

Biblical Topics

Son – Office of Christ

Christ was anointed to be my Prophet, Priest, and King.

As my *Prophet*, He revealed Himself by word and deed. The preaching of the Gospel still reveals Him as the Son of God and the Redeemer of the world. A prophet is one who makes unknown things known, particularly, one who makes known to man the word and will of God; he is, therefore, God's spokesman, representative, and ambassador.

- Deuteronomy 18:15: The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own brothers. You must listen to him.
- Matthew 17:5: While he was still speaking, a bright cloud enveloped them, and a voice from the cloud said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased. Listen to him!"
- John 1:17-18: ¹⁷ For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. ¹⁸ No one has ever seen God, but God the One and Only, who is at the Father's side, has made him known.
- Luke 10:16: He who listens to you listens to me; he who rejects you rejects me; but he who rejects me rejects him who sent me.

As my *Priest*, Christ fulfilled the Law in my stead perfectly (active obedience), sacrificed Himself for me (passive obedience), and still intercedes (pleads) for me with His heavenly Father.

A priest is one who by means of sacrifices and intercession in behalf of man seeks to reconcile him with God. He represents man before God. Christ is our real and only High Priest, of whom all priests of the OT were but shadows. Note the difference between Him and them: (1) They were men only; He is God, (2) They were sinners; He is holy, (3) They sacrificed for their own sins; He had no sin, (4) They had to offer sacrifices daily; He offered one sacrifice, (5) They offered the blood of bulls and goats which cannot take away sin; He offered up Himself once for all. Christ was not only the Priest, He was also the Sacrifice. This sacrifice was acceptable to God, and was a perfect atonement for the sins of the world.

- Galatians 4:4-5: ⁴ But when the time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under law, ⁵ to redeem those under law, that we might receive the full rights of sons.
- 1 Corinthians 15:3: For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures.
- Hebrews 7:26-27: ²⁶ Such a high priest meets our need—one who is holy, blameless, pure, set apart from sinners, exalted above the heavens. ²⁷ Unlike the other high priests, he does not need to offer sacrifices day after day, first for his own sins, and then for the sins of the people. He sacrificed for their sins once for all when he offered himself.

- John 2:1-2 On the third day a wedding took place at Cana in Galilee. Jesus' mother was there,² and Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding.

As my *King* Christ with His almighty power rules over all creatures, governs and protects His Church, and finally leads it to glory. A king is one who has power and authority to rule a country. Jesus is not an earthly king like Herod or any present day ruler. He is a much greater King. He has power in heaven and in earth. This kingdom He rules with sovereign, omnipotent power; hence it is called the kingdom of power. All true Christians are citizens of this kingdom whom He rules with love and grace. Hence this is called the kingdom of grace, which will last to the end of days. Christ rules the kingdom of power in the interest and for the benefit of the kingdom of grace. The kingdom of grace He rules so as to prepare us for the kingdom of glory.

- Matthew 28:18: Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.
- John 18:36-37:³⁶ Jesus said, "My kingdom is not of this world. If it were, my servants would fight to prevent my arrest by the Jews. But now my kingdom is from another place."³⁷ "You are a king, then!" said Pilate. Jesus answered, "You are right in saying I am a king. In fact, for this reason I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone on the side of truth listens to me."
- 2 Timothy 4:18: The Lord will rescue me from every evil attack and will bring me safely to his heavenly kingdom. To him be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

The above information is taken from: "Luther's Small Catechism" annotated by Edward W. A. Koehler.