

Christ prophet priest and king theology religion



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Berkhof says, " It has been customary to talk of three offices in connexion with the work of Christ, viz. the prophetic, the priestly, and the kingly office " (Berkhof, p. 356) . The Old Testament tells us that Israel had three chief offices and these are Prophet, Priest and the King. All these offices pictured the work of the Messiah here on Earth. The early church male parents believed in the being of three offices and among those Calvin was the 1 who recognized the importance of distinguishing these offices (Berkhof, p. 356) . It would be incorrect to presume that all people agree that there are three offices in connexion with Christ ' s work. Some theologians recognize the being of prophetic and priestly offices merely. The inquiry that will be dealt with in this paper is who is a prophet? What are their signs? How is Jesus Christ a Prophet, Priest and King? The paper will besides show the positions of other people referring to the prophetic, Priestly and Kingly office of Jesus Christ.

Prophetic establishment day of the months back in Exodus when God chose Aaron to be Moses ' spokesman. In Deut. 18: 14-15 Moses as the first major prophet forewarned the Israelites before possessing the promised land that they must not listen and practice black magic and divination because the Lord their God whom they serve ne'er allowed them to make so. He told them that God would raise up a prophet like him among themselves and they must listen to him. A prophet is an individual who speaks on behalf of God or God ' s spokesman. In other words they are people who represent God to people and besides represent people before God. Or they are " travel between " between God and people. The Old Testament predicted that the

Christ would come as a Prophet. In the New Testament we read about Christ speech production of himself as a Prophet (Luke 13: 33) .

Grudem (1994) says, “ Christ as a prophet fulfills this office by uncovering God to us and besides by talking God ‘ s words to us ” (p. 625) . A prophet receives divine disclosures from God and passes these messages on to people. So Christ as a prophet he claimed to convey a message from the male parent (Jn 8: 26-28) . He was the great prophet in all history. Grudem (1994) said, “ Christ ‘ s illustriousness as a prophet was in two ways. He (Jesus Christ) claimed that all the prognostications in the Old Testament were about him ” (Grudem. P 625 - 626) . Luke 24: 27 says that Jesus Christ interpreted all what the Bible said about him get downing with Moses and all the Prophets. The other manner is that Jesus was and is the beginning every bit good as the courier of God ‘ s disclosure. Watson (1997) said, “ Christ as a prophet he taught externally by his word and inside by the spirit ” (Watson, p. 166) . When Christ is learning he exhibits a difference in that he teaches the bosom and gives us a gustatory sensation of the word. His teaching causes people to obey and instills in us a desire to learn. Christ ‘ s instructions are illuminative in nature.

In explicating the Priestly office of Jesus Christ Grudem present us three maps of how Christ was and is a Priest. As a Priest Jesus offered himself as a perfect forfeit for our wickedness. Not merely that, he (Jesus Christ) persistently presents us near to God. The last manner is that Jesus Christ as the Priest prays for us endlessly (Grudem, p. 626-627) . Something really insightful I discovered from Grudem is that Adam was a Prophet, Priest and King. In his function as a Prophet Adam had the true cognition about God and

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that in his true cognition he was honest to God and his creative activity. In his function as a Priest Adam would offer supplications and congratulations to God freely. These were supplications and congratulations of thanksgiving and non of wickedness (Heb. 13: 5) . The twosome in the Garden of Eden (Adam and Eve) as Kings (or King and Queen) was given power to govern over God ' s creative activity (Gen. 1: 26-28) . The entryway of wickedness in the Garden of Eden made these offices to no longer map as they were supposed to. Partial Restoration of these offices came during when Israel was a land. The coming of Christ fulfilled these functions (Prophet, Priest and King) . In specifying a Priest Hodge (1976) said, " A Priest is a adult male divinely chosen, qualified, and authorized to look before God and to move in behalf of work forces. " He differentiated a Priest and a Prophet by stating that a Priest goes up from adult male Godward while a Prophet comes from God manward " (Hodge, p. 208) .

The inquiries are make these functions exist today? If the reply is yes, how do we (as Christians) carry through these functions today? In replying these inquiries Grudem said that as Prophetss we fulfill this function when we truthfully speak about God to trusters and disbelievers (Grudem, p. 630) . The function of Christians as Prophetss is to proclaim the good intelligence. In Peter two poetries nine says that we belong to the royal priesthood household. Now as Priests we fulfill this function by offering forfeits of congratulations and worship to God through Jesus Christ. As Priests we have entree to the Holy of sanctums through Jesus Christ merely like the Old Testament Priests had through the blood of the bulls and caprine animals. Grudem (2002) said that we portion in partly the kingly reign of Christ

because the Bible says that we have been raised up with Christ and are seated with him in heavenly topographic points (Grudem, p. 630) . Kings in the Old Testament were given power to take, control and direct the Israelites. In Matthew 2: 2 we read that Jesus Christ was born as the King of Jews. He clarified to the Jews that his Kingship was non like an earthly one. Jesus as male monarch has a land and his land contains people who have been regenerated. In Matthew 28: 18 when Jesus Christ was commissioning his adherents (therefore after Resurrection) he opened his conversation with them by stating “ All authorization in Eden and on Earth has been given to me. ” This authorization shall to the full be realized when Christ comes in the Second Advent (Mt 26: 64) . This is the clip when he will be known as King of Kings and Lord of Lords (Rev. 19: 16) because every articulation shall bow down to him and every lingua confess that he is Lord.

There are many different places as respects to the offices of Christ. Scholars have differing positions referring to his offices. Berkhof (1969) said that Gerhard (a Lutheran) was the first to develop the philosophy of the three offices (P, 356) . Peoples like Quenstedt disregarded the three offices of Christ as indispensable. Some people recognized that there are two offices of Jesus: prophet and male monarch. Berkhof (1969) said that the Lutherans divide themselves about the offices of Christ. Ernesti disagreed with the fact that there are three offices of Christ. He asserted that the differentiation is strictly unreal, non found in Bible and should non be used to depict the work of Christ. The latter Lutheran theologians denied the differentiation of these offices (Berkhof, 1969. p. 356) . Peoples like Ritschl, and Haering rejected the being of the three offices of Christ. In his statement

Ritschl said, " The term " career " should take the topographic point of the misleading word " office " (Berkhof, 1969. p. 357) . He regarded the Kingly office of Christ as primary and the other two offices (Priestly and Prophetic office) as secondary. Haering on the other manus emphasized on naming as opposed to the three offices of Christ. The Socinians limit the work of Christ to the clip of his public ministry (Berkhof, 1969. p. 358) .

Muslims believe that Jesus Christ was one of the Prophetss. In fact they say that as a prophesier he came earlier Mohammed. They believe that Jesus Christ prophesied about the coming of Mohammed by citing John16: 7-11. Moslems do non believe that Jesus Christ was the boy of God and he was God. They do see him as one of the Prophetss like those who appeared in the Old Testament. Roman Catholics believe that a priest is a individual who has received the sacrament of holy orders and these holy orders are received by the putting on of custodies. Thereafter this Priest becomes the sharer of the priesthood of Jesus Christ. Catholics besides believes that merely priests are the 1s to offer the Eucharist forfeit.

Though people have differing places on offices of Christ but from scripture point of position I believe that there are three offices of Christ in which he operated: prophesier, priest and male monarch. God created adult male to map as a prophesier, priest and male monarch. Jesus came to earth as an ideal adult male in order to reconstruct adult male to his original status he needfully functioned as God ' s prophesier, priest and male monarch. Now Jesus Christ as prophesier (God ' s mouthpiece) he brought the good intelligence to the people. I believe that non everyone in the Old or New Testament was the prophesier. In the Bible God would name some people to

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be Prophets harmonizing to his program. Serenius (twelvemonth unknown) defined a prophet as “ The 1 who speaks by inspiration from the one true and living God and from Jesus Christ, by and through the Holy Spirit ” (Serenius, p. 13) . A prophet was and is a individual whom God entrust with his words, disclosures or visions, and his work. His chief responsibility was to convey the message of hope and redemption to the people. My belief is that Christ as the prophet when he came on Earth he revealed God to us and brought the message of hope and redemption to the whole universe. Jesus Christ continues his prophetic ministry even today by the Holy Spirit working through the word.

The Old Testament priestly patterns prefigured the priesthood of the Messiah. The high priest in the Old Testament foreshadowed the priestly Messiah. Priests in the Old Testament would offer forfeits to the Lord for the people and for himself. Jesus Christ as the priest gave up himself as a selflessness for my wickedness and the wickedness of the universe. This tells me that through him (Jesus) I have entree to the male parent. Jesus himself is our expiatory forfeit. As a priest he spoke and still talk to God on behalf of us and talk to us on behalf of God. He represents us to God because he intercedes for us (Heb. 7: 25) . High priests in the Old Testament would come in into the Holy of Holies for people and himself. Christ as the High priest entered heaven to look for us in the presence of the Lord God (Heb. 9: 24) .

Jesus as the boy of God and king portions in the rule of God over the universe. I believe that his kingship is established in the Black Marias of trusters. The disposal of his land is done by his word and the spirit. The

kingship of Christ is exercised in the assemblage, administration, protection and perfecting of his church. Christ as male monarch is the caput of the church (Eph. 1: 20-22 ; 5: 23) . The land of God is foremost the kingship of Christ established in truster ' s Black Marias by the renewing work of the Holy Spirit and it is both present and future world. Christ as male monarch regulations over the existence and has power over everything (Mt. 28: 18) . As the male monarch he has power to alter people. To coronate it all, the offices of Jesus Christ do be until today. I believe that these offices are still in operation today. We may hold problem in separating true and false Prophetss but God still speaks today.