

2- The Beginning of Prophets

A-

- The first prophet named in the Bible is Abraham. Thus the first concept of prophet is described by the life and person of Abraham.
- The word used is נָבִיָּא navi which is the most common word used to designate prophet in the OT
- In the context of Abrahams life prophet identifies God's representative.
- It describes a man who walks with God.
- Abraham had some of the other classic features of a prophet in that God made Himself and His will known to Abraham by dreams and visions (Numbers 12:6).
God will not hide what He is about to do from Abraham (Gen 18:19; Amos 3:7). In fact, the first occurrence of a vision in the Bible took place with Abraham (Gen 15:1).

After these things the word of the Lord came unto Abram in a vision, saying, Fear not, Abram: I am thy shield, and thy exceeding great reward. Gen 15:1

The encounter that He had with God went beyond that of a vision which were observed by His encounters with God in Gen 18:1 and 22

And the Lord appeared unto him in the plains of Mamre: and he sat in the tent door in the heat of the day; 18:1

And the angel of the Lord called unto Abraham out of heaven the second time, 16 And said, By myself have I sworn, saith the Lord, for because thou hast done this thing, and hast not withheld thy son, thine only son Gen 22:15

- He is shown to be a prophet by his mediatorial role- it was necessary for Abraham to pray for Abimelech so that he could be healed of the punishment for his wrong doing). The first intercession role that was demonstrated by Abraham was in Gen 18:22-23. Both (105:12-15//1 Chr 16:22) speak of this incident
- He is also the founder of the prophetic institution by way of being the Patriarch by which the blessing came . Deu 18

B-

- Both Arron and Mariam are referred to as prophets.
- Arron was not only a prophet who declared the will of Moses which was that of the Lords but became the Priest and Patriarch of the High Priest (John 11:51).
- Mariam sets a standard for prophets that will become more emblematic of prophets in latter years- she comes with her musical instrument (Exodus 15:20) Her prophecy is one of the first ever recorded Exodus 15:20; 1 Cor 11:5.
- Other woman named as prophets- Deborah (Judges 4:4; 5:1-31) Huldah 2 Kings 22:14; Anna Luke 2:36

