

- Readings from: Mark 1:14-20, Hebrews 7:23-28, 9:23-28 and Revelation 5:6-14

Jesus our Prophet

- When we looked at the Prophet's role in the OT, we did so through the life of Elijah - and saw how a prophet spoke:
 - with **boldness**
 - to **honour God**
 - with **compassion**
 - **God's word**
 - out of a **personal relationship**
 - to **challenge human rebellion**
- Does that not capture so much of the way in which Jesus spoke through his ministry?

Spoke with Boldness

- *He got up, rebuked the wind and said to the waves, "Quiet! Be still!" Then the wind died down and it was completely calm. (Mark 4:39)*

Spoke to honour God

- *To those who sold doves he said, "Get these out of here! How dare you turn my Father's house into a market!" His disciples remembered that it is written: "Zeal for your house will consume me." (John 2:16-17)*

Spoke with Compassion

- *Jesus straightened up and asked her, "Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?" (John 8:10)*

Spoke God's Word

- *They asked each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us?" (Luke 24:32)*

Spoke out of a Personal Relationship

- *Very early in the morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up, left the house and went off to a solitary place, where he prayed. (Mark 1:35)*

Spoke to challenge human rebellion

- *"Come, follow me," Jesus said (Mark 1:17)*
- *"No one, sir," she said. "Then neither do I condemn you," Jesus declared. "Go now and leave your life of sin." (John 8:11)*

- And he still speaks to us this way, through the Holy Spirit:
 - *But the Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you. (John 14:26)*
 - it is Jesus speaking into our lives through sermon and Scripture, through fellow Christian (HS living in them) and through inner prompts

Response:

- Gratefully honour him...
- Respond to his **"come and follow me"** - do the things that I do....!

Jesus our Priest

- Jesus death as offering of Himself (spotless, perfect Lamb) on the Cross (Altar) to satisfy the righteous wrath of God
 - always able to intercede on our behalf, since at Father's side and always alive
 - once for all... doesn't need repeated like OT sacrifices
 - reality, not shadow copy
- Restores relationship - and hence possibility of real worship - with God
 - **brings us to God** - intercedes on our behalf, covering over our sin continually
 - **brings God to us** - comes and lives within us
- Jesus bridges the **holiness gap between man and God**

Response:

- Gratefully honour him...
- **Approach with confidence** - does our reflecting, learning, thinking about what Jesus has accomplished on our behalf change the manner in which we approach God?
 - are our lives growing also in holiness? Is his holiness like radiation, killing off sin in us as we expose our lives to him?

Jesus our King**King was Protector**

- *For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord. (Romans 8:38-39)*
- our ultimate protection is in our King; do we seek to become "little Jesus" and protect the weak, the vulnerable, the flock?

King led the people to God

- *I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you. (John 15:15)*
- do we likewise call people to come with us to God?

King modelled God's authority

- *All the people were amazed and said to each other, "What is this teaching? With authority and power he gives orders to evil spirits and they come out!" (Luke 4:36)*
- saw a video of 2x Mormons chatting to a big African-American guy...

King executed God's judgement

- *In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who will judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I give you this charge: (2 Timothy 4:1)*
- Peter speaking to Ananias in Acts 5; Paul encouraging the church in Corinth to **hand this man over to Satan...**
 - some questions about scope, but are we willing to challenge that which displeases God?

King became a source of hope

- *Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade - kept in heaven for you, who through faith are shielded by God's power until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time. (1 Peter 1:3-5)*
- do we offer hope - in our communal life, in our individual relationships - do we ask God to make us people of hope? Are we the people folk turn to in a crisis, or not?

Response:

- Gratefully honour him...
 - seek to follow him...

Conclusion

- Everything that we need for salvation and faith is in Jesus!
 - one who speaks God's word into our lives
 - one who bridges the holiness gap between us and God
 - one who rules the universe, and us!
- **Jesus, Prophet, Priest and King!**
 - **praise him....**
 - **follow him....**