



The Great “I AM”

John 8 v48-59

Intro

1. We read in our text of one of the heated arguments the LORD Jesus had with some of the Jewish leaders of His days.
2. They accused the Lord of being a Samaritan and having a demon. (v48)
3. The LORD clearly said He had no demon but never denied being a Samaritan or not.
4. Matters came took the turn for the worst when the Lord said, “ If anyone keeps my word, he shall never see death” V 51-53.
5. Then V 54-58; **V58.
6. “ Before Abraham was, “I AM ”

--The Lord was not just talking about predating or pre-existing Abraham.

--The right English would have been: “ Before Abraham was, “I was”

The Genesis of the “ I AM” Ex.3v2-15

**V13-14

- **Q: Who appeared unto Moses?** A: V 2., 4, 6
- **Who was the Angel of the LORD in O.T?**
- **His name is : “I AM THAT I AM” and simply the “ I AM” V14.**
 - For over 20 years, I never understood the meaning of this name, though it may look simple; but its not really that simple!
- **When Jesus told the Jewish leaders that “ Before Abraham was, I AM”**
- They understood perfectly what He meant and that He claimed to be the LORD God (Jehovah) who appeared to Moses.

I AM THAT I AM

Means:

I AM "WHO I SAY " THAT I AM

I AM "NOT WHO YOU THINK" THAT I AM

I AM "NOT WHO YOU SAY" THAT I AM

I AM "WHO I DEFINED MYSELF" THAT I AM

I DEFINE "ME" BY "ME"

I AM SELF-DEFINING!

- **Just as No man knows, understands you or can define you better as a person, so also No man can ever know, understands or can define our God better than Himself! 1 Cor.2v11**
- Unlike man, our God cannot be defined by situations, circumstances, lack, color, beauty, money, jobs, relationship, culture, degrees etc. are what many people including Christians derive their identity...
- **Because He is the ONLY self-defining God, He is the ONLY One who has the ability, knowledge, wisdom and authority and power to accurately define ALL men and things.**
- **This He has done through His Word. Let God's word define you!**

I AM WHO I DECLARE MYSELF TO BE

(Deut.10v17;2 Chron.29v10-11; Isiah 40v10-14; v17-31)

I AM who “I AM ”, not who “I WAS”—(past)

And not who” I WILL BE”---(Future)

I AM The Ever-Present GOD.

**The Only ONE who lives and sees the past, the present and
Future at the same time!**

The Only ONE who lives in the PRESENT and in the NOW!

Four (4) Interpretations of the “I AM”

The word “I AM, or I AM THAT I AM” means:

- 1. The Self- Defining God.** (Remember, its Jesus we are taking about here and rather the 3 persons in the Trinity)
- 2. The Self- Existing God. Isaih44v6; Rev.1v18** (unlike all men, we need a man and woman to help us in birth, food, shelter, water, other humans, blood)
- 3. The Self- Sufficient God** (The ONLY Independent being in all the universe)
 - Our God(God the Father, Son and the Holy Spirit) is the only one who depends on Nothing else to exist, reign or operate.
 - He is the only one who never and does not learn or acquire knowledge.
 - He does not need anything outside Himself to be who is He and do whatever He wants to do.
- 4. The Immutable God.** Unchangeable, everlasting, immovable etc.(Mal. 3v6,Heb. 6v13v8).
 - The Quality of God not changing In His Word, Nature, attributes, Promises, covenants. E.g. judgment of sin, heaven and hell etc.
 - Our God does not change in Age, wisdom, knowledge and understanding
 - He does not grow, increase or change in power, strength and in all abilities .

The Seven (7) “I AM”s of Jesus in John

1. I AM THE BREAD OF LIFE John 6 v48-51

- Brief background about the story. (Feeding of the 5,000 and the Jewish Feast of Unleavened bread and Passover) John 6v 1-51)
- The manna from heaven (without Yeast, Salt or Sugar) liken to Jesus body that will be broken like bread.
- His body without sin or pride is God’s eternal bread giving for ALL men.
- Jesus as Living Bread provides eternal satisfaction and Sustenance unlike the temporary manna.
- Jesus Himself if eaten will provide eternal life and daily satisfaction unlike physical bread or manna.
- As the bread multiplied and fed over 5,000 men, so Jesus body and life multiplies as we share the gospel and fill others, quench their both present and eternal thirst and hunger.
- Eating of the bread of life will grant immortality as against physical bread



2. I AM the Light of the World—**John 8v12**

--Different kinds of lights

--Jesus is **THE LIGHT**

--spiritual implications—(Directions, illuminations, understanding etc.)

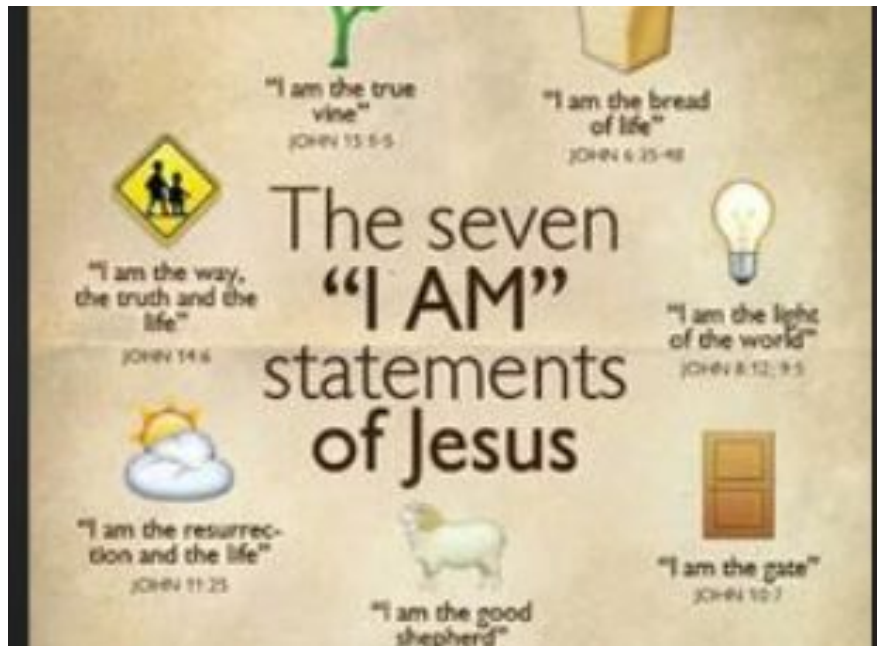
3. I AM the Door **Jn.10v9**

4. I AM the good Shepherd. **Jn.10v11**

5. I AM the RESURRECTION and the Life. **Jn.11v25**

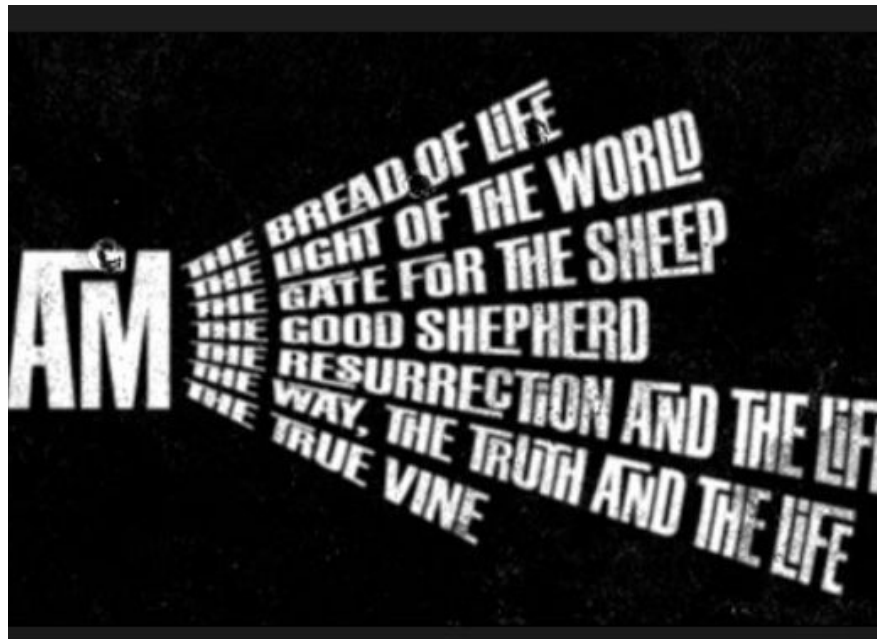
6. I AM the WAY, the TRUTH and the Life. **Jn.14 v6**

7. I AM the true VINE. **Jn.15v1**



Jesus' Seven "I am ..." Statements

John 6:48 "I am the bread of life."	John 8:12 "I am the light of the world."	John 10:9 "I am the door."	John 10:11 "I am the good shepherd."	John 11:25 "I am the resurrection and the life."	John 14:6 "I am the way, and the truth, and the life."	John 15:1 "I am the true vine."
The Minister	The Illuminator	The Mediator	The Caretaker	The Life-giver	The Leader	The Success-maker
He feeds us all as we need.	He brings the energy of light into our dark world.	He brings us where we otherwise could not go.	He cares for us just like we need it.	He brought us from death into life eternal.	He guides us through life's difficult ways.	He makes us unbelievably productive.



The Seven(7) "I Am"s of Jesus in John

Conclusion

- As we wrap up, I want to stir up your minds by the way of remembrance that God the Father, God the Son (Jesus) and the Holy Spirit are the **Great “I AM”**—
- **The Self existent God.**
- **The Self-defining God.**
- **The Self-Sufficient God. Phil.4v19; 2 Cor. 9v8**
- **The story of the young girl told to open an account by the father and latter wrote her 1st check-NSF.
- Implication: When the check you wrote in prayers concerning your health, finances, needs, joy, healing, bounces...and returned NSF
- Its not the Bank of Heaven or our Self-sufficient God who fails, its our deposit that is not enough...