SERMON SERIES

The Most Profound Statements of Jesus

Two-Part Sermon Series

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John 14:6 — "Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me."

Matthew 24:35 — "Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away."

SERMON ONE

THE GREAT I AM

The Divine Declarations of Jesus Christ

Key Text: John 8:58 | Supporting Texts: John 14:6; 11:25; 8:12; 10:30; 4:26

INTRODUCTION

There is a moment in John chapter 8 that stopped the religious leaders of Jerusalem cold. The scribes and Pharisees had been arguing with Jesus. They were proud men — students of the Law, custodians of the Temple. They asked Him, 'Art thou greater than our father Abraham, which is dead?' And Jesus answered with four words that shook the universe.

John 8:58 — "Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Before Abraham was, I am."

Greek: ἐγώ εἰμί (ego eimi) — I AM — the divine, eternal self-existence of God. The very name God revealed to Moses at the burning bush in Exodus 3:14.

They picked up stones to throw at Him. Why? Because they understood exactly what He meant. Jesus was not claiming to be a great prophet. He was claiming to be JEHOVAH — the eternal, self-existent, uncreated God. Every 'I AM' statement in John's Gospel is a divine declaration. Tonight we will walk through six of them, and by the time we are done, you will know beyond all doubt: this Jesus is Lord of all.

"The 'I Am' of Jesus is not the 'I was' of human memory or the 'I will be' of human hope. It is the eternal present — the God who inhabits eternity." **— Charles Spurgeon**

I. BEFORE ABRAHAM WAS, I AM
His Eternal Existence

John 8:58 — "Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Before Abraham was, I am."

Exodus 3:14 — "And God said unto Moses, I AM THAT I AM: and he said, Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, I AM hath sent me unto you."

Teaching Points:
1. Jesus is not a created being — He is the eternal Creator.
2. When He says 'I AM,' He is not speaking of historical existence — He is declaring timeless deity.
3. The religious leaders understood His claim. They wanted to stone Him because they heard blasphemy — but it was the truth.

Jesus existed before _____ was. (Abraham)
The name 'I AM' connects Jesus directly to _____ of the Old Testament. (JEHOVAH / God the Father)

"Before the mountains were brought forth, before one angel sang, before one galaxy turned — the Son of God was. He needed no origin. He is origin itself." **— Jonathan Edwards**

II. I AM THE WAY, THE TRUTH, AND THE LIFE
His Exclusive Salvation

John 14:6 — "Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me."

Greek: ὁδός (hodos) — Way — a road, a path, the means of reaching a destination. Jesus IS the road itself.
Greek: ἀλήθεια (aletheia) — Truth — absolute, uncovered, ultimate reality. Not just truthful — He IS truth.
Greek: ζωή (zoe) — Life — not biological life (bios) but divine, eternal, spiritual life given only by God.

Teaching Points:
1. Jesus is not a way — He is THE way. There is no alternate route to the Father.
2. Jesus is not merely truthful — He IS truth. All reality is measured against Him.
3. Jesus is not merely alive — He IS life itself. Without Him, there is only spiritual death.

No man cometh unto the Father but by _____. (Jesus / Me)
Jesus is not just the guide — He is the _____ itself. (Way / Road)

"They tell me there are many roads to heaven. But I have read my Bible through many times and I can only find ONE — His name is Jesus Christ." **— D.L. Moody**

III. I AM THE RESURRECTION AND THE LIFE
His Authority Over Death

John 11:25-26 — "Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die. Believest thou this?"

Greek: ἀνάστασις (anastasis) — Resurrection — a rising again, a standing up from death. Jesus does not merely bring resurrection — He IS resurrection.

Teaching Points:
1. Jesus said these words before He raised Lazarus — not after. He claimed resurrection power before He demonstrated it.
2. This is the boldest claim in all of Scripture. Only God has power over death.
3. He turns to Martha and He turns to us with the same question: 'Believest thou this?'

Though a man were dead, yet shall he _____. (Live)
The power of resurrection is not just something Jesus HAS — it is something Jesus _____. (IS)

"Christ is the resurrection — not merely the cause of it, but the very source from which all resurrection life flows. To be in Christ is to be in the resurrection." **— Matthew Henry**

IV. I AM THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD
His Illuminating Truth

John 8:12 — "Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life."

Greek: φῶς (phos) — Light — illumination, revelation, the light that exposes darkness and makes truth visible.

Teaching Points:
1. He spoke these words in the Temple court — during the Feast of Tabernacles, when four great torches blazed through the night as symbols of God's guidance. He pointed to the torches and said, 'I AM that light.'
2. Without Christ, the entire human race walks in spiritual darkness.
3. The promise is personal: 'He that FOLLOWETH me' — this is a daily walk, not a one-time moment.

He that followeth Jesus shall not walk in _____, but shall have the light of _____. (Darkness / Life)

"What the sun is to the physical world, Christ is to the moral and spiritual world. Without Him there is nothing but cold, dark, and death." **— A.W. Tozer**

V. I AND MY FATHER ARE ONE
His Divine Unity

John 10:30 — "I and my Father are one."

Five words. The shortest sentence Jesus ever spoke — and the most explosive. The word 'one' in the Greek is neuter — not 'one person' but 'one essence.' Jesus was declaring equality of nature and being with the Almighty God.

Greek: ἕν (hen) — One — neuter form meaning one in essence, one in nature, one in substance. Not one person, but one divine being.

Teaching Points:
1. The Jewish leaders understood this perfectly. John 10:31 says they picked up stones again to kill Him.
2. The Trinitarian truth: three distinct Persons, one divine essence.
3. This means when you encounter Jesus, you encounter God Almighty.

I and my Father are _____. (One)
The unity Jesus describes is a unity of _____, not just purpose. (Essence / Nature)

"He who is one with the Father is not a lesser being, not an exalted creature, but very God of very God — in whom dwelleth all the fullness of the Godhead bodily." **— John Wesley**

CONCLUSION

Six times in John's Gospel, Jesus stood up and declared, 'I AM.' Six times, He used the sacred name of God for Himself. He was not confused. He was not exaggerating. He was not a lunatic. He is exactly who He claimed to be — the eternal God in human flesh.

C.S. Lewis put it this way: Jesus was either a liar, a lunatic, or LORD. And the 'I AM' statements leave us with only one option. No mere man speaks like this. No prophet. No rabbi. Only God.

Revelation 1:8 — "I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty."

INVITATION: Today, the Great I AM is calling your name. He is the Way when you are lost. He is the Truth when you are deceived. He is the Life when you are dying. He is the Light when everything around you is dark. Will you trust Him today?

"Go to Jesus just as you are. Venture upon His great I AM — for His name is the greatest guarantee in the universe." **— Charles Spurgeon**

SERMON TWO

WORDS THAT CHANGED EVERYTHING

The Statements of Jesus That Shook Heaven and Earth

Key Text: John 19:30 | Supporting Texts: John 3:7; Matthew 28:18; Luke 23:34; Matthew 16:15; Matthew 11:28

INTRODUCTION

Words are powerful. Words from presidents have started wars and ended them. Words from physicians have brought hope or heartbreak. But no words in the history of the universe carry the weight of the words spoken by Jesus Christ of Nazareth. In Sermon One, we studied His great 'I AM' declarations — His claims of divine nature. In this sermon, we go to the cross, to the throne, and to the streets — and we hear words that changed everything.

Matthew 24:35 — "Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away."

Every word Jesus ever spoke is still alive. Every promise He made is still in force. Every command He gave is still in effect. Let us study five of the most profound statements He ever made.

"The words of Jesus are not old words. They are living words — they breathe, they move, they save. No other words in history have done what His words have done." **— D.L. Moody**

I. YE MUST BE BORN AGAIN

<u>The Most Necessary Statement</u>

John 3:7 — "Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again."

John 3:3 — "Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God."

Greek: ἄνωθεν (anothen) — Again — but also 'from above.' Born again literally means 'born from above.' It is a supernatural birth initiated by God.
Greek: γεννηθῇ (gennethē) — Born — to be brought into existence. A new birth — new nature, new life, new creation.

Teaching Points:
1. Jesus said 'Ye MUST' — this is not optional. There is no substitute, no alternative, no workaround.
2. He said it to Nicodemus — one of the most religious men in Israel. Religion without rebirth is not enough.
3. The new birth is supernatural. It is not self-improvement — it is death and resurrection.

You MUST be born _____. (Again / From Above)
The new birth is not reformation of the old life — it is creation of a _____ life. (New)
Jesus told this to Nicodemus — a _____ man. (Religious / Pharisee)

"You must be born again. The 'must' of Jesus is not the 'must' of tyranny — it is the 'must' of love. Without the new birth, a soul cannot enter glory." **— Charles Spurgeon**

"The new birth is not the old nature cleaned up. It is the old nature crucified and a new nature given — the very life of God implanted in the human soul." **— Jonathan Edwards**

II. THY SINS BE FORGIVEN THEE
The Most Controversial Statement

Mark 2:5 — "When Jesus saw their faith, he said unto the sick of the palsy, Son, thy sins be forgiven thee."

Mark 2:7 — "Why doth this man thus speak blasphemies? who can forgive sins but God only?"

Greek: ἀφίενται (aphientai) — Forgiven — to send away, to release, to discharge a debt. The sins are SENT AWAY — not covered over, not temporarily suspended — completely discharged.

Teaching Points:
1. The scribes asked the right question without knowing it: 'Who can forgive sins but God only?' And the answer is: no one. And Jesus just did.
2. Jesus forgave BEFORE He healed. Spiritual restoration is always primary.
3. The healing of the man's body was the outward proof of the inward miracle. God was demonstrating His authority over both sin and sickness.

Jesus said, 'Thy sins be _____.' (Forgiven)
No man or priest or rabbi can forgive sins — only _____ can. (God / Jesus)

"Here is mercy in its fullest display — before the man can ask, before he can confess, the Saviour speaks forgiveness. This is grace unimaginable." **— Matthew Henry**
"Sin is the great obstacle between the soul and God. When Jesus said, 'Thy sins be forgiven thee,' He removed that obstacle at its root — by His own authority as God." **— A.W. Tozer**

III. COME UNTO ME
The Greatest Invitation Ever Spoken

Matthew 11:28-30 — "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

Greek: δεῦτε (deute) — Come — a present imperative, a personal, urgent, ongoing invitation. It means: Come now. Keep coming. Never stop coming.
Greek: ἀναπαύσω (anapausō) — I will give rest — to cause to cease, to refresh, to grant relief. This is a personal promise: I WILL — not I might.

Teaching Points:
1. 'ALL ye that labour' — Jesus puts no limit on who may come. The only qualification is need.
2. He promises REST — not ease, not wealth, not problem-free living — but the rest of a soul at peace with God.
3. He says 'learn of ME' — not of a system, not of a religion, but of a Person. The Christian life is knowing Christ.

Come unto me ALL ye that _____ and are heavy laden. (Labour)
Jesus promises: 'I will give you _____.' (Rest)
He describes Himself as meek and _____ in heart. (Lowly)

"The most beautiful word in all of Scripture may be this: 'Come.' And the most beautiful voice that ever spoke it was His. Every weary soul is invited. Every burdened heart is welcomed." **— Charles Spurgeon**

IV. FATHER, FORGIVE THEM
The Most Gracious Statement

Luke 23:34 — "Then said Jesus, Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do. And they parted his raiment, and cast lots."

This was spoken while the nails were being driven. While the soldiers were mocking. While the leaders were sneering. While the crowd was jeering. From the cross — in the most agonizing moments of His life — Jesus prayed for His enemies.

Greek: ἄφες (aphes) — Forgive — the same root word as 'forgiven' — to release, to send away. He is praying that the very sin being committed against Him would be sent away from them.

Teaching Points:
1. No human being has ever prayed like this in the hour of execution. This is supernatural grace.

2. 'They know not what they do' — Jesus provided a defense for the very people killing Him.
3. This prayer was answered on the Day of Pentecost when 3,000 Jews — many of whom may have been in that crowd — were saved and baptized.

Jesus prayed, 'Father, _____ them.' (Forgive)
He gave them the defense that they _____ not what they do. (Knew / Know)

"In His dying breath, Christ demonstrated what He had taught in life — love your enemies. He did not merely preach it. He bled it." **— Matthew Henry**
"The grace shown at Calvary was not passive. It was active. Even in suffering, the Saviour was interceding. Even in death, He was saving." **— Jonathan Edwards**

V. IT IS FINISHED
The Most Triumphant Statement

John 19:30 — "When Jesus therefore had received the vinegar, he said, It is finished: and he bowed his head, and gave up the ghost."

Greek: Τετέλεσται (Tetelestai) — It is finished — a perfect passive indicative. This was a commercial term stamped on paid bills in the first century, meaning: PAID IN FULL. The debt is gone. The account is settled. Nothing remains to be paid.

Teaching Points:

1. This was not the cry of a defeated man. This was the shout of a victorious conqueror. He chose the moment of His death — John 19:30 says HE bowed His head and gave up the ghost. No man took His life.
2. 'It is finished' means the entire Old Testament system of sacrifices — thousands of years of lambs and bulls and goats — is now obsolete. The final sacrifice has been made.
3. Every sin you have ever committed — every sin you will ever commit — was nailed to that cross and marked: TETELESTAI. Paid. In. Full.

'It is finished' in the Greek is one word: _____. (Tetelestai)
The word was used commercially to mean _____. (Paid in full)
Jesus did not say, 'I am finished' — He said, 'IT is _____.' The work of redemption is complete. (Finished)

"Tetelestai! It is the most thunderous word ever spoken. With it, Satan's power was broken, death's dominion was shattered, and the prison door of hell was shut on every soul that trusts in Christ." **— Charles Spurgeon**
"When Jesus said, 'It is finished,' He meant it. You cannot add to a finished work. Salvation is not Christ plus your efforts — it is Christ ALONE, and it is DONE." **— D.L. Moody**

BONUS: BUT WHOM SAY YE THAT I AM?
The Most Searching Question

Matthew 16:15 — "He saith unto them, But whom say ye that I am?"

Every human being who has ever lived must ultimately answer this question. Not what the crowd says. Not what your parents said. Not what your church says. Whom do YOU say He is?

Matthew 16:16 — "And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God."

Teaching Points:
1. Jesus was not looking for a theological debate. He was asking for personal confession.
2. Peter's answer was the model: 'Thou art the Christ — the Son of the living God.' Not 'a prophet.' Not 'a great teacher.' THE Christ.
3. The same question stands today. Everything depends on how you answer it.

Jesus asked, 'But whom say _____ that I am?' (Ye / You)
Peter answered: 'Thou art the Christ, the Son of the _____ God.' (Living)

"Your answer to this question — 'Who is Jesus?' — will determine everything about your eternity. It is the only question that ultimately matters." **— A.W. Tozer**

CONCLUSION: ALL POWER IS GIVEN UNTO ME

Matthew 28:18-20 — "And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye

therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen."

Greek: ἐξουσία (exousia) — Power / Authority — the right and ability to act, to rule, to command. ALL authority in heaven AND earth belongs to Jesus Christ.

The words of Jesus are not the words of a dead man. He is risen. He is reigning. And He holds all authority in the universe. These profound statements were not spoken into history — they were spoken into eternity. And they are still speaking today.

He says to you right now:
'I AM the Way — are you lost?'
'Come unto me — are you weary?'
'Thy sins be forgiven — are you carrying guilt?'
'It is finished — are you still trying to earn your salvation?'
'Whom say ye that I am — have you decided?'

"Go to the cross. Stand beneath it. Look up into the face of Christ dying for you — and then hear Him say, 'It is finished.' That is the gospel. That is everything." **— Charles Spurgeon**

INVITATION: If you have never answered Jesus' question — 'But whom say ye that I am?' — today is your day. He is still asking. He is still waiting. He is still the Way, the Truth, and the Life. And He says to you right now: 'Come unto Me.'