

Deuteronomy 18:15-19

A Prophet Like Moses

Text: Deuteronomy 18:15-19

Introduction:

1. God had promised that the seed of woman would crush the head of the serpent and the enemy of man would be defeated (Genesis 3:15).
2. He showed that this victory would include blessedness for all through the seed of Abraham (Genesis 12:1-3).
3. This Victor would also be kinsman of man who could serve as a daysman or mediator (Job 19:23-27).
4. He would also be a King over a righteous and eternal spiritual kingdom (Genesis 49:10) - a scepter out of Israel and a star out of Jacob (Numbers 24:17).
5. Toward the end of his life, Moses revealed that the Savior would also be a prophet whose word must be heard and obeyed...

I. THE DANGER OF FALSE PROPHETS

- A. In studying the prophets and prophecies of the Bible, it is also important to be aware of the reality and danger of false prophets.
- B. God gave specific warnings so that a false prophet could be recognized (Deut. 13:1-5).
- C. If a "prophet" contradicted the revealed Word of God, he was to be rejected.
 1. Specifically, if one who claimed to be a prophet sought to convince the people to participate in idolatry, he was not to be followed.
 2. This was true even if he performed some "sign" or "wonder."
 - a. These were not genuine miracles.
 - b. Instead, it was a use of deceitful means to convince others that God had spoken to him and through him (cf. Acts 8 - Simon the sorcerer).
 3. God would never allow someone promoting a false god to perform a genuine miracle.
- D. The false prophet was to be put to death for his sin and to remove his evil influence from among the nation (cf. 1 Corinthians 5:13; Galatians 2:4-5).
- E. Furthermore, one who dishonestly claimed to speak in God's name was to be put to death (Deuteronomy 18:20-22).
- F. This included one who claimed to speak in the name of another god.
- G. There was a two-fold test to judge a prophet's genuineness:
 1. His message must be in harmony with God's revealed will.
 2. What he predicted must come to pass exactly.
- H. The false prophet and his message were not to be feared.

II. THE PROPHECY OF GOD'S PROPHET

- A. In contrast with the false prophets were the true prophets of God - men like Moses.
- B. As a faithful prophet, Moses prophesied of One who would come to be known as "The Prophet."
- C. God declared that they were wise when they asked for someone to speak to them in His place, after hearing His voice from Mount Sinai.

Prophecy of Jesus

- D. Moses had filled that role – revealing unto them the Law of God.
- E. But God promised to raise up another prophet, like unto Moses.
 - 1. He would be one of them – from their midst – a man and an Israelite.
 - 2. He would fill the same role that Moses had filled.
 - 3. God would put His words in the Prophet’s mouth.
 - 4. He would speak all that God commanded.
 - 5. He was to be heard and obeyed by all.
- F. One who did not obey the words of this Prophet would have to answer to God.

III. THE FULFILLMENT IN JESUS

- A. Obviously, this was a prophecy about Jesus.
- B. It is clear that the children of Israel were waiting and watching for the coming of this Prophet (John 1:19-29, 45).
- C. By inspiration, Peter declared that Jesus was that Prophet (Acts 3:19-24).
- D. By inspiration, Stephen related this prophecy to the coming of Jesus (Acts 7:37, 52).
- E. Indeed, Jesus was a prophet of God (Luke 24:19).
- F. He was a man and an Israelite (1 Timothy 2:5; Hebrews 7:14).
- G. He was the giver of the Law of God (Hebrews 1:1-2; 2:1-4).
- H. The Father’s words were in His mouth (John 5:30; 8:28; 12:49-50).
- I. His Gospel is to be heard and obeyed by all (Matthew 17:5; 28:18-20).

Conclusion: Jesus is the Prophet to whom all must hearken today!