

# PROPHET, PRIEST, & KING

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Part 5



Mar. 12, 2017

## “The Old Testament Office of King”

### Review

- The pattern of the Threefold Office is found in Genesis 1-2 as well as in God’s design for the nation of Israel as a whole (Ex. 19:5-6). Within the nation, however, the office was divided so that individuals served in the roles of prophet, priest, and king.
- The Old Testament prophet represented God to the people, proclaiming the Word of the Lord to them so that they could respond accordingly. The office of priest was instituted in part so that God could dwell among his people (Ex. 29:42-46). The Day of Atonement stood at the center of the OT Law, demonstrating the significance of the work of the High Priest on behalf of the people.

### The Origin and Purpose of Kingship in Israel

- The office of king, though described in Deuteronomy, was not formally established until the time of Samuel

### Why?

God had demonstrated to Israel that He was their \_\_\_\_\_!

1. Through the \_\_\_\_\_, God demonstrated that He was their Deliverer who could defeat their enemies while also protecting and providing for them.
2. Through the giving of \_\_\_\_\_, God demonstrated that He could bring order to their lives, promoting justice and righteousness while also setting them free to worship.

Illustration: The Ten Commandments — Ex. 20:1-17

Ex. 20:2—2 “I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.”

⇒ Commandments I-IV regulate man’s relationship with God.

⇒ Commandments V-X regulate man’s relationship with his fellow man.

### Israel’s Rejection of God as King — 1 Samuel 8:4-22

**The People’s Request:** “5...appoint for us a king to judge us like all the nations.”

**The Lord’s Response:** “7 And the Lord said to Samuel, “Obey the voice of the people in all that they say to you, for they have not rejected you, but they have rejected me from being king over them. 8 According to all the deeds that they have done, from the day I brought them up out of Egypt even to this day, forsaking me and serving other gods, so they are also doing to you.”

- Samuel then warned the people about the practical problems that they were creating for themselves by having a king.

**Their Response:** 19 But the people refused to obey the voice of Samuel. And they said, “No! But there shall be a king over us, 20 that we also may be like all the nations, and that our king may judge us and go out before us and fight our battles.”

Notice what they desire: 1. A king to “judge us.” (To bring order and justice to society)

2. A king to “go out before us” and “fight our battles.” (To lead them and to defeat their enemies)

### Important Observation:

We are prone to reject the authority of God Almighty in order to embrace lesser authorities who seem more “\_\_\_\_\_” to us in our experience but who will always either fail to meet our expectations or will abuse us.

## God's Authority of Israel's Kings — Deuteronomy 17:14-20

- Although the nation had rejected God as King, He had already demonstrated His authority over the human kings of Israel through His commands regarding them in Deuteronomy 17.
  1. The king had to be from “among” the people and not a foreigner (17:15).
    - ⇒ He had to be a Jew so that he would be an heir to the promises given to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob (Gen. 22:17-18, 26:4-5).
  2. The king must not lead the people back to Egypt (17:16).
    - ⇒ He must not lead them to place themselves under the authority of another nation so as to become dependent upon them.
  3. The king must not be a man of excess. (17:17)
    - ⇒ He must be faithful in the most significant of relationships: \_\_\_\_\_
    - ⇒ He must not acquire large amounts of gold or many horses.
      - Why? — These things can indulge a mans sinful desires and train him to be \_\_\_\_\_ rather than \_\_\_\_\_.
  4. He is to know and obey God's Word so that he might learn “the fear of the Lord.” (17:18-19).
    - ⇒ This will keep him humble so that he might be a servant-leader of the people (17:20)
    - ⇒ This will bring the blessings of the Lord on his kingdom so that the entire community is blessed (17:20)

Important Observation: The fear of the Lord is \_\_\_\_\_ over time by interacting with God's Word and putting it into practice in our lives.

## The Kings of Israel

- Saul — Met the people's expectations of a king and was a successful military leader. He failed, however, to set an example of proper worship, offering sacrifices that were not in line with the Word of the Lord.
- David — Became the primary example of what kind of man the king of Israel was to be. He was a leader for the people both in terms of defeating their enemies as well as calling them to worship and fear the Lord. Personally, however, he committed serious sin in the eyes of the Lord.
- Solomon — Was a very effective administrator and brought great prosperity to the nation. He failed, however, to know and keep the Word of the Lord, disobeying key commands which God had given in Duet. 17.

## The Hope of “Good Shepherd”

1. He would come from David's family and be characterized by the fear of the Lord.

Isa. 11:1-2—There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit. And the Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.
2. He will lead the people in righteousness and bring about justice.

Isa. 48:16-17— Draw near to me, hear this: from the beginning I have not spoken in secret, from the time it came to be I have been there.” And now the Lord God has sent me, and his Spirit. Thus says the Lord, your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel: “I am the Lord your God, who teaches you to profit, who leads you in the way you should go.”
3. He will deliver His people by defeating their enemies.

Isa. 59:17-18—He put on righteousness as a breastplate, and a helmet of salvation on his head; he put on garments of vengeance for clothing, and wrapped himself in zeal as a cloak. According to their deeds, so will he repay, wrath to his adversaries, repayment to his enemies; to the coastlands he will render repayment.

Victory through defeat?

Hebrews 2:5-18