

boys and girls catechism asks... **Q88** *How is Christ a king?* **A.** *He rules over us and defends us* **Q89** *Why do you need Christ as a king?* **A.** *Because I am weak and helpless.* Jesus is truly the better king.

#### Discussion Questions

- Who else rules over you and defends you here on earth?
- Why are we so weak and helpless?
- Do you fall under the protection and ruling of Jesus as your king?

#### **Day 5 – Review Q&A and recite memory verse**

Is Jesus still our prophet, priest, and king? The last part of this week's answer says Jesus carried out these offices in his state of humiliation (His time here on earth) and continues to execute these offices in his state of exaltation (from His glorious throne in heaven). In John 17:4 Jesus says, *"I glorified you on earth, having accomplished the work that you gave me to do."* Jesus humbled himself to do the Father's will and finished the task set before Him. He emptied himself, took on the form of a servant and humbled Himself even to the point of death (Phil 2). He finished the work of salvation, and yet, He continues to serve as prophet, priest, and king for his people. He is exalted as he is glorified and appears in the presence of God for us (Hebrews 9:24).

#### Discussion Questions

- What differences are there in Jesus' roles as prophet, priest, and king during his time on earth and now as he rules from heaven?
- Which one of Jesus' offices (prophet, priest, and king) are you most thankful for? Why?

# Baptist Catechism

## Family Worship Guide



## West Oaks Baptist Church

(in preparation for Sunday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2024)

### Baptist Catechism Question #26

**Q:** What offices doth Christ execute as our Redeemer?

**A:** *Christ as our Redeemer executeth the offices of a prophet, of a priest, and of king, both in his estate of humiliation and exaltation.*

#### Suggested Memory Verse

Matthew 28:18 [18] And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. (ESV)

## Day 1 – Review Q&A and recite memory verse

We typically think of an office as a room where someone works, but the word “office” can also mean a position of authority or service, typically one of a public nature. So, this week’s question asks what position of authority did Christ have as our redeemer? The answer is that he had three offices: that of a prophet, that of a priest, and that of a king. Before we explore each of these offices specifically, let’s think about what scripture says overall about Christ and His work. 1 Peter 1:20 *He was foreknown before the foundation of the world but was made manifest in the last times for the sake of you.* He became flesh and lived among us, why? So that we would have faith and hope (salvation) in Christ. God placed His seal on Jesus, showing he was given the authority and power to do the work God the Father had given him. Jesus Himself said, “*All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me*” (Matthew 28:18). At His baptism, God the Father also expressed His good pleasure in what Jesus had come to do. Matthew 3:17 *This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.* Then, as Jesus was preparing to complete His earthly ministry, he prayed in the garden about the work He had been given. John 17:4 *I glorified you on earth, having accomplished the work that you gave me to do.*

### Discussion Question

- What kind of other public offices or “positions” can you think of in our world?
- Usually, people only have one office. How is it significant that Christ has three?
- How good would you be at your job if you did not have the power or authority to do it?
- Jesus not only had power and authority, but He also finished His work. Why is that important?

## Day 2 – Review Q&A and recite memory verse

Today we will look at the office of a prophet. Prophets were entrusted with speaking God’s Word to people. This included both proclaiming God’s truth to others and revealing God’s plans for the future. Many scriptures refer to Jesus as a prophet. Matthew 21:11 *And the crowds said, “This is the prophet Jesus, from Nazareth of Galilee.* As Jesus spoke the truths of God, people often were *astonished at his teaching* (Mark 1:22). He revealed God’s future plans by predicting His own death and resurrection (Matthew 17), Peter’s denial (Matthew 26), the destruction of the temple (Matthew 24), and that He is coming back to judge the wicked and bring eternal life to believers (Matthew 24, John 14). In addition to speaking for God, some prophets also did miracles. Jesus healed lepers and the sick (Matthew 8), healed an issue of blood (Matthew 9), healed possessed people (Mark 1), healed the blind (Luke 18), turned water into wine (John 2), and fed 5,000 people (John 3). Christ executed the office of prophet perfectly, making Him the BEST prophet. He was not like other human prophets because John 1 tells us He was the Word and that it (the Word) became flesh. The final revelation of God to us. Hebrews 1:1–2 *Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world.*

### Discussion Questions

- In what ways was Jesus a “better” prophet?
- The primary job of a prophet is to speak the word of God. How can you identify a false prophet? What do you think they are more interested in?
- How does this last verse help us to focus and only listen to Jesus as our prophet?

## Day 3 – Review Q&A and recite memory verse

Today we will look at the office of a priest. Priests in the Old Testament served as mediators between man and God. They worked in the tabernacle and later in the temple, making daily sacrifices, accepting sacrifices from the lay people, and making them on their behalf. They facilitated the worship of God almighty. The high priest would lead the other priests in their duties and serve on the day of atonement on behalf of the whole nation. Hebrews 3:1 asks us to *consider Jesus, the apostle and high priest of our confession...* The middle chapters of Hebrews show us how Jesus is superior to any earthly high priest. Not only that, but Jesus became the perfect sacrifice for us, stopping the sacrificial system because He had fulfilled the law and paid the punishment, once for all (Heb 10). Since we have a great High Priest, we can draw near to God. Before Jesus came, we would have had to go to a priest to draw near God to worship. So, Jesus not only executes the office of prophet but fully holds the office of a priest as well. The boys and girls catechism asks and answers how and why Jesus is a priest. **Q86** *How is Christ a priest?* **A.** *He died for our sins and prays to God for us* **Q87** *Why do you need Christ as a priest?* **A.** *Because I am guilty.* We are all guilty of sin but can now come to God because Jesus, our High Priest, made a way.

### Discussion Questions

- Describe what you think it may have been like for an OT priest.
- How is Jesus a better priest?
- Are you guilty of sin? Are you able to draw near to God?

## Day 4 – Review Q&A and recite memory verse

Today we will look at the office of a king. Have you ever wondered what it would be like to be a king? Would you be a good ruler the people love? Would you fight evil and punish evil doers? Would you be tempted by power and riches? There were many kings throughout the Old Testament. One of the most famous was King David. He was a good king, and the kingdom grew to its biggest ever under his rule. Acts 13:22 *... he raised up David to be their king, of whom he testified and said, ‘I have found in David the son of Jesse a man after my heart, who will do all my will.’* David was a man that would do all God’s will, but he was not perfect and dealt with sin in his heart. He was promised a throne that would be established forever (2 Samuel 7). Although David died, his descendant Jesus came to establish that throne for eternity. Luke 1:32–33 *He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.*” The