Class 6 “Jesus Christ, His Roles”
Flame Alive Course: Basic Christianity
2024

Prophet – Priest – King

Prophet (Deut. 18:15; Acts 3:22-24; 7:37-38)

1. Jesus Christ as the Truth

   John 18:37 “For this I have been born, and for this I have come into the world, to TESTIFY TO THE TRUTH. Everyone who is of the truth hears my voice.”

   John 1:14, 17 “grace and truth”

2. Jesus Christ Proclaiming the Truth with Authority
   1) Mark 1:22 “They were amazed at His teaching; for He was teaching them as one having authority.” (Matthew 7:29)
      a. Jesus had self-validating authority, without need of external authority.
         i. By virtue of His personal perfection
         ii. By virtue of the power of His teaching

   2) Jesus as teacher
      a. Matthew 4:23 “Jesus was going throughout all Galilee, teaching…and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom.”
      b. Luke 24:27 “Then beginning with Moses and with all the prophets, He explained to them the things concerning Himself in all the Scriptures.”

   3) Jesus taught the truth
      a. about the Father
      b. about prayer (Lord’s Prayer)
      c. about morality (Two Great Commandments)
      d. about Himself and His saving work on the cross (John 12:23-33)

3. Jesus foretold many gospel events:
   1) His own death and resurrection (Matt. 17:22-23; 20:17-19)
   2) Judas’ betrayal (Matt. 26:20-25; John 13:18-30)
   3) Peter’s denial (Matt. 26:31-35; Mark 14:27-30; Luke 22:61; John 13:31-38)
   4) The coming of the Holy Spirit (John 16:7-15; Luke 24:49; Acts 1:4-5)
   5) The destruction of the temple (Matt. 24:1-2)
   6) His own second coming (Matt. 24:30-31; John 14:3)

4. Implications of Jesus as Prophet, the Proclaimer of Truth
   1) Jesus is the ONE to whom we must pay attention as our leader and teacher.
   2) Jesus always tells the truth.
   3) Jesus does not need to be updated in His teaching; His teaching is eternal truth.
   4) Christians follow and obey Jesus’ teaching as His disciples.

Priest (Hebrews 10:19-22)

1. Jesus Christ as the Sacrifice for Sins

2. Jesus Christ as the High Priest offering Mediation with His sacrifice (1 Tim. 2:5; Romans 8:34; Heb. 4:14-16; 1 John 2:1-2)

3. Jesus has an eternal priesthood for those who trust in Him (Psalm 110:4; Heb. 5:6; 6:20; 7:17)

4. As High Priest for His people, Jesus prays for us (John 17:9ff)

King (Isaiah 9:6; John 12:15; 18:37; 1 Tim. 6:15; Rev. 17:14; 19:6)

1. Jesus Christ and the Davidic Promise
    - The Lord did not initially approve of kingship in Israel; He accommodated the weakness of Israel in this regard.
    - The Davidic kingship became (after its historical reality) a divine promise in the redemptive covenant of God for the kingdom of God.

2. Jesus Christ and the Kingdom of God
    - The kingdom of God is the rule and reign of the sovereign God of the universe under the authority of King Jesus in His eschatological victory and rule.
    - The kingdom of God under the authority of Christ began with the incarnation (some more specifically identify the initial phase of the kingdom of God with the resurrection of Christ)
    - The ALREADY and NOT YET aspects of the kingdom of God under the authority of Christ:
        - Already (includes historical and redemptive progression)
            - Jesus saves believers in His saving work through grace and the Spirit.
            - Jesus applies His shepherding care through the Bible and Spirit.
            - Jesus providentially gives His life and presence to us through the Spirit.
            - Jesus Christ in His Lordship authority
        - Not Yet (not yet consummated)
            - Righteousness on the earth not consummately not yet
            - Evil not yet banished from human history and experience
            - Salvation of believers not yet completed
        - The NOT YET becomes ALREADY at the second coming of Christ

Titles of Jesus Christ and the Roles of Christ Applied

1. Immanuel – God with us
    a. Matthew 1:23 “Immanuel, God with us”
    b. Applied:
        i. Prophet – to teach and preach
        ii. Priest – Jesus died on the cross as the atoning sacrifice for sins
        iii. King – Jesus reigns in authority as the king of life and Lord of all

2. Savior
    a. 1 Timothy 1:15 “Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners”
    b. John 3:17 “God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved.”
    c. Applied:
        i. Prophet – Jesus taught salvation
        ii. Priest – Jesus accomplished salvation
            1. In His active righteousness
            2. In His atoning death on the cross
        iii. King:
            1. In His resurrection giving new life to those who trust in Him
            2. In His exaltation giving promise for the kingdom in this life and the life to come

3. Mediator
    a. Scripture:
        i. 1 Timothy 2:5 “One mediator between God and man, the man Christ Jesus”
        ii. Romans 8:34 “Who is the one who condemns? Christ Jesus is He who died, yes, rather who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who also intercedes for us.”
        iii. 1 John 2:1 “We have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous”
        iv. 1 John 2:2 “He Himself is the propitiation for our sins”
        v. John 1:29 “The Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world”

    b. Applied:
        i. Prophet – prays for His people
        ii. Priest – applies and presents His saving atoning merits to the Father on our behalf, and Christ’s people become priests in Him
        iii. King – Christ’s people reign in Him

4. Hope
    a. 1 Timothy 1:1 “of Christ Jesus, who is our hope”
    b. Colossians 1:27 “Christ in you, the hope of glory”
    c. Titus 2:13 “Looking for the blessed hope and the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Christ Jesus.”
    d. Applied:
        i. Prophet – preaching and teaching hope
        ii. Priest – establishing hope in the human soul
        iii. King – reigning with hope over His people

5. Peace
    a. Ephesians 2:14 “He Himself is our peace”
    b. Applied
        i. Prophet – teaches peace
        ii. Priest – accomplishes peace in reconciliation with the Father
        iii. King – brings peace to people and between people

6. Alpha and Omega, the Beginning, and the End
    a. Revelation 1:8 “I am the Alpha and Omega, says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty”
    b. Revelation 21:6 “I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end.”
    c. Applied:
        i. Prophet – Jesus Christ is the last Word
        ii. Priest – Jesus Christ is the fulfillment of redemptive history
        iii. King – Jesus Christ reigns over history and the universe

7. Lord (we will consider this in next Sunday night’s talk on Christ’s Lordship and Exaltation)

<u>Conclusion and Summary</u>

The Scripture indicates the name of Jesus is representative of His perfections and saving work. Thus we have in the following Scriptures:

> Acts 4:12 “There is salvation in no one else; for there is no other name under heaven that has been given among men by which we must be saved.”
>
> Philippians 2:9-11 “For this reason God highly exalted Him and bestowed on Him the name which is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee will bow, of those who are in heaven and on earth and under the earth.”

1. Jesus Christ is the last manifestation of divine self-revelation.

2. Jesus Christ is the fulfillment of covenantal redemption.

3. Jesus Christ is the hope of the world.