

4-29-2026 – I AM – part 2

The “I AM” statements of Jesus from John’s Gospel. “I AM”- God’s name.

- Last week, **1** - [I Am the Bread of Life \(John 6:35\)](#)

2 – “I am the light of the world” (John 8:12, 9:5):

John 8:12 - Jesus said to the people - “**I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.**”

Teaching / Feast of Tabernacles - the imagery of light would be particularly significant due to the festival's lamp-lighting ceremonies.

- While teaching, Jesus is challenged again by the Pharisees.

○ 1st: Woman/adultery . . . 2nd: “appearing as your own witness”

▪ **Witness** – “refresh your recollection” – takes you right back.

▪ JOHN begins: “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. . . ⁴In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.”

○ Jesus’ words had a **sensory connection** for John then, **now for us**.

○ When we see candles, light . . . think of Jesus. **5 meanings**

1 - **Light always wins**. It always Conquers Darkness.

○ Jesus said: “take heart; I have overcome the world.” Beat death.

○ Let candles be a reminder- Jesus never fails. We know how it ends

2 – **Imagery of light is significant** in Jewish tradition. Moses/wilderness

○ **Exod 13:21** – “By day the LORD went ahead of them in a pillar of cloud to guide them on their way and by night in a pillar of fire to give them light, so that they could travel by day or night”

○ In Jewish tradition, Light **symbolizes God's presence, guidance**.

▪ **Feast of Tabernacles**. Lg candles, reminder – pillars of Light.

- **We're never alone.** God is present w/ us. We're not orphans.
- **John 16:32** – “**But the time is coming—indeed it's here now—when you will be scattered, each one going his own way, leaving me alone. Yet I am not alone because the Father is with me.**”

3 - Jesus said – “**whoever follows me will never walk in darkness**”

- Jesus offers us **Spiritual clarity in a dark world.**
 - Pillar of light moved ahead... **follow the light.**
 - He **goes first** . . . the **Shepherd** prepares the way.
- We'll still walk in darkness if we're **going our own way.** . . don't follow.
 - Today, people still walk in darkness . . . led astray, following lies.
- **John 9:5** – Jesus **heals man born blind** . . . says again, “**I am the light:**
 - **W/o Jesus, we're blind... in the dark.**
- **KEY:** We must **choose Jesus**; Spend time w/ Him; look for His light . . . choose the **narrow path** that leads to righteousness.
 - A **daily relationship** w/Jesus is a transformative relationship that leads to moral and spiritual clarity.
 - He's our **daily bread** . . . we **need Him every day**, like a meal.
 - **Same way - can't live in light if we never turn on the switch.**

4 – Light reminds us - **God is moving us** to our destiny; where we belong.

- God moved Israel w/ pillar of light. **We move w/ light of Jesus.**
 - We have **enough light** to see what to do next, but not enough to no longer **trust** Jesus & seek Him out daily.
 - Our **prayers** to Jesus – and willing heart to follow - enable us to see the way . . . light is on.
- As the light of the world, Jesus guides us thru **every day, every season** of our lives. **Light is a continuous supply**; doesn't flicker.

- 5 – Notice: Jesus said, “Whoever follows me . . . will have the **light of life**.”
- The “**light of life**” means Jesus’ light is not only guidance and truth, but a life that is **abundant and eternal**.
 - Light & life are inseparable. **Need light to live.**
 - Jesus as our light is both present experience & eternal destiny.
 - One day, we shall live in a city that “has no need of sun... for the glory of God gives it light, and the Lamb is its lamp” ([Revelation 21:23](#)).
 - Until then, we need to lift up the light of Jesus. . . we need to be the “**city on a hill**” – Jesus called us “the light of the world”
 - “For once you were full of darkness, but now you have light from the Lord. So live as people of light!” ([Ephesians 5:8](#))