



“I AM” ...How Jesus Reveals Himself

This is a short, three-day version of a YouVersion Reading Plan by GlobalRize.org

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In the Bible, we read a lot of stories about Jesus by which we learn to know Him better. But the apostle John also recorded statements of Jesus about Himself. These so-called “I Am” statements are short, concise sayings that reveal something of Jesus’ character or ministry. Reading them is a great way to get to know Jesus better!

Day 1: It is I; Do Not Be Afraid

Bible References:

John 6:16-21

John 10:31-33

In the Old Testament, God's personal name was YHWH. In New Testament Greek, it reads "*ἐγὼ εἰμί*". This name is difficult to translate, but means something like "I am." This short phrase thus has a deep theological meaning.

The stunning thing about Jesus is that He uses this personal name of God and applies it to Himself. He thereby claims to be God Himself. For most of the people in His days, that is utterly unthinkable. They can't accept the truth of His claim, and therefore condemn Him for blasphemy. Ultimately, this is the reason Jesus is sentenced to death.

However, we know that Jesus' claim was true. He is God indeed!

In the coming days, we will read a couple of texts where Jesus uses this phrase "I am" together with a description that reveals an important aspect of His character and work. These statements give us a picture of Jesus as the One who creates and sustains our lives, both now and in eternity.

Are you eager to learn more about Jesus?

Day 2: I Am...The Resurrection and the Life

Bible References:

John 11:21-27

John 11:38-44

In John 11 we read how a friend of Jesus has died, and his family is mourning. Jesus is emotionally touched as well. He goes to Martha, one of the mourning sisters, and speaks with her about the resurrection of the dead. He assures her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live".

Martha confesses her faith that the dead will indeed be raised at the end of time, and that Jesus is the long-awaited Messiah who triumphs over sin and death. That is a remarkable confession. Standing near the grave of her dead brother, Martha's faith is unshaken. No matter how hopeless the situation seems for human eyes, she knows that God is stronger than death.

To show that He is indeed the Resurrection and the Life, Jesus summons the dead man to come out of his grave – and he does! He is alive again! The rumor of this miracle spreads around the country, and many people believe in Jesus.

Do you believe that Jesus is the Resurrection and the Life?

Day 3: I Am...The Way, the Truth and the Life

Bible References:

John 14:1-7

Hebrews 10:19-23

Human sin has created a big chasm between God and man. We can't approach God without being consumed by His holiness. That was symbolized in the Jewish worship, where nobody but the especially appointed high priest, once a year, could enter God's holy dwelling place. But Jesus has come to make a way – even more, to *be* the Way towards the Father. Only through Him can we come to God.

Jesus also is the Truth. He fulfills the prophecies of the Old Testament, and also the symbolism of the Jewish religion. He is the truth all of Israel's religion was pointing towards. Moreover, He makes the true God known by His preaching.

Thirdly, Jesus is the Life. He “has life in himself” (John 5:26) and can give eternal life to whoever believes in Him. He conquers death by raising from the death, and breaks its power by paying for the death deserving sins of humanity.

Did you already find Truth and Life by following Jesus?

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