

A Final "I AM Plus" Saying of Jesus: "I AM the Alpha and Omega"

Good morning!

We've been considering the 'I AM Plus' confessions of Jesus. As you consider each one, I hope you are getting to know The Jesus-Who-Is better and better.

Let's do one more I AM Plus before we turn to another topic.

"I AM the Alpha and the Omega."

In the Book of Revelation, the Lord God declares himself to be the Alpha and Omega. At the beginning of the revelation to the Apostle John he says,

Revelation 1:8 "I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, "who is, and who was, and who is to come, the Almighty."

And at the end of Revelation God says,

Revelation 21:6-7 "It is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. To the thirsty I will give water without cost from the spring of the water of life. Those who are victorious will inherit all this, and I will be their God and they will be my children."

In Revelation, the resurrected and glorified Jesus equates himself with Father God by claiming the same title:

Revelation 1:17-18 When I saw [Christ Jesus], I fell at his feet as though dead. Then he placed his right hand on me and said: "Do not be afraid. I am the First and the Last. I am the Living One; I was dead, and now look, I am alive for ever and ever! And I hold the keys of death and Hades."

And in the closing verses of Revelation the resurrected and glorified Jesus also identifies himself as the Alpha and Omega by equating Alpha & Omega with First & Last:

Revelation 22:12-13 "Look, I am coming soon! My reward is with me, and I will give to each person according to what they have done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End."

What do the Father and Son mean by Alpha and Omega?

In the English alphabet the first letter is "A" and the last is "Z". So when we say from A to Z we mean from the beginning (the First) to the end (the Last) and everything in between (the Living One). And so Alpha (the first letter of the Greek alphabet) to Omega (the last letter) means the same thing in Greek.

So what practical meaning does this have for us living in the 21st century?

First, it means that Father and Son existed before creation. As 'Alpha' they pre-existed all things. They designed and constructed the universe. And they continue to manage and maintain everything that exists. (See Genesis 1, John 1, and Colossians 1)

Father and Son as 'Alpha' (First) set everything into motion and have since accompanied creation, time, and humanity as each moves steadily from The Beginning toward The End.

Second, it means that human history and time have an End, and the Father and the Son (who were from before the beginning) are also at The End awaiting your arrival. And more, they exist after The End, exist after this creation and time have completed their purposes and have ceased to exist. (See Isaiah 51:6, Hebrews 1:10-12, 2 Peter 3:10-12, Revelation 6:12-14; 20:11)

Third, the Father and Son inhabit everything between Alpha and Omega. They inhabit every place and they inhabit every moment.

They are continually focused on creating a unique People called by their name – a People who recognize and reflect God's glory – a People in whom God's Spirit comes to abide – now and forever.

God thought of you long before you were conceived and born. He looked forward to the day when he would bring you into existence to walk the earth; to know Him as he knows you.

Therefore you were part of God's plan and purpose from the beginning of time. You are not an accident. You are not a mistake. You are not insignificant.

You were brought into being to be a part of God's plan of the ages. You were created with purpose for a time such as this. You were made for God, and his Son was made for you.

Jesus is the author of your story. He was there at your beginning. He is waiting for you at your end. In his Holy Spirit he is with you every moment. He will never abandon you.

Is this the Jesus you know and love? The Jesus you worship and obey? The Jesus you serve and represent? The Jesus you are offering to others?

Be sure.

Blessings to you-

Douglas

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