

PROPHET, PRIEST, & KING

Part 2



Feb. 19, 2017

“Israel: A Corporate Prophet, Priest, & King”

Introduction

- In Genesis 3, mankind failed to obey God in their prophetic, priestly, and kingly roles. Though removed from Eden, humanity was still responsible to worship God in these ways.
- Throughout Genesis various individuals are described as relating to God in these categories.

Noah:

Melchizedek:

The Patriarchs:

Israel and the Threefold Office

The Creation of God's People—

Exodus 1:7—But the people of Israel were fruitful and increased greatly; they multiplied and grew exceedingly strong, so that the land was filled with them.

- Israel, as a people, were obedient to the commands of God given throughout Genesis (Gen. 1:28, 9:1, 17:6, 35:11) and were blessed according to His promises.
- God, by His power and according to His mercy and grace, delivered Israel from Egypt and led them to Mt. Sinai where they would be confirmed as His people.

Exodus 19:4-6— 4 ‘You yourselves have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how I bore you on eagles' wings and brought you to myself. 5 Now therefore, if you will indeed obey my voice and keep my covenant, you shall be my treasured possession among all peoples, for all the earth is mine; 6 and you shall be to me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.’ These are the words that you shall speak to the people of Israel.”

“...a kingdom of priests...”

1. Israel will be the recipients of _____.

2. Israel will be the people among whom God _____.

3. Israel is to be a community that reflects God's _____.

Question for Reflection: How often do we reflect of the _____ of the community of believers of which we are a part?

1. Israel was to be a Prophetic community: Deut. 6:4-8

4 “Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. 5 You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. 6 And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. 7 You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise. 8 You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes.

Question for Reflection: How _____ do I take the prophetic role that God has given to me in my family, church, and other relationships?

2. Israel was to be a Priestly community: Deut. 4:5-8

5 See, I have taught you statutes and rules, as the Lord my God commanded me, that you should do them in the land that you are entering to take possession of it. 6 Keep them and do them, for that will be your wisdom and your understanding in the sight of the peoples, who, when they hear all these statutes, will say, ‘Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people.’ 7 For what great nation is there that has a god so near to it as the Lord our God is to us, whenever we call upon him? 8 And what great nation is there, that has statutes and rules so righteous as all this law that I set before you today?

Question for Reflection: What is my _____ among others? What is _____ testimony to the outside world?

3. Israel was to be a Kingly community: Deut. 12:29-30, 16:18-20

29 “When the Lord your God cuts off before you the nations whom you go in to dispossess, and you dispossess them and dwell in their land, 30 take care that you be not ensnared to follow them, after they have been destroyed before you, and that you do not inquire about their gods, saying, ‘How did these nations serve their gods?’—that I also may do the same.’

18 “You shall appoint judges and officers in all your towns that the Lord your God is giving you, according to your tribes, and they shall judge the people with righteous judgment. 19 You shall not pervert justice. You shall not show partiality, and you shall not accept a bribe, for a bribe blinds the eyes of the wise and subverts the cause of the righteous. 20 Justice, and only justice, you shall follow, that you may live and inherit the land that the Lord your God is giving you.

Question for Reflection: Does our community reflect the _____ of Christ?

As it was with Adam and Eve, failure to faithfully worship God in these ways led to exile. To this exiled people, the prophet Isaiah spoke of One who would come to them who would represent them as a people and who would accomplish in faithfulness what they themselves had failed to do.

Israel as the ‘Servant’ of the Lord—Isaiah 41:8-10

8 But you, Israel, my servant, Jacob, whom I have chosen, the offspring of Abraham, my friend; 9 you whom I took from the ends of the earth, and called from its farthest corners, saying to you, “You are my servant, I have chosen you and not cast you off”; 10 fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

The ‘Servant’ of the Lord as Israel—Isaiah 49:1-3

1 Listen to me, O coastlands, and give attention, you peoples from afar. The Lord called me from the womb, from the body of my mother he named my name. 2 He made my mouth like a sharp sword; in the shadow of his hand he hid me; he made me a polished arrow; in his quiver he hid me away. 3 And he said to me, “You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will be glorified.”

The Mission of the ‘Servant’—Isaiah 49:5-6

5 And now the Lord says, he who formed me from the womb to be his servant, to bring Jacob back to him; and that Israel might be gathered to him— for I am honored in the eyes of the Lord, and my God has become my strength—6 he says: “It is too light a thing that you should be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to bring back the preserved of Israel; I will make you as a light for the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth.”

Our salvation in Christ is the basis for our community!

We are those who have received the Word of the Lord (Heb. 1:1-3)

We are those among whom the presence of God dwells (1 Cor. 3:16)

We are those who are to honor Him as Lord and to live our lives accordingly (1 Pet. 3:8-15)