

THE REVELATION OF JESUS CHRIST

Chapter 1 – Jesus Christ’s Pattern as Prophet, Priest, & King – Addendum 11

FOLLOWING AFTER CHRIST AS PROPHETS, PRIESTS, AND KINGS – REVELATION 1:5-6

We began our study of Revelation by working through church history which ends in chapter 3 with the failure of this Laodicean church age. We then observed the upcoming rapture of the church at the beginning of chapter 4 leading into the incredible and yet terrifying Judgment Seat of Christ. We learned at this judgment that every believer will give a personal account as a steward and minister of God. We saw how all our works done after salvation will be tried by fire as either done in/for the flesh (*wood, hay, stubble*) OR having been built upon the foundation of Jesus Christ (*gold, silver, precious stones*); though we ourselves shall be *saved yet so as by fire*. The outcome of this purification process will determine our crowns, rewards, and inheritance. What we do on earth _____ in heaven - Mt. 28:18-20; I Cor. 3:10-15; 4:1; 10:31; II Cor. 5:10-11; Eph. 5:17; Col. 3:22-25; Heb. 11:6.

However, there is a promise given by God to church age saints that is often overlooked which applies to us both now and in the future, and it too revolves around our obedience here on earth. God tells us three times in the book of Revelation that we ____ and will be *kings and priests* like Jesus Christ - Rev. 1:6; 5:10; 20:6. That is a great blessing, yet an even greater responsibility that we can easily gloss over. But if we are to *bare record* of these promises by encouraging others to *read, hear* and *keep* the prophecies found within this book, then we must also focus on these two very important roles, while adding one more by default..._____ - Rev. 1:1-6!

1. **PROPHET: Proclaims the word of God** - *And from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness...*

a. Jesus Christ was the perfect *prophet* - Dt. 18:15-22; Mt. 21:11; Lk. 24:19; Acts 3:18-26; 7:37

- He was the _____ *begotten of the dead* (resurrected never to die again) - Acts 26:23; Rm. 8:29; I Cor. 15:20-23; Col. 1:18
- Believers are *begotten of the dead* SPIRITUALLY (born again and eternally secure) - Jn. 3:3-8; Rm. 8:35-39; Eph. 2:1-9; I Pet. 1:23-25; I Jn. 5:13
- Believers will be *begotten of the dead* PHYSICALLY (glorified bodies at the rapture) - Jn. 11:25-26; Rm. 8:23; I Cor. 15:12-19, 51-58; Eph. 1:14; Phil. 3:20-21; I Thess. 4:13-18
- QUESTION: Is the resurrection power of Jesus Christ evident in your life - Rm. 8:9-17; I Cor. 15:34; Eph. 2:10; 5:14-21; Phil. 3:7-15; Col. 4:5-6

b. Believers are *prophets* NOW - Jer. 20:9; Acts 4:20; 20:21; Rm. 10:9-17; Col. 1:28; II Tim. 3:1-7; 4:15

- Prophet: a person illuminated, inspired, or instructed by God to proclaim future events

- John (type of the church) and believers (as the church) proclaim future events - Rev. 1:2-3; 22:6-21
- Prophesying the *Day of the Lord* as _____ setters NOT date setters - Num. 11:29; S.O.S. 2:8-13; Dn. 9:24-27; Mt. 16:3; 24:3-8; Mk. 13:32-37; Lk. 12:37-40; I Thess. 4:13; 5:1-10
- Some requirements of a biblical prophet: called by God; message comes from the word of God; speaks in the name of the Lord; moved by the Spirit to glorify God and Jesus Christ; prophecies must come to pass; preaches against sin and of coming judgment; warns, convicts, and instructs hearers; life bears good fruit; does not worry about popularity, etc. - Jeremiah chapter 1
- QUESTION: Are you a *faithful witness* whose life *prophesies* of a coming kingdom - Mt. 10:32; Jn. 7:16-18; 17:13-20; II Cor. 3:2-6; I Pet. 4:11; II Pet. 3:9-14; I Jn. 2:15-17

c. Believers will be *prophets* in the FUTURE - Is. 2:2-4; Mt. 5-7; Rev. 20:3-6

- Just as we preach to the lost to repent and trust Christ before he returns - Rapture - Rev. 4
- We will preach to the nations of a final judgment yet to come - Great White Throne - Rev. 20

2. **PRIEST: Worship/Sacrifice/Offering** - *Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood*

a. Jesus Christ is the Great High Priest - Heb. 3:1; 4:14; 5:5-10; 6:19-20; 7:19-28; 8:1-6; 10:1-14

- Who literally became the final sacrifice for sin by offering himself - Jn. 1:29; Rev. 5:5-14; 13:8
- Becoming our last priest/mediator - Rm. 8:34; Eph. 2:18; I Tim. 2:4-6; Heb. 4:14-16; 7:25; 10:19-25
- Our perfect example of the servant-leader-priest - Is. 42:1-4; 52:13-53:12; Jn. 13:4-17; Phil. 2:5-11

b. Believers are *priests unto God and his Father* NOW - I Pet. 2:5, 9; Rev. 1:6; 5:10

- A *priest* is a minister (servant-leader) to the Lord first and then to others - Mk. 10:43-45; Lk. 22:26-27; I Cor. 7:22; 16:15-16; II Cor. 5:18-19; 6:3-10; 11:21-33; Phil. 2:3-5; Heb. 6:9-10
- Making intercessory _____ for others - Job 42:10; I Sam. 12:23; Lk. 11:1; Eph. 6:18; Phil. 1:3-5; Col. 1:9; 4:2, 12; I Tim. 2:1; Jm. 5:16
- Some requirements of a biblical priest: must be a child of the high priest; called to be holy, faithful, blameless, self-disciplined; servant-leader; humble; offers sacrifices; abstains from alcohol; heart for worship; devoted to the word of God and prayer; labors in word and doctrine; evangelizes; teaches / feeds flock, etc. - Lev. 10:1-10; 21:17-23; Mal. 2:7; Acts 6:4; 20:28; I Tim. 3:1-13; Tit. 1:6-9
- QUESTION: Do you live sacrificially knowing you are called to a _____ priesthood - Rm. 6:19-23; 12:1-2; II Cor. 7:1; I Thess. 4:7; Tit. 2:11-14; Heb. 13:15-16; I Pet. 1:15-16; 2:9-25; I Jn. 4:17

c. Believers will be *priests* in the FUTURE - Rev. 5:10; 20:6

- Set apart for special service unto Jesus Christ - Rm. 8:17-18; II Cor. 4:17-18
- Leading those who survived the tribulation as well as those born during the Millennium - Mt. 5-7

3. **KING: Exercises Power and Authority** - *Jesus Christ who is...the prince of kings of the _____...*

a. Kingdom of Heaven - the _____ literal, physical, Davidic Throne in Jerusalem

- Historically: King David was anointed three times - first by Samuel being chosen of God (I Sam. 16:13); second willingly by Judah (II Sam. 2:4); third by all of Israel (II Sam. 5:3)
- Devotionally: Jesus Christ was anointed by God (Ps. 2:2; Lk. 3:21-22); he is anointed by believers - Kingdom of God (Lk. 17:21); he is anointed to reign in his future kingdom of Heaven (Lk. 1:31-33)
- 1st Coming - *anointed* by God and *called* a king but rejected as king over all - Jn. 1:11; 18:33-19:22
- 2nd Coming – to reign as King of Kings over all - Ps. 24:7-10; Is. 9:6-7; 44:6; 52:13; Jer. 23:5-6; Dn. 2:44-45; Zech. 14:16-17; Mt. 25:31-46; Lk. 1:31-33; I Tim. 6:14-15; Rev. 11:15; 17:14; 19:16

Note: Kingdom of Heaven (Mt. 8:11) vs. Kingdom of God (Rm. 14:17) - see Revelation Addendum 4

b. Believers are *kings...unto God and his Father* NOW - II Cor. 1:21-22; Col. 1:13; I Jn. 2:27; Rev. 1:6

- A *king* is a leader who has been given power, authority and responsibility (see opening paragraph) - Ecc. 8:4; Mt. 28:18-20; Acts 1:8; Rm. 5:17
- Right now we wear a crown of _____ and bear our cross, while earning crowns for the future to cast back at the feet of Jesus...no pain-no gain, no cross-no crown - Mk. 8:34-36
- As representatives of Christ's coming kingdom on earth until he returns - Mt. 6:10; II Cor. 5:20
- Some requirements of a biblical king: chosen by God; does not seek to multiply women, wealth, or the worldly things; required to study, learn, obey, and write out scripture; fears God; servant-leader; humble; leads family by example, etc. - Dt. 17:14-20

c. Believers will _____ as *kings* being led by the *King of kings* in the FUTURE - Rev. 1:6; 5:10; 19:16; 20:6

- All saints will reign with Christ in the Millennium and on into eternity - Dn. 7:14-22, 27; I Cor. 6:2-3; Rev. 2:26-28; 3:21; 20:4-6; ...as the apostles fulfill this role w/ Israel - Mt. 19:28-30; Lk 22:29-30
- The apostles will fill this role as it concerns the nation of Israel - Mt. 19:28-30; Lk 22:29-30
- How we "*reign*" on earth will determine what we reign over in Heaven - Lk. 19:11-27; Rm. 8:14-19; II Tim. 2:12; Col. 3:23-24

- QUESTION: Is your “*reign*” on earth in humble obedience to Christ, exercising your given power and authority to love and minister to God and people - I Chr. 12:32; Mk. 12:29-37; I Cor. 4:8-14

4. **What we do on earth matters in heaven** - as *prophets, priests, and kings* living for and pursuing after Jesus Christ the Perfect Prophet, the Great High Priest, and the King of kings...*to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.*