Week 5 of Challenge #5 Week of Oct. 11 - 15 Chapter 21



Priest, Prophet

Immediately when I think about Jesus, our Priest, my mind goes to a song. Imagine that! Me and a song! Songs have been anchors in my life. If you have prayed long enough with us on the network you will know that songs resonate with my heart and bring to mind many thoughts of Jesus. Today as I consider the song *Holy of Holies* by Karen Wheaton. This song embodies my praise to Jesus, as the **Great High Priest!**

Read these words and consider what Jesus did for us in His fulfillment as Great High Priest

In the Holy of Holies Behind the heavy veil
Sat the ark of the covenant Where the Most High dwelt
And only the High Priest Could enter therein
To offer up a sacrifice For atonement of sin
But the veil was rent in an instant
Revealing that holy place
On a hill nearby on a rugged cross Justice met Grace

Now I can go into the Holy of Holies
I can kneel and make my petitions known
I can go into the Holy of Holies
And although I'm just a common man
Because of God's redemption plan
I can boldly approach the throne

The blood of sacrifices is no more required
For the blood of Christ, the spotless Lamb Completely paid the price
In the sacrifice of worship, we'll open heaven's doors
Allowing us to enter in the presence of the Lord.

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So, Jesus as **Great High Priest** means everything to me. Because of Jesus fulfillment, <u>I</u>can approach God individually and personally in prayer and worship, no matter how I'm feeling or what I need but in every detail of my life. I can tell Jesus anything and there is no sin he won't forgive. Under the old covenant, the high priest entered the Holy of Holies and sprinkled animal blood on the Mercy Seat to atone for the

people's sin. With Jesus I don't have to schedule a time to go to the temple to speak to a priest who would mediate my sin rather <u>L</u>can go straight to the Father through Jesus our Great High Priest. A writer named Marissa Henley summarized it this way: The Old Covenant dealt with guilt by human priests offering animal sacrifices repeatedly in a man-made tent for purification of the flesh. The New Covenant deals with guilt by our **High Priest**, Jesus, offering his own blood once for all in the true, holy place of heaven to purify our consciences. That is cause for shouting, "Hallelujah!"

When we think of the word **Prophet** we tend to think of someone making predictions about the future. But that is not the main focus of their ministry. **Prophets of God** are really just His ambassadors. Their job is to explain God's covenants and encourage his people to be faithful to the Him. I heard it explained this way: God's covenant ambassador proclaims and applies God's word, especially to warn of judgment against sin, and to encourage the kind of loyal service to God that leads to his blessings. Throughout history there were hundreds of **Prophets** of the Lord. They foreshadowed all the ways Jesus fulfilled His kingdom office but without equality, power or authority. Jesus came to earth to fulfill the role of **Prophet** and as Ann Spangler says in her book, He is both Messenger and the Message, communicating God's plan and God's heart!

Old Testament **prophets** served as messengers bringing God's word to the people of Israel and various other nations, and exhorted them to be faithful to God as their king. BUT, Jesus was specifically called by God to be His **prophet**. There are many examples in scripture that identify Jesus as **prophet**: His transfiguration, His baptism, His birth. In Matthew 17:2-5, God himself demonstrated that Jesus was the foremost **prophet** of all time when He commanded Peter and the other disciples to listen not to any other **prophet** but simply to Jesus, our great **Prophet**. Jesus' prophetic ministry began before His earthly ministry, it also continued after he ascended into heaven, because Jesus also sent his Spirit to inspire the apostles and the other writers of the New Testament in their work. To receive Christ as our **prophet** is to receive all His words to us as revelations of God's kingdom and covenant. We honor Christ's prophetic work when we obey His words, encourage and practice repentance in our daily lives and remain faithful to Him. Wow!! That's another Hallelujah! (http://thirdmill.org)

Additional daily reflections as we consider JESUS, our Priest, Prophet:

Monday: Read Hebrews 4:14-16. In this scripture we see how we can approach God! Tell Him everything that is on your mind and on your heart and then allow His grace and peace to cover you in peace. Jesus our **High Priest** sits at the right hand of the Father ever making intercession on your behalf.

Tuesday: Read Hebrews 1:1-3. What does this passage say God's Son is? Back in the days of the Old Testament, the people could not come close to God's glory, lest they die. Now He is approachable. He is the direct image of God. Not only is God's glory approachable, His glory lives inside of us. What praise does that produce within you? Praise Him!

Wednesday: Read Hebrews 9:11-14 again. Under the old covenant, atonement of sin was eternal and temporary. Under the new covenant, Christ's blood makes us permanently clean from the inside out. We live free today because we've been redeemed and washed clean by His sacrifice. When guilt and shame make you feel unclean, how does the truth of Christ's cleansing power set you free? Another shout of praise! Praise Him again and again!

Thursday: Read John 14:1-6. A passage rich in promises. We look forward to eternal life because Jesus has promised it to all who believe and put their trust in Him. How can one know the way to God? Thank God for a sure and certain way that He has provided for us to get to Him.

Friday: Romans 8:31-34. Praise God for giving us His Son and not holding back the gift of salvation. Since God gave His life for you, He is for you-confidence and comfort and everything else you need is already yours. Hallelujah!

EE Prayer Network Weekly Prayer Requests October 11, 2021



 ${\cal A}$ ffirmation: Agreeing with God's will and submitting to it.

JESUS, our Priest, Prophet: Prayer of Affirmation

JESUS, **Priest** and **Prophet**, during the days You lived on earth, You, offered up prayers and petitions with loud cries and tears to the One who could save You from death, and You were heard because of Your reverent submission. Although You were a Son, You, learned obedience by the things You suffered; and being perfected, You, became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey You, being designated by God as a **High Priest** according to the order of Melchizedek. (Hebrews 5:7-10)

When You, O Christ, came as **High Priest** of the good things that have come, You, went through a greater and more perfect tabernacle---one not made with hands, that is to say, not a part of this creation. You did not enter through the blood of goats and calves; but through Your own blood, You, entered the Most Holy Place once for all, having obtained eternal redemption. (Hebrews 9:11-12). Worship Him as **High Priest**, our perfect mediator, securing our salvation and reconciling us to God. Praise Him for atoning for our sin by His own blood. Adore Him for as our authentic **prophet** and **priest**.

Pause to reflect on these Biblical affirmations and adore Him as our great **Priest** and **Prophet**.

Confession: If we confess He is faithful to forgive.

JESUS, our Priest, Prophet: Prayer of Confession

Jesus, our Priest and Prophet, You, are good and upright and You instruct sinners in Your ways. You guide the humble in what is right and teach the humble Your way (Psalm 25:8-9). Jesus, teach me Your ways and guide me in all righteousness. I confess that my life doesn't always reveal Your character. Teach me to hate the sin that separates me from You. Lord, help me to grow in gratitude for Your forgiveness toward me. When I sin, make me mindful, Jesus, that Your perfect and ultimate sacrifice

paid for that sin on the cross of Calvary. Unclutter my life Lord from the too much mentality that keeps me from seeing like You see. I'm guilty of consuming too much, expecting too much, doing too much, having too much which becomes distractions from You and Your ways. Guide us back to You when we go astray. Forgive our tendencies to want to hide, cover up, deny or minimize our sin. Lord, we compare ourselves to others, blame others and do good works to try and make up for our wrong. It is only through confessed sins and repentance that we receive your forgiveness. Jesus, forgive our sins.

Ask the Spirit to search your heart and reveal any areas of unconfessed sin. Acknowledge these to the Lord and thank Him for His forgiveness.

Thanksgiving- Our mouths will speak in praise of the Lord!

JESUS, our Priest, Prophet: Prayer of Thanksgiving

Jesus, **Priest** and **Prophet**, I love You! I'm so grateful that through Your sacrifice I can approach the throne of grace with confidence, receiving mercy and finding grace to help in time of need. I praise You that I've been ransomed from my sinful ways and cleansed from my sin by Your own atoning blood. I've been redeemed and forgiven through Your blood because of God's grace. Thank you for your once and for all sacrifice and your finished work accomplished for All. Because of Your grace which You lavished on me with all wisdom and understanding, I have redemption through Your blood, the forgiveness of sins. Praises to You and You alone, Jesus!

Praise God For:

- o the **SYFW** at Minnesota Alliance Church in Minneapolis Minnesota where Tuyen T Nguyen taught 40 people. On OJT, 4 people heard the Gospel and 2 made professions of faith. The attendees are eager to go out on their own during the 4-week workshop.
- the SYFW at Providence Baptist Church in Rockford AL taught by Paul Golden. Seventeen people attended the training. On OJT, 6 people heard the Gospel and 2 made professions of faith!
- year to date numbers: 104 Training events, 2,258 participants, 832 heard the Gospel, 214 professions of faith, 417 churches and 308 new churches! PTL!
- the 5000+ people who made Decisions for Christ during Franklin Graham's Route 66
 'God Loves You' Tour".

 ${f S}$ upplication- The Lord is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth.

JESUS, our Priest, Prophet: Prayer of Supplications

Jesus, our **Priest** and **Prophet**, You, are the One who said, "Let light shine out of darkness;" and You made Your light shine in my heart to give me the light of the knowledge of Your glory in the face of Christ. But I have this treasure in an earthen vessel to show that this all-surpassing power is from You and not from me. (2 Corinthians 4:6-7).

Your grace is sufficient for me, for Your power is made perfect in weakness. Therefore, I will boast all the more gladly in my weaknesses, that the power of Christ may rest upon me. Therefore, I can be content in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions and in difficulties to Christ's sake. For when I am weak, then I am strong. (2 Corinthians 12:9-10)

Ask God For:

- all of the plans and preparations for Congress Of Nations in 2022.
- His favor on the Equip America on Oct 23rd in Austin TX, Jacksonville FL, Memphis TN and Blairsville GA. Pray all four cities in this EA Event will be open to the Gospel message. Pray for the four churches involved to be free from Covid and that each site will be blessed with Your presence.
- many on-site prayer warriors to cover each Equip America training.
- Haiti to heal from an earthquake and tropical storm this year. Pray for Bazner Dor who has a plan to continue to take the Gospel to the people of Haiti. He is preparing 31 brave, committed men and women who will travel to the affected areas to train pastors and share the Gospel.
- for the 30K Vietnamese around the Twin Cities Minneapolis/St. Paul to soon know Christ through the 40 EE SYFW attendees who were trained at the SYFW at Minnesota Alliance Church.
- we need you God! May You find us faithful to pray and act to realign our nation under Your values and protection.
- that more Christians will learn and understand what the Bible says about race so that we can bring a message of hope, not confusion, to our culture.
- help us to turn our hearts fully to You. Help us to remove any idols from our hearts. And help us not to fall prey to those who want to limit our God-given freedoms and turn our focus away from You.

(Share Your Faith Workshop, Everyday Evangelism, Hope For Kids, Mentoring for Multiplication)

SYFW	10/16/21	Friendly Hills Church	Jamestown NC
SYFW	10/16/21	Restored Community Church	Eagle ID
SYFW	10/20- 11/3/2021	Faith Community Church	Dublin OH
SYFW	11/4-7/21		Arleta CA
SYFW	11/13/21		Dunn-Loring VA
SYFW	11/13/21	First Baptist Church	South Otselic NY
SYFW	11/13/21	First Baptist Church	Rogers AR
SYFW	11/13/21	New Life Church	Taylorsville NC
EV2 Launch	10/15-16/21	Rio Life Community Church	Mercedes TX
EV2 Launch	10/28-29/21	First Baptist Church	Rogers AR
EV2 Launch	11/11-12/21	Zion Baptist Church	Brownsville TN
HFK	10/8-9/2021	Destination Church	Fletcher NC
XEE	10/14-16/21	CC Palabra de Vida	Raleigh NC