

The Vocation of the Prophet in the Old Testament

The purpose of this thesis is to clarify the vocation of the prophet in the Old Testament by the method of exegesis of the biblical texts (1 Samuel 3; Isaiah 6; Jeremiah 1) and their comparison.

The Prophecy is introduced as wide-spread phenomena in the ancient world. The emphasis is placed on the Israelite prophets, concerning their tasks, social setting, perception of the Yahweh's word and mainly on the event of the vocation, especially Samuel's, Isaiah's and Jeremiah's.

Samuel was appointed to be a servant of God in his early childhood. He was called to become a prophet in his youth, when he was laying in the temple near to the God's ark. Other important items of his vocation are hearing a voice calling him, the person of his guide Eli, Samuels' harking and obedience, giving a message from God to Samuel. The Vocation by God changes the Samuel's life.

Isaiah was called in the temple of Jerusalem, at difficult era for Israel. His vision of the God's glory and the singing of the seraphs impressed the prophet. He was aware of his sinfulness. God purified him and Isaiah wanted to serve God. God gave him a severe message about punishment of the people. But this prophesy was ended with the words of the hope. This event of the vocation was also very important in Isaiah's life.

Jeremiah's calling happened in a complicated period of Judah. God introduced himself to the prophet as his Creator in the womb of his mother. Other important items of this passage are Jeremiahs' tergiversations, God's assurance about Jeremiah's election, the symbol of transferring the words from Yahweh to the prophet's mouth and two visions, which indicated the content of the commission.

The passages about vocation of these prophets have particular items in common and some items which differ. The common features relate to the general items of the vocation of the prophet and the different ones refer to the features, which are typical for the individual prophetic person.

Key words:

Isaiah, Jeremiah, Prophecy, Old Testament, Samuel