

# OFFICES OF JESUS: PROPHET

**Outline:** (A) Defining Prophet, (B) Prophets in the Old Testament, (C) Jesus, THE Prophet

## **A. Defining Prophet**

### 1. What is a Prophet?

One word in Hebrew is “*nabi*” from “*naba*” meaning, “to announce, call a declarer, announcer.”

A Prophet is *someone divinely inspired by God to proclaim His message to people.*

Greek is “*prophetes*,” meaning, “one who speaks in the place of another,” and specifically, “one who speaks for a god.” “Prophet” came into the English as “one who predicts” or “interprets.”

From the *Holman Illustrated Bible Dictionary*.

- 1) An essential mark of a prophet was a call from God – Jer. 1.
- 2) Prophets received a word from God through many means – Num. 12:5-8; Is. 6.
- 3) Prophets spoke the word of God.
- 4) Prophets relayed God’s message by deed as well as by word – Hos. 2:1-13; Isa. 20:1-3; Ezek. 4:1-3; Jer. 19:10-11.
- 5) The prophets performed miracles that confirmed their message – Ex. 4:1-9, 1 Ki. 17.
- 6) Prophets conveyed the word of God by writing – Is. 8:1, Ezek. 43:11.
- 7) Prophets were to minister to their people and test them – Jer. 6:27; Ezek. 3:17.

### 2. What was a Prophets Message?

*They warned of judgment and spoke of blessings.*

There were 2 main aspects:

- 1) *Proclamation*: Moral or doctrinal exposition of the Law.
- 2) *Prediction*: Take events of his day, speak about them and refer to events in the future, called near/far prophesies or a pattern fulfillment.

### 3. How do you Know if a Prophet is from God?

2 ways in the Old Testament that God gave to Israel to discern if God had sent a prophet or not.

- 1) *Deut. 13:1-4.*
- 2) *Deut. 18:15-18, 21-22.*

## **B. Prophets in the Old Testament**

1. One Who Spoke Authoritatively for God – Moses and Aaron – *Exodus 4:10-16*  
*Exodus 4:10-16, 7:1.*

2. Called and Anointed by God – *Jeremiah 1:5, Luke 1:13-16*  
The Prophets were anointed, as a picture of the Holy Spirit filling them for service. *1 Kings 19:14-16.*

3. Writing Prophets – Isaiah – *Malachi*  
Amos was a sheep breeder (*Amos 7:14*). Elisha was a farmer (*1 Kings 19:19*). Ezekiel was a priest (*Ezek. 1:3*).

4. Hated – *Isaiah – Malachi, Hebrews 11:32-40*  
Their messages were largely rejected or ignored. Some prophets were killed for the message they proclaimed.

5. John the Baptist – *Matthew 3:1-12, 11:11-13*  
*Matthew 3:1-12.* Jesus said John the Baptist was a Prophet: *Matthew 11:11-13.*

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## C. Jesus, THE Prophet

### 1. John 14:6 – The Truth

John 14:6 could say Jesus is the way, the true way and the living way.

### 2. Jesus was Like Moses – Various Texts

From *MacArthur Study Bible*, p. 276 notes *Deut. 18:15-19*:

- 1) Both preached divine revelation and led/lead their people: *Gen.-Deut., John 1:21, 25, 43-45, 6:14, 7:40.*
- 2) Both spared death as a baby: *Ex. 2, Mat. 2:13-23.*
- 3) Both renounced a royal court: *Phil. 2:5-8, Heb. 11:24-27.*
- 4) Both had compassion on their people: *Num. 27:17, Mat. 9:36.*
- 5) Both made intercession for people: *Deut. 9:18, Heb. 7:25.*
- 6) Both spoke to God face to face (direct communication): *Ex. 34:29-30, John 1:1-2.*
- 7) Both were mediators of a covenant: *Deut. 29:1, Heb. 8:6-7.*

### 3. Jesus Spoke with the Father's Authority – John 5:26-27, 6:14, 7:40-41, 10:25, 12:49-50, 14:9, Hebrews 1:1-4

*John 12:49-50.* Jesus claimed to speak with the authority of God, as the Prophets had before Him.

Others said He spoke with authority: *Mat. 7:28-29.*

Religious leaders questioned His authority: *Mat. 21:23-27.*

Others said He was a Prophet: *Luke 7:16.*

### 4. Sent by God – Matthew 15:24, Mark 12:1-12, Luke 4:16-30, 42-44, John 3:17, 5:24-30, 12:49-50, 17:6-19, Galatians 4:4-7, Hebrews 3:1-2

An Apostle was one *who was sent with the authority of the one who sent him.* Christ was sent by the Father with the Father's authority. Just as the Father sent Jesus into the world, Jesus sent His disciples (the Apostles) into the world (*John 17:18, 20:21*). *2 Corinthians 3:4-6.*

### 5. Jesus' Message: Hope and Judgment, Warned of False Prophets, the Future – Matthew – John, Revelation

All throughout the Gospels and the rest of Scripture, the message of Jesus is hope and judgment. *John 3:16-19.*

*Jesus warned of false prophets: Mat. 7:15-20.*

*The future:*

- 1) Destruction of Herod's Temple in 70 AD: *Mat. 24:1-2.*
- 2) His death and resurrection: *Mat. 26:30-32, Mark 10:32-34, Luke 9:21-22, John 12:2-8.*
- 3) Predicted Peter's denial: *Mat. 26:33-35, Mark 14:26-31.*
- 4) Jesus spoke of near/far prophesies in the same context: *Mat. 24 and Luke 21.*

### 6. Jesus' Rejection – Matthew – John, Revelation – Matthew 26:55-27:25

Forsaken by Disciples and rejected by the Jews: *Mat. 26:55-27:2, 15-26.*

Jesus was rejected as THE Prophet: *Mat. 23:37-39* as God said in *Deut. 18:15-19* – God required it of the Jews.