



Advent 2017
Jesus, God's Prophet
Jesus, God's High Priest
Jesus, King of Kings
Jesus, Sacrificial Lamb

*This year Advent begins on Dec. 3rd. We are beginning one week early in lieu of our Christmas play, "A New Star" on Dec. 17th.

Jesus, God's Prophet

Biblical prophets have two roles:

1) To foretell the future as God showed them.

God used prophets to tell the future. Much of Isaiah is prophecy which looked forward to the coming of Christ. Isaiah 53:5 is clearly a prophecy about Jesus: *"But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon him, and by his wounds we are healed."*

2) To speak the very word of God today.

God used prophets to tell people what God was thinking in the here and now and what He wants His people to know. The greatest function of the prophet was to speak the very words of God today.

The words the prophets spoke were not just clever messages or good advice, they were not just wise words to be heeded, no, they were the words straight from God that He wanted spoken.

Jesus, God's Prophet: He's not just one of God's prophets, but He is the Prophet of God, the most perfect and complete manifestation of God's Word. The words that Jesus spoke while he was on earth were not his own, they were the very words of God. Jesus was the Word.

How shall we respond to Jesus as God's Prophet? Shall people ignore Jesus as did the Israelites ignore the Old Testament prophets? Jesus is speaking for the one true God in heaven. If we reject his teachings, we reject God. If we ignore Jesus, we ignore God who sent him.

How then shall we respond to Jesus as God's Prophet?

1) Respond with obedience; no longer can we claim to be ignorant about God's will. God saves through His Son's redemptive act of dying on the cross for our sins and his glorious resurrection assures us victory. We are no longer in the dark about salvation. Will we obey Christ?

2) Respond with repentance; do we need to be honest and seek spiritual awakening in our relationship with the Lord? Do you need to repent of your sins so that you can be forgiven? Will you allow God to wipe out your sins through the death of Jesus on the cross?

3) Respond with rejoicing; Rejoice that God has revealed Himself to us and has promised without a doubt to restore us to the glory we were created for. We can rejoice in this season and throughout the year because we know that God's promises are true, and His Word is complete. We celebrate that God's Word took on flesh and declared God's promises to us.