

Jesus Christ: Our Prophet

Deuteronomy 18:15-19; John 8:30-36

Starting with the prophecy, given through Moses (Deuteronomy 18:15-19), let's look at statements in John's Gospel that show Christ's ministry, as a prophet, telling forth God's truth. See John 7:16-18; 12:49; 14:10; 18:37 cp. 5:24 & 6:63; 8:30-32; 15:7-8. See also Ephesians 4:20-21; Colossians 3:16

Now, let's see how the ministry of prophet, priest, and king work together and how these three ministries meet our need.

1. **We have a mind.** We need to know things. Christ, as our prophet, connects us to God's truth.
2. **We have emotions and feelings.** There are things to love; to hate; to give us joy; to give us sorrow. Christ, as our priest, connects us to God's emotions and feelings. He guides us into a relationship in which we love what God loves and hate what God hates, etc.
3. **We have a will and a desire.** We need to make correct choices in life. Christ, as our King, connects us to the will of God, so that we can make right choices. He makes me able to rule over sin and over myself (passions, etc).

Sin has attacked 3 areas in our being. The Grace of Christ has delivered us from these 3 areas of corruption.

1. **Sin has darkened our minds, so that we cannot recognize truth naturally.** It is Christ who embodies God's truth and brings it to us in a powerful, life-changing way. See John 1:1-5, 12-17; 6:63; 14:6; I Corinthians 2:14-16; Ephesians 4:17-21.
2. **Sin has attacked/corrupted our feelings and emotions.** We often love what God hates and hate what God loves. We often feel joy/pleasure when we ought to feel grief and sorrow Likewise, we often feel sorrow, grief – even anger with things that should please us. Worse yet, we can get to the point when we have no feelings at all. This is called apathy and boredom and can lead to a lack of conscience. It is Christ who enlivens us to be sensitive to the things of God's spirit. Through Christ we are able to have godly passions. See Eph 4:19-21; I Timothy 4:1-2; II Timothy 3:1-5; Titus 1:1:15-16; II Corinthians 7:10 (cp Matthew 5:4); II Peter 1:2-4.
3. **Sin has perverted our will, so that we make bad choices.** Our will is like a bird that is trapped in a cage. The cage is our sin nature. Only Christ can liberate our enslaved willpower, so that we can freely choose the things of God and experience the liberty of God's love. See John 8:30-36; Romans 8:2-4; Romans 5:20-21; Galatians 5:1, 13-15; Ephesians 2:1-6, 10; 3:14-19; Philippians 2:5, 12-13; 4:13; Titus 2:14.