

JESUS OUR PROPHET PRIEST AND KING PART 2

INTRO:

- We continue to study Jesus as our Prophet, Priest, and King.
- Let's look again into the first 3 verses in Hebrews where we see all 3 of these offices spoken of in reference to Christ.
 - **Heb. 1:1-3.**
- **Prophet;** God has spoken in/through His Son. (Vs. 2)
- **Priest;** Who when He had purged us from our sins. (vs. 3)
- **King;** Sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on High. (vs. 3)
- These 3 are inseparably united and in the exact correct order.
- In the O. T. you have all three of these offices, but always in different people.
- But the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ is that we find all of the 3 fulfilled and perfectly functioning in and through Him.

PROPHET

- Last week we covered Jesus as our Prophet, let's do a quick review.
- A prophet is a spokesman for God, one who does not speak at His own will or behalf or his own sentiments. But speaks the words God has given him to speak. (Moses, Samuel)
- During the earthly ministry of Jesus, He was the Prophet for God, all that He said and did spoke and revealed the message and character of God.
 - Jn. 12:49, For I have not spoken on My own *authority*; but the Father who sent Me gave Me a command, what I should say and what I should speak.
- Jesus as prophet continues to reveal the heart, mind, and character of God to us through the Holy Spirit and the word.
- He is still filling the office of God's prophet through the work of the Holy Spirit.
- You see the main aspect of the prophet is to speak the word of God, to speak the mind and heart of God to the people.
- That is why true preaching is prophetic in the sense that it reveals the word of God for His Church.
- There is an old book in my library by a leading puritan pastor in the late 16th century by the name of William Perkins. The book title, "The Art of Prophesying."

PRIEST:

- **A High Priest:** Makes sacrifices and offerings for us and as such He continues to intercede, mediate, and represent us. He is man's representative before the mighty throne of God.
- The teaching of Jesus as our High Priest is most prominent in one N. T. book, Hebrews. 16X
- Our greatest need today is that of a High Priest, and Jesus is that Priest.
 - **Heb. 5:1-6**
- Verses 1 & 4 show us 4 very important truths about the High Priest.
 - 1) He must be taken from among men in order to be their representative. (vs 1) "incarnation"
 - 2) He must be chosen and appointed by God. Not self-chosen. (vs. 4) LK. 3 His baptism.
 - 3) He must offer gifts and sacrifices for their sin. (vs. 1) Calvary, Lamb of
 - 4) He must be active in the interest of His people in things pertaining to God. (vs 1)
- Let's notice that Jesus fulfills perfectly those requirements listed in Heb. 5:1-4
- He gave Himself as a sacrifice and offerings for us and as such He continues to intercede, mediate, and represent us before the mighty throne of God.
 - *Before the throne of God above I have a strong, a perfect plea; A great High Priest, whose Name is Love, whoever lives and pleads for me.*
- Because the Father had decreed that the High Priest must be taken from among men, The Priest who would mediate, intercede, propitiate, must be a man,
- But there was no man on earth that could be found,
 - **Eze. 22:30+**
- There must then for necessities sake, be an incarnation. The coming of the God-Man. Wholly divine, wholly man.
- To summarize then, there are 4 main, essential things which our Lord Jesus Christ must do on our behalf as our great High Priest to secure reconciliation and continued fellowship with God.

- 1) Satisfaction must be made to an offended and Holy God. This is (propitiation.)
 - **Propitiation** means "averting the wrath of God by the offering of a gift." It refers to the turning away of the wrath of God as the just judgment of our sin by God's own provision of the sacrifice of Jesus Christ on the cross.
 - It is this propitiation which satisfies the demands of a violated holiness, it is a satisfaction and an **appeasing** of the just anger of God for the violation of His holy law and character.
 - **To appease**; to make quiet, calm, to reduce to a state of peace. The word, being related to peace; signifies bringing a thing to a state of tranquility.
 - A priest does all this by making perfect sacrifices and offerings which meet God's holy demands.
 - 1 Jn. 4:10; In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son *to be* the propitiation for our sins

- 2) There must be a human substitution for punishment and death, and this someone must be someone who is absolutely innocent, without moral blemish, holy and free of all offences, yet receives the punishment for the guilty, thus removing the guilt. (Expiation.)
- **Expiate**; to remove the guilt of a crime by an act that removes the obligation to punish the crime and criminal, the crime now being canceled.
 - The offended party accepts this act as satisfaction of the injury, thus the removing of guilt. Both the guilt that testifies against the offender and the guilt within the heart of the now forgiven offender.
 - Rom.8:33; Who shall bring a charge against God's elect? *It is* God who justifies.
- 3) There must be a union of life, of fellowship and communion between the two parties, one being the offender and the other the offended. (Atonement resulting in Reconciliation)
- **Atonement**: The removal, taking away of sin, secured by the personal obedience and suffering and death of Christ. "At-one-ment"
 - the reconciliation between God and humanity, achieved through a sacrificial offering that atones for sin. It's the process by which the barrier created by sin is removed, allowing for a restored relationship with God.
 - **Reconciliation**: bringing again into unity, harmony or agreement what has been alienated.
 - Kaw-fair (kapor) atonement 100X O.T., meaning to cover, zero in N.T.
 - **Rom. 5:11**,
 - Our sins are not covered, that word is inadequate, they are removed, gone. Thus bringing pure reconciliation.
 - **2 Cor. 5:18-21**
- 4) A continuation of this union, of this relationship. (Mediator)
- A **mediator**: one who mediates" between two parties with a view to producing and keeping peace,
 - Heb. 12:24; to Jesus the Mediator of the new covenant, and to the blood of sprinkling that speaks better things than *that of* Abel.
 - Though more than mere "mediatorship" is in view, for the salvation of men necessitated that the Mediator should Himself possess the nature and attributes of Him towards whom He acts, and should likewise participate in the nature of those for whom He acts (sin apart);
 - Only by being possessed both of deity and humanity could He comprehend the claims of the one and the needs of the other;
 - Further, the claims and the needs could be met only by One who, Himself being proved sinless, would offer Himself an expiatory sacrifice on behalf of men;
 - Jesus alone fulfills all of these requirements.
 - **Heb. 10:11-22**

LET'S LOOK AT A COUPLE OTHER TITLES OF THE LORD JESUS;

FORERUNNER:

- Jesus has entered heaven as our Forerunner, and if we have a forerunner there must be after runners to follow.
- The door of heaven now stands open to all believers and we shall likewise rise.
 - Heb. 6:19-20; his *hope* we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast, and which enters the *Presence* behind the veil, ²⁰ where the forerunner has entered for us, *even* Jesus, having become High Priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek.

INTERCESSOR:

- And as we said last week, His first prayer to the Father for us was for the sending of the third Person of the Trinity, the Holy Spirit.
- There is never a moment when Christ is not praying for us.
- Even in spite of our most heart-breaking sins and failures, Jesus continues to pray for us. He is the Author and Finisher of our faith.
 - Heb. 7:25; Therefore, He is also able to save to the uttermost those who come to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them.
- The fact of His continued intercession for us is the reason Paul, through the Holy Spirit could write,
 - being confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will complete *it* until the day of Jesus Christ; (Phil. 1:6)
- The realization of this fact, of Christ's perpetual prayers for us, should encourage, comfort and give confidence in our holy race.
- Robert Murray M' Cheyne once said, "if he could hear Christ praying for him in the next room, to hear His prayers, He would not fear a thousand enemies, yet distance makes no difference, He is praying for me!
- As our Intercessor, as He often prayed for His disciples before His death, He continues to pray for us, His disciples now.
 - **JN. 17:9,12, 15, 20**
 - Rom. 8:34; who *is* he who condemns? *It is* Christ who died, and furthermore is also risen, who is even at the right hand of God, who also makes intercession for us.

ADVOCATE:

- Advocate: called to one's side," to one's aid and suggests the capability or adaptability for giving aid.
 - It was used in a court of justice to denote a legal assistant, counsel for the defense, an advocate; then, generally, is one who pleads another's cause,
 - As our Priest He is our Advocate, legal counsel and representative regarding our need especially if we sin.
 - **1 Jn. 2:1-2**
 - **Warning:** Knowing this though we must not lie down in sin, give up for we must behold Him, our Holy Advocate who intercedes for us before the throne. Be encouraged my dear brother and sister, He has never lost a case he has taken up.
 - And remember He does all this as the God/Man; for He wears our humanity.
Heb. 2:14-16
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- What difference does this make in our lives?

CLOSING SONG: BEFORE THE THRONE OF GOD ABOVE...