

Christ the Prophet

1. Why does it matter?

"Therefore, in order that faith may find a firm basis for salvation in Christ, and thus rest in him, this principle must be laid down... (Christ) was given to be prophet, King and priest. Yet it would be of little value to know these names without understanding their purpose and use."

John Calvin, Institutes of the Christian Religion, Book 2 chapter 25

"Human beings have a head to know, an heart to give themselves, a hand to govern and lead; but the sin that corrupted them infected all their capacities...Therefore Christ, as both the Son and as the image of God, for Himself and also as our mediator and saviour, had to bear all three offices. he had to be prophet to know and to disclose the truth of God; a priest, to devote himself to God and, in our place, to offer himself up to God; a King, to govern and protect us according to God's will. To teach, to reconcile, and to lead; to instruct, to acquire, and to apply salvation; wisdom, righteousness, and redemption; truth, love and power - all three are essential to the completeness of our salvation."

Herman Bavinck, Reformed Dogmatics, vol. III

2. What is a prophet?

i) One who speaks from, and for, God...

Exodus 7:1, Deuteronomy 18:1-ff

ii) ... to His people, in word and deed

Word: Numbers 12:6-8, Isaiah 6; Jeremiah 1:4-10; Ezekiel 3:1-4, 17;

Deed: Jeremiah 13:1-11, Ezekiel 4:1-5:4, Hosea

3. In what way is Jesus *the* Prophet?

i) Jesus teaches the full revelation He has received from God

- *Prior to his Incarnation*

1 Peter 1:11

- *In His earthly ministry*

Mark 1:38; Luke 4:16-21; Luke 13:33-34; John 5:19-46; 6:60-69; 8:26-30; 12:48-50; Matthew 5-7

- *In His heavenly ministry*

John 14:25-26; 15:26-27; 16:5-15; 1 Corinthians 2:6-16; 1 John 5:6-12; Ephesians 4:7-16; Hebrews 3:7-13

Implications

- **Listen to him above all others; Matthew 17:5**

- **Prioritise hearing His words: privately and together; John 6:68**

- **Have confidence in his words; Luke 9:26**

ii) As the Son, Jesus is the full revelation of God

John 1:1-18; 8:31-38; 13:15; 14:9; 12:27-36; Hebrews 1:1-2

“The Son’s unique greatness, His difference from, his exaltation above man constitutes his chief qualification for the revealer-ship. As a revealer He represents not man but God; therefore the nearer He stands to god the better He is qualified.”

Geerhardus Vos

“Everything shines in the light of his death, and is illuminated by it.”

Karl Barth

Implications

- True godliness - 2 Corinthians 3:18, Romans 8:29

- **Make much of Jesus**

- *In our own discipleship*

- *In our evangelism*