

13 December

 Break the ice

Write down what God is saying to you in today's message:

TOPIC: Seeing Jesus as Prophet; Priest and King

 Let's hear your story

1. Tell of a time when you had to explain to a friend or family member why Jesus Christ came to earth?
2. What does John 8:42, tell us about why Jesus came to earth? (**Jesus said, for I came from God and.... He sent Me**).
3. What does Matthew 5:17-18, tell us about why Jesus came to earth? (**To fulfill the law and old testament prophets.**).
4. What three Old Testament offices foreshadowed the coming of Jesus? (**Prophet who speaks; Priest who serves and King who rules**).

 Let's go deeper

5. According to John 1; in which way is Jesus greater than all other prophets? (**He is the living Word of God. The Word became flesh...**).
6. According to Hebrews 4:15; how does Jesus fulfill His priestly function? (**Jesus sympathizes with us, He gives us grace, mercy, etc.**).
7. According to John 18:36 – 37; how does Jesus fulfil His kingly function? (**To reveal His Kingdom; rule and reign over everything**).
8. How is Jesus our Prophet, Priest and King? (**As Prophet, Jesus confronts and calls us to repent of sin; as Priest Jesus comforts and enables us to repent of sin and as King, Jesus commands us to surrender all areas of our life.**).

 Let's apply this

9. **Why did Jesus come to earth:**
As Prophet to speak to us. As Priest to serve us and as King to rule over us, and He continues these ministries of speaking, serving and ruling.

If you see Jesus as King and prophet, but not as priest who serves, you will see Jesus as distant and an angry taskmaster. Jesus who sits on a throne and yells at you, telling you what to do, but never gets off that throne to help you do it.

If you see Jesus as King and Priest, but not as Prophet, you won't have an urgency to repent of sin.
Ask Holy Spirit to show you if Jesus ministers to you as Prophet; Priest; King?

SUMMARY:

- **Why did Jesus come to earth?**

Jesus said; "I have been sent by the Father into human history as a human being to do His will." (See John 6:38 and 8:42). "His will is that I would fulfil and accomplish everything that was promised and anticipated in the Old Testament scriptures." (See Matthew 5:17-18).

To understand why Jesus came, we have to connect His life and ministry as the fulfilment of the expectation of the Old Testament. And as we study the Old Testament, we see that there were three offices in the Old Testament that were foreshadowing the coming of Jesus - those are the prophet, priest and the king. The prophet speaks for God, the priest serves for God, and the king rules for God. Jesus comes as the fulfilment of each of these three offices; as prophet, as priest and king.

1. **As Prophet** – Prophesied in Deuteronomy 18 and Acts 3

When you think of the prophet, you tend to think of a person who is courageous, preach, proclaim, reveals the truth of the person, the work, word and will of God. As prophet Jesus comes as truth-telling prophet, and much like the Old Testament prophets it involves, repentance, pointing out sin, error, rebellion and hard-heartedness. Jesus says in Matt.5, "But I tell you this." What Jesus is doing, is saying that not only is He the prophet who is speaking the truth of God, He is also God from whom the truth comes. Also, what distinguishes Jesus from other prophets is His relationship with the Word of God. Jesus doesn't just speak the Word of God, He is the Word of God. He is the living, Word of God. The word became flesh, Jesus Christ, came down to live among us to reveal God.

2. **As Priest** – Jesus mediates and intercedes for us

The priest is the one who mediates or intercedes between God and people. The priest would take the hopes, dreams, fears, sins, needs of the people, bring them to God as a mediator, as an intercessor through prayer. Often times, the priest would offer sacrifices because the penalty or wage for sin is death. He would offer sacrifices showing that the peoples' sin was real and death was deserved, but begging God for mercy and forgiveness. Jesus comes into human history as a priest. And he becomes a human being to identify with us. And as both God and man, Jesus as priest is able to reconnect us to God and to represent us before God because He is God. But he also understands our humanity because he was a human being. (See Hebrews 4:15; 7:25 and 9:26; Luke 19:10; Matthew 9:8 – 14).

3. **As King** – Jesus rules over all peoples, times and places.

As prophet, Jesus confronts us and calls us to repent of sin. As priest, Jesus comforts us and enables us to repent of sin. And as king, Jesus commands us to surrender authority over all areas of our life to keep us from sin.