

The Word: "I AM"

Scripture Text: John 1:1-5

We've been studying Jesus as John depicts Him:

1. The Word was in the beginning
2. The Word is God
3. The Word is the Messiah and the Son of God

This morning: The Word is "I AM."

Defining words can be difficult; we've looked at this numerous times. Imagine trying to explain something to someone that does not know English. Try explaining an elephant to someone that cannot see. Words and how we use words are difficult.

This morning we will look at how Jesus defines Himself, the "I AM" statements (cf. Exodus 3,4).

1. "I am the Bread of Life"
 - a. John 6:35 – the feeding of the 5000.
 - i. This is the only miracle recorded by MT, MK, LK, and JN.
 - ii. It is significant to Christ and His ministry.
 - b. John 6:48 – "I am the Bread of Life"
 - c. Daily bread is essential to life.
 - i. Used in Model prayer, MT. 6:9-13
 - ii. Bread used numerous times in Scripture
 - d. Jesus wants to be your daily thing.
 - i. He wants to be the thing that you need and crave every day!
 - ii. MT. 5:4
2. "I am the Light of the World"
 - a. John 8:12, 9:5
 - i. One light in a room full of darkness makes a big difference.
 - ii. We define darkness as the absence of light. Light is always a good thing.
 - iii. Not many good things happen in the light.
 - b. John 12:46
 - i. Light and darkness cannot coexist.
 - ii. The whole idea of "coexist" [bumper stickers] is absurd. In fact, there is a Greek Word for that: *Bologna*.
 - c. Jesus truly is the Light.
3. "I am the Gate"
 - a. John 10:7
 - b. There is only one gate.
 - i. Not many gates.
 - ii. Same with entrances into Heaven.
4. "I am the Good Shepherd"
 - a. John 10:11-14

- i. Some people that watch sheep do not care.
 - ii. When trouble arises, they flee. Do you?
 - b. The shepherd has a great relationship with his sheep.
 - i. They know his voice. Do you know His voice?
 - ii. Do you have a good relationship with God? Or is your relationship one where if the local congregation closes you would stop worshipping?
 - c. Some people have a rented faith.
 - i. Similar to that of a rental car.
 - ii. We shouldn't have a rented faith. We should have an active faith.
 - d. John 10:1-5
 - i. We don't find thieves cool.
 - ii. Satan is never going to walk in the front door.
 - e. Jesus is willing to combat Satan and sometimes we won't let Him.
- 5. "I am the Resurrection and the Life."
 - a. John 11:25
 - i. Jesus is showing that death is no big deal.
 - ii. We make it a big deal; it is not really.
 - iii. It is our [hopeful] going home.
 - b. Christians have stepped into eternity – our physical bodies will fail but our soul will not!
- 6. "I am the Way and the Life"
 - a. John 14:6
 - i. Notice how many there are.
 - ii. Jesus only talks about ONE way!
 - b. Jesus will never lie to you!
- 7. "I am the True Vine"
 - a. John 15:1-5
 - i. The leaf pulled off the vine will die.
 - ii. Why do people separate themselves and then wonder why they are not being nourished?
 - b. Flowers die when removed.
 - i. We do the same when removed from the Vine.
 - ii. There is just one true vine.
 - c. We need to be connected to the Father!

Who are you?

Jesus gives us a list of 7 things about Himself.

"I AM" goes back to the Old Testament.

Not asking you to be God – that is physically impossible!

Are asking you to be the one that God commands you to be! 2 Peter 1:3-11

Luke 15:3-7 Jesus is out looking for lost sheep!

Are you lost? Are you found?

Are you faithful?

Invitation.

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November 29, 2015 AM Wood Church of Christ