

It must be revealed directly to us in some other way. So God sent the prophets to tell us his message. That is the first purpose of the prophet: he is the spokesman for God. He is the one who brings us God's message. There are a number of occasions on which Jesus was referred to as a prophet. At the Triumphal entry people asked, Who is this? Who is coming? They said, It is the prophet of Galilee. He never repelled that statement or denied it in any way. He said he was indeed the prophet who was predicted.

In Acts, in fact in the very first speech made by --- not the first speech. It is in Acts 3 you read of Peter's second great message. He said, Jesus Christ must remain in heaven till the time comes for God to restore everything as he promised long ago thru his holy prophets. Verse 22, Moses said, The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own people. You must listen to everything he tells you." So in that second message he told them that Jesus was the one that Moses had predicted. He was the prophet. He was the one who spoke for God.

Now our tendency is to think particularly about Jesus Christ as the Saviour. Of course that is of tremendous importance. I would say that for each of us, his Saviourhood is of more importance than his position as prophet. But I believe it is tremendously important that we do not neglect his work as prophet. Robinson the great pastor of the Pilgrim Fathers when the first contingent of them came over to this country, the majority had not chosen to go with the first group that came, he gave his farewell talk and he said, I believe that God has more truth yet to break forth from his word.

I believe that is true today. God gave us his Word, his message that answers problems and situations as they change and holy men of past centuries have studied the Word and have told us what they think it means and given us much that is of value but not half the value that it is to read the Word of God and see what God has given and I believe that comparing Scripture with Scripture we get God's message, we get God's teaching, we get much that is of tremendous importance as we meet new problems and ~~new~~ new situations. Jesus Christ was the prophet who in his ministry of 3 and a half years=== we're apt to think of those 3 and a half years as a time of showing the beauty of his character, as proving that he was the perfect Lamb of God, who was worthy to die in our stead. That is a tremendous truth and very very important.

But in the course of that time Jesus gave wonderful messages. The people marvelled that he did not speak as the scribes and the ~~pharisees~~ but he spoke with authority. Even outsiders said, Never man spoke like this one. We have in the Gospels a great amount of teaching that the Lord Jesus gave. Of course he taught also thru the Apostles. He said to them in John, I have many things to teach you which you can't bear now. In other words, You can't understand