

1. *This is my beloved Son with whom I am well pleased; listen to Him* (Matthew 17:5).

Unlike the prophets of old who spoke by the Spirit of Christ (1 Peter 1:11), Christ was the only Prophet who had infinite, intimate knowledge of the Father, knowledge to which no human could attain by any means.

No man hath seen God at any time, the only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, he hath declared him (John 1:18).

Although the creation revealed the necessary existence of a Creator - a revelation which mankind perverted - such natural revelation was insufficient to teach mankind the way of salvation. This requires a supernatural, spiritual revelation from God (Romans 1:18-25; 1 Cor. 2:14; Matthew 16:17; Matthew 11:27).

Previous to the appearance of Christ, Israel was chosen as the people to whom God revealed Himself as both Lord and Savior (Psalm 106:48; Isaiah 45:15).

But their revelation of God fell far short of the revelation of God in Jesus Christ, God in the flesh.

Yet that revelation was sufficient to save the Elect who, by grace, believed the prophecies, shadows that they were (John 5:39; Luke 24:31-32).

Moses prophesied the coming Prophet (Deut. 18:18-19), the fulfillment of which was Christ (Acts 3:22-23).

Yet all the prophecies given the Jews of the coming Messiah were insufficient to convince them Jesus was the Christ.

Thus, Jesus Christ's prophetic mediatorial office required more than just the external preaching or reading of the Word.

It required reaching the internal heart and soul of the hearer, through supernatural revelation.

It required opening their blind eyes and deaf ears, while at the same time removing their hearts of stone, replacing them with hearts of flesh.

For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, saith the Lord; I will put my laws into their mind, and write them in their hearts: and I will be to them a God, and they shall be to me a people:

11 And they shall not teach every man his neighbor, and every man his brother, saying, Know the Lord: for all shall know me, from the least to the greatest.

12 For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their iniquities will I remember no more (Hebrews 8:10-12).

And I will give them one heart, and I will put a new spirit within you; and I will take the stony heart out of their flesh, and will give them an heart of flesh:

20 That they may walk in my statutes, and keep mine ordinances, and do them: and they shall be my people, and I will be their God (Ezekiel 11:19-20).

These acts of mercy Jesus performed upon only those given Him by the Father.

For he saith to Moses, I will have mercy on whom I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion (Romans 9:15).

Only Jesus has the power to effectually and truthfully reveal the Father to mankind.

All things are delivered unto me of my Father: and no man knoweth the Son, but the Father; neither knoweth any man the Father, save the Son, and he to whomsoever the Son will reveal him (Matthew 11:27).

This supernatural revelation contains all things necessary for sinners to know and to believe unto salvation; such as the true nature of God, the revealed will of God as to man's duty, the revelation of salvation in Christ alone, by grace alone, through faith alone, as well as the eternal punishment due final unbelief.

This revelation was denied the vast majority of Gentiles during the Old Testament dispensation.

He sheweth his word unto Jacob, his statutes and his judgments unto Israel.

20 He hath not dealt so with any nation: and as for his judgments, they have not known them. Praise ye the Lord (Psalm 147:19-20; cf. Psalm 76:1; Ephesians 2:11-12).

At that time it pleased the Lord, in righteousness judgment, to permit the Gentiles to worship false gods, to their eternal destruction (Acts 14:16).

However, with the advent of Christ came the full revelation of salvation in Christ which would be promulgated by His preachers throughout the world (Mark 16:15).

The Spirit of Christ would exercise supernatural power to enlighten and regenerate even those Gentiles who had no inclination or desire whatsoever to seek after the true God (Romans 10:19-20; John 16:7-11).

Therefore I said unto you, that no man can come unto me, except it were given unto him of my Father (John 6:65).

In our day we take for granted the worldwide promulgation of the Gospel.

But consider the billions throughout history who never heard the Good News.

Christ's prophetic mediatorial office never reached them.

Consider also the fact that many who do hear reject Christ in unbelief.

A Mediator who cannot effectually communicate the eternal truths of salvation is a less than perfect Prophet, as well as a less than perfect Mediator.

But Christ is both a perfect Mediator and Prophet.

CONCLUSION: It was never the intention of God to send His Son as Mediator to all mankind.

Had it been His intention, all would have heard the Gospel.

Furthermore, all would have heard *and* believed the Gospel, for hearing without believing is useless in achieving reconciliation with God.

And remember, reconciliation is the primary objective of a Mediator.

Christ is the efficacious prophetic Mediator to all those the Father has given Him because it is they alone who will hear, believe and follow (John 17:6).

And Christ has the power to effectually bring these rebellious children of disobedience to faith (Matthew 28:18).

My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me.

And other sheep I have, which are not of this fold: them also I must bring, and they shall hear my voice; and there shall be one fold, and one shepherd.

NEXT: Christ's Two-Fold Office of High Priest