

Mt. 21:11 And the multitude said, This is **Jesus the prophet** of Nazareth of Galilee.

Luke 24:19 And he said unto them, What things?
And they said unto him, **Concerning Jesus of Nazareth, which was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people:**

In the Old Testament, three different kinds of people take center stage in the story of God's salvation of his people Israel: prophet, priest, and king. Normally, the three offices of prophet, priest, and king were distinct from each other, with no overlap. That is, a king was not a priest or a prophet. A priest did not function as a prophet or a king. And a prophet simply did a prophet's job without trying to be a either king or a priest. But the Lord Jesus Christ perfectly fills all three roles simultaneously: He is the Prophet, Priest, and King, to the great blessing of the world.

Jesus fulfills all three of these roles. This evening we will begin the first of three messages regarding these titles of the Lord Jesus being a *prophet*.

Jesus as Prophet

I. THE DEFINITION OF A PROPHET

PROPH'ET, *noun* [Latin propheta.]

1. One that foretells future events; a predictor; a foreteller.
2. In Scripture, a person illuminated, inspired or instructed by God to announce future events; as Moses, Elijah, David, Isaiah, etc.
3. An interpreter; one that explains or communicates sentiments. Exodus 7:1.
4. One who pretends to foretell; an imposter; as a false *prophet* Acts 13:6.

<https://webstersdictionary1828.com/Dictionary/Prophet>

❖ The Lord used the challenge of Moses' excuse to give a picture of Himself and a prophet.

Ex. 4:15 And thou shalt speak unto him, and put words in his mouth: and I will be with thy mouth, and with his mouth, and will teach you what ye shall do.

16 And **he shall be thy spokesman unto the people:** and **he shall be, *even* he shall be to thee instead of a mouth,** and thou shalt be to him instead of God.

Ex. 7:1 And **the LORD said unto Moses, See, I have made thee a god to Pharaoh: and Aaron thy brother shall be thy prophet.**

❖ The Greek word for “prophet” in the New Testament is as follows:

Original Word: προφήτης **Transliteration:** prophētés

Definition: a prophet (an interpreter or forth-teller of the divine will)

Usage: a prophet, poet; a person gifted at expositing divine truth.

prophētēs – properly, one who *speaks forth* by the inspiration of God; a prophet.

A prophet (*prophētēs*) declares the mind (message) of God, which sometimes predicts the future (foretelling) – and more commonly, *speaks forth* His message for a particular situation. *prophētēs* ("a prophet") then is someone inspired by God to *foretell* or *tell-forth* (*forthtell*) the Word of God. <https://biblehub.com/greek/4396.htm>

- ❖ In the Old Testament, the word used most frequently to refer to a prophet is nabi'.

Original Word: נָבִיא **Transliteration:** nabi

Definition: a spokesman, speaker, prophet

<https://biblehub.com/hebrew/5030.htm>

- ❖ The general meaning of the word is "spokesman."
- ❖ In the Old Testament, a prophet "was a spokesman for God with the distinct call to be the ambassador of God."

❖ In fact, it was the call of God that gave the true prophet his legitimacy. Other titles used to describe prophets are ro'eh, meaning "seer;" hozeh, also meaning "seer;" and 'ish-ha'elohim, meaning "man of God."

1 Sam. 9:9 (Beforetime in Israel, when a man went to enquire of God, thus he spake, Come, and let us go to the seer: for ***he that is now called a Prophet was beforetime called a Seer.***)

- ❖ Pieter Verhoef explains, "These titles together define the prophet as a man who has been called to communicate the revealed word of God, a man who has an intimate relationship with God as his servant and messenger, and as one whose task it is to keep watch over God's people."

<https://www.ligonier.org/learn/articles/understanding-prophets-unfolding-biblical-eschatology>

- ❖ The first time the word “prophet” is used in the Bible is found in reference to Abraham in Gen. 20:7:

Gen. 20:7 Now therefore restore the man *his* wife; for **he is a prophet**, and he shall pray for thee, and thou shalt live: and if thou restore *her* not, know thou that thou shalt surely die, thou, and all that *are* thine.

❖ Moses was a great prophet.

Deut. 34:10 And there arose not a prophet since in Israel like unto Moses, whom the LORD knew face to face,

❖ During Jesus' ministry, some recognized Him as a great prophet.

Jn. 4:19 The woman saith unto him, **Sir, I perceive that thou art a prophet.**

Jn. 6:14 Then those men, when they had seen the miracle that Jesus did, said, **This is of a truth that prophet** that should come into the world.

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II. THE DUTIES OF A PROPHET

Amos 3:7 Surely the Lord GOD will do nothing, but he revealeth his secret unto his servants the prophets.

❖ The Lord called more than 133 prophets in the Bible from various walks of life.

2 Pet. 1:21 For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but **holy men of God** spake *as they were* moved by the Holy Ghost.

2 Pet. 1:21

New International Version

For prophecy never had its origin in the human will, **but prophets, though human**, spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.

New American Standard Bible

for no prophecy was ever made by an act of human will, **but men moved** by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

Holman Christian Standard Bible

because no prophecy ever came by the will of man; **instead, men** spoke from God as they were moved by the Holy Spirit.

https://biblehub.com/2_peter/1-21.htm

Num. 12:6 And he said, Hear now my words: **If there be a prophet among you, / the LORD will make myself known unto him** in a vision, *and* will speak unto him in a dream.

❖ The “true prophets” were to be obedient servants, speaking God’s Words to mankind, “going to mankind for God.”

Jer. 1:9 Then the LORD put forth his hand, and touched my mouth. And the LORD said unto me, **Behold, I have put my words in thy mouth.**

III. THE DECLARATION OF THAT PROPHET

Acts 7:37 This is that Moses, which said unto the children of Israel, **A prophet shall the Lord your God raise up unto you of your brethren, like unto me;** him shall ye hear.

Deut. 18:15 **The LORD thy God will raise up unto thee a Prophet from the midst of thee, of thy brethren, like unto me;** unto him ye shall hearken;

16 According to all that thou desiredst of the LORD thy God in Horeb in the day of the assembly, saying, Let me not hear again the voice of the LORD my God, neither let me see this great fire any more, that I die not.

17 And the LORD said unto me, They have well *spoken that* which they have spoken.

18 I will raise them up **a Prophet from among their brethren, like unto thee**, and will put my words in his mouth; and he shall speak unto them all that I shall command him.

19 And it shall come to pass, *that* whosoever will not hearken unto my words which he shall speak in my name, I will require *it* of him.

Acts 3:20 And he shall send Jesus Christ, which before was preached unto you:

21 Whom the heaven must receive until the times of restitution of all things, which God hath spoken by the mouth of all his holy prophets since the world began.

22 For Moses truly said unto the fathers, **A prophet shall the Lord your God raise up unto you of your brethren, like unto me**; him shall ye hear in all things whatsoever he shall say unto you.

23 And it shall come to pass, *that* every soul, which will not hear that prophet, shall be destroyed from among the people.

❖ Moses prophesied about a Prophet that would arrive and be like himself – the Jews identified “that prophet” as Jesus.

Jn. 6:14 Then **those men, when they had seen the miracle that Jesus did, said, This is of a truth that prophet that should come into the world.**

Jn. 7:40 Many of the people therefore, when they heard this saying, said, **Of a truth this is the Prophet.**

Jn. 9:17 They say unto the blind man again, What sayest thou of him, that he hath opened thine eyes? He said, **He is a prophet.**

❖ The religious crowd connected the dots to Deut. 18:18 and planned to act upon the possibility that Jesus was the expected reigning Messiah.

Summary

- ❖ Jesus was sent by the Father, and delivered the message He was given for mankind.

Conclusion

Jn. 12:44 Jesus cried and said, He that believeth on me, believeth not on me, but on him that sent me.

45 And he that seeth me seeth him that sent me.

46 I am come a light into the world, that whosoever believeth on me should not abide in darkness.

47 And if any man hear my words, and believe not, I judge him not: for I came not to judge the world, but to save the world.

48 He that rejecteth me, and receiveth not my words, hath one that judgeth him: **the word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day.**

49 For I have not spoken of myself; but **the Father which sent me, he gave me a commandment, what I should say, and what I should speak.**

50 And I know that his commandment is life everlasting: **whatsoever I speak therefore, even as the Father said unto me, so I speak.**

Heb. 1:1 God, who at sundry times and in divers manners **spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets,**

2 Hath in these last days **spoken unto us by *his Son*,** whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds;

3 Who being the brightness of *his* glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high;

4 Being made so much better than the angels, as he hath by inheritance obtained a more excellent name than they.