

**“Jesus: The Ultimate Prophet”**  
**John 7:37-44 November 27, 2011**  
**Series “Advent: Offices of Christ”**

**John 7:37-44**

<sup>37</sup> On the last day of the festival, the great day, while Jesus was standing there, he cried out, “Let anyone who is thirsty come to me, <sup>38</sup> and let the one who believes in me drink. As the scripture has said, ‘Out of the believer’s heart shall flow rivers of living water.’ ” <sup>39</sup> Now he said this about the Spirit, which believers in him were to receive; for as yet there was no Spirit, because Jesus was not yet glorified.

<sup>40</sup> When they heard these words, some in the crowd said, “This is really the prophet.” <sup>41</sup> Others said, “This is the Messiah.” But some asked, “Surely the Messiah does not come from Galilee, does he? <sup>42</sup> Has not the scripture said that the Messiah is descended from David and comes from Bethlehem, the village where David lived?” <sup>43</sup> So there was a division in the crowd because of him. <sup>44</sup> Some of them wanted to arrest him, but no one laid hands on him.

**1. The role of the prophet – Calling people back to God. (Jeremiah 2:11-13)**

**2. How did Jesus fulfill the role of prophet (and more)?**

**3. Letting Jesus continue to be our prophet.**

**“Jesus: The Ultimate Prophet”**  
**John 7:37-44 Series “Advent: Offices of Christ”**  
**Sermon Reflection Questions November 27, 2011**

In the Old Testament we see several different offices being fulfilled by God’s people. These are the offices of prophet, priest, and king. We will spend the first three weeks of this Advent season looking at how Jesus fulfills these offices, and in the final week we will look at how we as God’s people can continue to fulfill these offices in the world. The first office is the office of prophet. A prophet is someone who calls people back to God, it is someone who calls people who have gone astray or missed the point of true faith. Today we will look at the way Jesus played that role and continues to play that role.

1. In the Presbyterian tradition we have at best de-emphasized the role of the prophet for a couple of reasons. We have often seen a lack of understanding in the role of the prophet as well as the abuse of those who have called themselves prophets in other traditions. Have you had any experience positive or negative with those who call themselves prophets?
  
2. I have said that one way to define a prophet is that they are the people who “call other people back to God and His intentions in the world.” Read the following passages and describe how the role of these prophets fulfilled the role of calling people back to God. (Jeremiah 2:11-13, Isaiah 58:1-9)
  
3. Read Deuteronomy 18:15-18. How did Moses predict the coming of Jesus as a role of a prophet? How is Jesus identified as this prophet (John 6:14, Acts 3:22-24)?
  
4. How do you see Jesus in His earthly life doing the same types of things that the prophets did in the Old Testament? What stories can you point to that show Jesus taking this role? (Don’t worry if you can’t quote the story chapter and verse.)
  
5. While Jesus is identified as the prophet from Deuteronomy 18:15-18, it is clear in the New Testament that Jesus is different than and more than a prophet. How do you see this in the following passages, Hebrews 1:1-2, Luke 24:27? Why is it important to see Jesus as a prophet but also differentiate Him from other prophets? (Look also at how people confused Jesus in Matthew 16:14, John 4:19, John 9:17, 37.)
  
6. The last point in the message was how Jesus continues to fulfill the role of prophet in our lives. How is He calling you to become closer to God as well as to live the ways God is calling you to live?