

Each week of 2019 we will take a brief look at one or more questions from the Westminster Shorter Catechism. To read previous weeks' briefs go to [oakhillpca.com/wsc](http://oakhillpca.com/wsc)

Q. 23. *What offices does Christ execute as our Redeemer?*

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

Q. 24. *How does Christ execute the office of a prophet?*

A. Christ executes the office of a prophet, in revealing to us, by his Word and Spirit, the will of God for our salvation.

Establishing Jesus as God's appointed Redeemer for his elect, now the Catechism asks how Jesus accomplishes that work of a Redeemer. The word "office" speaks about the roles Jesus fulfills as Redeemer and highlights his fulfillment of specific Old Testament prophecies.

In Deuteronomy 18:18, God promises to raise up a prophet like Moses for his people.

In Psalm 110:4, God swears to make the Christ an eternal priest.

In Isaiah 9:6-7, the promised child is said to be established forever on the throne of David.

Every Old Testament prophet, priest, and king fell short of the perfect standard of God and failed to serve God's people perfectly. Christ comes as the perfect fulfillment of all of these offices to effectively meet the needs of the people.

As God's prophet, Jesus reveals the Father. John says, "No one has ever seen God; the only God, who is at the Father's side, he has made him known" (Jn. 1:18). Jesus comes as the perfect revelation of the Father (cf. Heb. 1:1-3). Jesus affirms this with his disciples. "Whoever has seen me has seen the Father" (Jn. 14:9).

Jesus not only reveals God to his people, but also his will for our salvation. The Catechism specifies that Jesus speaks forth God's will through both his Word (Heb. 2:3) and his Spirit (Jn. 15:26-27). Jesus spoke about the Kingdom of God and the hope of life we have in him. He also promised to send his Spirit to guide his disciples into all truth (Jn. 16:13).

The written Scriptures are the means Christ continues to serve the church as our Prophet. The Scriptures were written with the guidance of the Spirit (2 Pet. 1:21). The apostles, who accompanied Jesus during his earthly ministry, recorded his life and teachings, with the help of the Spirit, for our benefit. Therefore, we can sit with our Bibles as if Christ our prophet is with us revealing "the will of God for our salvation." Let's treasure this precious revelation.