the Father are one.”

I can sit in my room and feel like God is distant and unknowable. I wonder how I can discern the voice of God and know His presence. The Bible tells us that God has spoken and still speaks. He comes near to us. But to know Him we must begin with Jesus. He was and is God among us, and came to be The Prophet who reveals God to us. He is both the Prophet and the subject of all prophecy. Think about that. We are reminded in several places that all the prophets were ultimately pointing to and hoping in the coming of Jesus. Then Jesus appears, and His message is no longer, “One day the Messiah will come.” His message is “Today this is fulfilled in your hearing,” and “I who speak to you am He.” Even as a prophet His role is to show us Himself and therefore show us all truth about God, ourselves, and the world around us.

**Bible Reading for the Week**

Daily Bible Readings

Sun	Mon	Tues	Weds	Thurs	Fri	Sat
Numbers 20	Numbers 21	Numbers 22	Numbers 23	Numbers 24	Numbers 25	Numbers 26

Reading from this past week: Deuteronomy 18:15-22, John 4:7-26

Reading in preparation for this coming Sunday:

**Family Worship**

Song - *The Lord's Prayer (It's Yours)*

<https://youtu.be/G2uPU-NY-sc>

Gospel Project

Unit: Early Responses to Jesus

Story: People Rejected Jesus

Big Picture Question: How can we be saved?

Answer: We are only saved through faith in Jesus?

Scripture: Luke 4

New City Catechism

Question #19: Is there any way to escape punishment and be brought back into God's favor?

Answer: Yes, God reconciles us to himself by a Redeemer..

Verse: Isaiah 53:10-11

Scripture

Deuteronomy 18:15-22, John 4:7-26

- What was the role of the prophets? How did Israel know if a person was a true or false prophet?
- How was the sending of prophets an act of love from God to His people?
- What are some things Jesus said and did that reveal that He was and is the promised prophet who is the ultimate revelation of God?
- How does Jesus life and ministry as a prophet shape our view of God? Of ourselves? Of the nature of truth? Of the meaning and path of salvation?

Prayer

\*Pray that we would hear Jesus as The Prophet and believe what He has revealed to us about God and ourselves.

\*Spend time praying the Lord's Prayer with your family from Matthew 6:9-13, focusing in on the first two lines.