

**TEACHING GOAL**

To study the prophetic work of Christ.

**DOCTRINAL STANDARDS**

Q. How does Christ execute the office of Prophet?

A. Christ executes the office of Prophet, in revealing to us by His word and Spirit, the will of God for our salvation.

S.C. 24; L.C. 43; W.C. of F. VIII; Savoy 8; Young 64-65

**SCRIPTURAL BASIS**

**Study Passage:** John 1:1-5, 9-18

**Support Passages:** Deuteronomy 18:18-19; Daniel 9:24; John 14:18-24; Acts 3:11-26

**BIBLE STORY**

Luke 24:13-35; The great Prophet teaches two disciples on the road to Emmaus.

**.MEMORY ASSIGNMENT**

Hebrews 1:1-2

1 God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, 2 has in these last days spoken to us by *His* Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds;

**APPLICATION**

So that we may become children of God, and have a right to the privileges of such (Romans 8:16-17), not the least of which is eternal life, we must receive and believe on Jesus the revealed Word of God and the one who reveals God to us.

## SUMMARY

Before we can understand the work of Christ as a Prophet, we must understand the nature of the office of prophet. What is a prophet? Not merely a revealer of future events is a prophet, but the very mouth of God. Peter writes, "for no prophecy was ever made by an act of human will, but men moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God" (II Peter 1:21). Moses and Aaron are an excellent example of this truth, "Then the LORD said to Moses, 'See, I make you as God to Pharaoh, and your brother Aaron shall be your prophet'" (Exodus 7:1ff). Moses was the authority from which the pronouncements of the Lord to Pharaoh came, and Aaron actually spoke them to Pharaoh. Thus Aaron acted as Moses' mouth and did the work of a prophet (Exodus 4:16).

Of Jeremiah the prophet it is said, "you will become My spokesman" (Literally - as My mouth, Jeremiah 15:19). A prophet therefore is one who speaks for God in an immediate sense. That is to say, what God speaks to the prophet is communicated directly without the need for an intervening process or person. What the prophet sees and hears, that he speaks. The prophet is a direct organ for announcing the words of God to people.

In these last days there are no more prophets in this sense. Now, the pastor-teacher delivers the words of God from holy Scripture. The minister's gift of prophecy is that of interpreting Scripture and not that of being God's direct organ of communication. In these last days, God no longer speaks to us by the prophets as He did long ago but "in His Son, whom He appointed heir of all things, through whom He made the world" (Hebrews 1:1-2). Jesus is both the revelation of God and the revealer of God.

That Jesus is God's revelation to men is clear in such passages as John 1:14. When the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, John and the other eyewitnesses saw in Him the glory of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth. To have seen Jesus was to see the Father (John 14:6-9). To know Christ was to know the Father and the works of the Son are the works of the Father. Is not the name of Christ, among others, "Eternal Father" (Isaiah 9:6)? Jesus is the Logos, the Word, and God (John 1:1). As the Logos He is the creator who reveals God to us in nature (verse 3). He was and is the light of the world (Verses 4-5, 9). He is truth and grace (verse 17). In Him, "are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge" (Colossians 2:3). Therefore from Christ, all that which men come to know about God, radiates. But Jesus is also the revealer of God.

"No man has seen God at any time; the only begotten God who is in the bosom of the Father, He has explained Him" (John 1:18). Jesus is the great explainer of God, the only one to have seen God and who Himself is God. He is therefore eminently, uniquely, supremely qualified to reveal God to mankind. Jesus stood up to teach in the Nazareth Synagogue and read Isaiah 61:1-3, "the Spirit of the LORD is upon Me to preach the gospel ... proclaim release ... proclaim recovery ... proclaim the favorable year of the LORD" all functions of a

prophet. Having read these words He sat down and said, "Today this Scripture has been fulfilled on your hearing" (Luke 4:21). So clear was His claim to be this prophet that His enraged hearers sought to kill Him at that very moment.

Jesus, because He is the source of all our knowledge about God, must be studied carefully and followed. This we must do using the sacred writings that are able to give us the wisdom that leads to salvation. Let there be no pretense of receiving and believing on Jesus. Such pretense is openly manifested in our attitude toward God's Word both living and written. Can there be so little longing for the Bread of Life, for every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God? Does the Word of God not excite us and burn in our breast with passion for Christ and all that is His? Is there little zest for the things of God? The apathy that many have for the Word of God is not at all typical of one who is a child of God. We must take heed to ourselves to improve our thirst for the written Word and our desire for Christ the Living Word. We must desire Christ with all our heart, soul and mind for Christ alone is the great Prophet.