

Well, after Moses died what good would it do for the people to know that 2000 years-- 1500 or so years later, God would send a prophet like Moses? I think we must interpret this as meaning, God said to Moses, I will raise up a prophet. And he didn't mean I will raise up one prophet and then after that they won't have anybody. But I will raise up a succession of prophets, and as time went on they came I believe to realize that God was going to raise up one particular prophet, the climax of the succession. He was the prophet. They ~~were~~ were wishing that the prophet, that prophet would come. They said to John the Baptist, Are you that prophet? John answered, No I am not the prophet; not that prophet that you are looking for.

Later on they pointed to Christ and said, He is that prophet. Some of his followers clearly pointed out that Jesus Christ was that prophet. The One promised by Moses. Not simply as Moses looking clear forward hundreds of years to him, but as Moses predicting a succession of prophets of which He was the climax.

Why do we need a prophet anyway.? Ps. 19 tells us the heavens declare the glory of God and the firmament shows his handiwork. Why do we need a prophet? On the basis of polls it has been conjectured--and they are often pretty reliable on the basis of polls --that the overwhelming majority of people in this country believe that there is a God. We are far from being a majority of Christians who hold truly to Scriptures, but the fact of God's existence is believed by most people. Because the heavens declare the glory of God, and anyone who looks at the wonders of nature, looks at the tremendous intricacy of the human body, looks at all the marvels God has made, it is perfectly clear that there is a Creator who made these things and everyone knows that unless he is prevented by his sin from looking at the facts or he has been taught by individuals who try to convince him there is no truth to this.

There was little or no atheism in ancient times. Atheism is something people are led into. You can lead people to believe in almost anything. It's easy to do because most of us don't think things through. We just take over what we hear. In our universities today and even in our public schools it is almost --- secular humanism has taken control and the teaching is based on the idea there is no God. But people have to be convinced there is no God because anybody who just looks at the marvels of creation knows that God is. The heavens declare the glory of God.

But the heavens don't tell us anything about God's character. You look at nature and see He is powerful. Tremendously powerful. You can see God is tremendously wise. That he works things out in accordance with his will in a perfectly marvelous way. We can see that. But is God friendly to mankind or is He hostile. You look at the ~~xxxxxx~~ beauties of nature, you look at the wonders of God's creation and you say he must be friendly to mankind. Then you see a great hurricane come and destroy the ~~x~~ land. You see the tremendous heat. You see the flies, insects, wild animals. You see the things such as this in nature and some say, My what a terrible world we live in. Everything is hostile to us! God reveals himself through nature his greatness and power, but as to his character he does not reveal it in nature.