

## I. Introduction: The three-fold offices for Israel

- A. King, priest, and prophet
- B. Christ Jesus now embodies all three\*

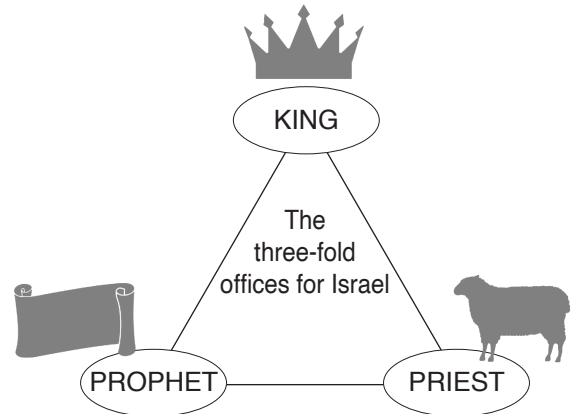
## II. Overview of the prophetic office

- A. Trivia: Who is the first prophet we encounter in the Bible?
- B. The prophetic office
  1. A prophet's main message: *Thus sayeth the Lord...*
  2. A true prophet's word became Revelation as soon as he spoke it (their oracles were subsequently written down)
  3. A true prophet versus a false prophet (Deut. 13:1-5; 18:15-22)
  4. Usually wore simple covering of camel hair affixed by a leather strap/belt (2 Kings 1:8, Matt 3:4)

## III. Overview of the Prophetic message

- A. Aspects of the Prophetic Message
  1. Organic (*prophets were messengers of ONE God*)

God's anointed person to lead God's people by ruling over them in righteousness and defending them against enemies.



God's anointed person to declare to God's people what God is saying to them at any given time.

God's anointed person to teach God's people how to be right with God. This is done by right sacrifices & intercession for atonement.

## Interpreting the Prophetic Word

by Willem A. VanGemeren

The prophetic message is diverse, depending on the individual personality of the prophet, the temporal context, the needs of the people, and the content of the revelation. Each prophet was compelled by the Spirit to bear witness to the plan of God. But each spoke from a unique vantage point and gave a unique perspective on God's plan. Each prophetic book makes a distinct contribution to the colorful mosaic of revelation because of the historical context, the psychology and background of the prophet, the response of the people, and the particular focus of its revelation.

\* Westminster Shorter Catechism, questions 24-26

Q. 24. How doth Christ execute the office of a prophet?

A. Christ executeth the office of a prophet, in revealing to us, by his word and Spirit, the will of God for our salvation.

Q. 25. How doth Christ execute the office of a priest?

A. Christ executeth the office of a priest, in his once offering up of himself a sacrifice to satisfy divine justice, and reconcile us to God; and in making continual intercession for us.

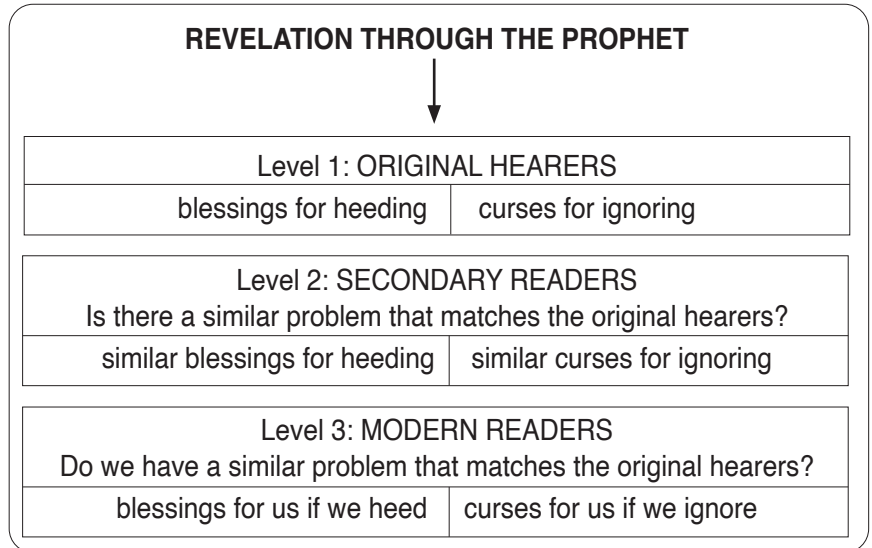
Q. 26. How doth Christ execute the office of a king?

A. Christ executeth the office of a king, in subduing us to himself, in ruling and defending us, and in restraining and conquering all his and our enemies.

2. Theocentric (*messages always pointed to God's perfections, acts, and revelation – and to man's need of God's grace*)
3. Progressive (*messages were like seeds that grew and developed through time*)

B. Levels of the Prophetic Message

1. Original hearers
2. Secondary readers (looking back in the bible or in history)
3. Modern readers



C. The Day of the Lord

1. What this “Day” is
2. Now and not yet understanding
3. Final and ultimate Day of the Lord

IV. Apocryphal literature

A. In general

B. Covenant versus Dispensational theology