

Jesus Christ, The “I Am” Of The New Testament. - Part I -

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Text: John 6:35

**Theme: To emphasize the glory of Christ through the
“I am” sayings found in John’s gospel record.**

Introduction:

1. (Optional - One of the favorite times of the year for some people is that of Christmas)
 - a. What would our world be like if Christ had never been born?
 - b. Probably the world would have been destroyed - our weapons of war are only restrained because Christ has raised the level of respect for human life.
2. One of the favorite books of the Bible is the gospel according to John.
 - a. It is a book of hope - (3:16,17).
 - b. It is a book designed to create faith in Jesus - (20:30,31).
 - c. We learn of the great blessings of being followers of Christ - (14:1-3).
3. John presents Christ to us by miracles and his teachings where Christ declares himself, the “I am.”

Discussion: "I Am...."

- I. "I am the bread of life." - John⁶:35.
 - A. Sequel to the feeding of the five thousand - relate -
 - B. Jesus is the true bread of life.
 - 1. Jesus is the answer to those whose souls are hungering and thirsting after righteousness.
 - 2. Just as Moses and the wandering Israelites were fed in the wilderness for forty years with manna from heaven, and, even as the five thousand in our text have been fed by means of the miraculous multiplication of the loaves and fishes, even so, ever since the first century have thousands, yea millions, fed on the true bread of life, Jesus Christ, and their souls do testify of its satisfying nature, to it's ability to make content the deepest cravings of the soul for spiritual nourishment and vitality.
 - 3. One who does not feed on this bread will suffer spiritual malnutrition with all its evil consequences - John⁶:63.
- II. "I am the light of the world." - John⁸:12.
 - A. The story -
 - 1. Jesus had gone into the temple to teach, v. 2.
 - 2. A woman is brought in who has been caught in the act of adultery -
 - a. She is guilty.
 - b. But Jesus saves her from death.
 - c. She is like all of us - Romans⁷:23.
 - B. But Jesus is the light of the world - John⁸:17.
 - 1. We are in a dark, foggy ocean of sin - helplessly doomed -
 - 2. Except for that beacon of light
- III. "Before Abraham was, I am" - John⁸:58.
 - A. These people were determined to not follow Christ.
 - B. Jesus pointed out to them the consequences of sin -

1. John 8:24 - death.
2. John 8:30 - many believed.
3. John 8:31,32 - but were not willing to make the commitment-
4. John 8:33 - not true - now in bondage to sin, v.34.
5. John 8:37 - no place for Jesus' word -
6. John 8:41 - they do the deeds of their fathers - the devil - v.44.
7. John 8:53 - they wanted to know if he was greater than Abraham -
 - a. John 8:58 - before Abraham was, I Am -
 - b. Abraham was only a human, a by-product of the creation -
 - 1) Jesus was divine from the beginning - John 1:1.
 - 2) Abraham offered sacrifices to God for his sins, but Jesus had no sin - John 8:46.
 - 3) Jesus offered them escape from the penalty of sin -
 - a) John 8:24,51.
 - b) He could offer life because he is life -
 - 4) John 8:54 - they rejected him - even as do many today.
 - 5) [Ill.- Person falling off cliff - refuses outstretched hand that can save him.]

Conclusion and Invitation:

1. Jesus is still extending his hand of mercy.
2. Many still refuse him.
3. Jesus is tenderly calling them home.