

Evening Sermon Outline – April 21, 2019

“Jesus = Eternal Life” John 11:25-26

I. When Jesus uses the words “I AM” He is speaking as God -

- 1. “I AM” was the phrase God gave to Moses as His Name when He spoke to Him from the burning bush – ... ¹⁴ And God said to Moses, “I AM WHO I AM.” And He said, “Thus you shall say to the children of Israel, ‘I AM has sent me to you.’” (Exodus 3:14 NKJ)*
- 2. Jesus’ use of the words “I AM” to refer to Himself as God was clear, not only by the context Biblically but by His enemies’ reaction to them ... ⁵⁸ Jesus said to them, “Most assuredly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I AM.” ⁵⁹ Then they took up stones to throw at Him; but Jesus hid Himself and went out of the temple, going through the midst of them, and so passed by. (John 8:53-59 NKJ)*
- 3. His use of the phrase “I AM” shows HIM POWERFUL (as God) over the soldiers who took Him the night before His death – ... “Whom are you seeking?” ⁵ They answered Him, “Jesus of Nazareth.” Jesus said to them, “I am” And Judas, who betrayed Him, also stood with them. ⁶ Now when He said to them, “I am,” they drew back and fell to the ground. (John 18:5b -6 NKJ)*

II. When Jesus uses the Word “I AM” He is also speaking to our needs - In John’s Gospel Jesus’ “I AM” statements show us how He meets our needs:

- 1. For Food, real sustenance – And Jesus said to them, “I am the bread of life. He who comes to Me shall never hunger, and he who believes in Me shall never thirst. (John 6:35 NKJ)*
- 2. For Entry, into life, into fellowship with God, into sweet pasture, He is the DOOR – ⁹ “I am the door. If anyone enters by Me, he will be saved, and will go in and out and find pasture. (John 10:9 NKJ)*

A. Adam’s sin had shut us OUT – ²⁴ So He drove out the man; and He placed cherubim at the east of the Garden of Eden, and a flaming sword which turned every way, to guard the way to the tree of life. (Genesis 3:24 NKJ)

- B. Jesus’ sacrifice opens our way – ⁵¹ Then, behold, the veil of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom; and the earth quaked, and the rocks were split, (Matthew 27:51 NKJ)*
- 3. For Light, He is the Light that shows us our way – Then Jesus spoke to them again, saying, “I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life.” (John 8:12 NKJ)*
- 4. For Shepherding, because without Him we’d quickly go astray – “I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd gives His life for the sheep. (John 10:11 NKJ) see Psalm 23; Isaiah 53:6; John 10:14 & John 10:27-33*
- 5. For direction and a path, He is our WAY to the Father – Jesus said to him, “I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me. (John 14:6 NKJ)*
- 6. For our vital life connection, He is the true Vine – “I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing. (John 15:5 NKJ)*
- 7. For the cure of death, He is our RESURRECTION and LIFE – Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live. ²⁶ “And whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die. Do you believe this?” (John 11:25-26 NKJ)*

When God would teach mankind His Name, He calls Himself the Great “I AM” and leaves a blank _____ believers may, supply those things for which they pray! CH Mackintosh

III. Our need for RESURRECTION and LIFE is increased due to the punitive alternative: The Second Death; Hell!

1. *The truth about death is that it is not the natural end of life, rather it is God's first way of punishing sin –*

¹⁷ but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die.” Genesis 2:17

²³ For the wages of sin is death... Romans 6:23

2. *Most people to one degree or another fear death, surveys typically rate it among our greatest fears: Our greatest fear: Death – 27%; Public speaking – 23% Most people should fear death even more than they do as it does not lead to Paradise for everyone ²⁷ And as it is appointed for men to die once, but after this the judgment, (Hebrew 9:27 NKJ)*

¹³ "Enter by the narrow gate; for wide is the gate and broad is the way that leads to destruction, and there are many who go in by it. ¹⁴ "Because narrow is the gate and difficult is the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it. (Matthew 7:13-14 NKJ)

3. *Jesus says we should fear God more than death and because of this beyond death judgment –*

⁴ "And I say to you, My friends, do not be afraid of those who kill the body, and after that have no more that they can do. ⁵ But I will show you whom you should fear: Fear Him who, after He has killed, has power to cast into hell; yes, I say to you, fear Him! Luke 12:4-5

A. There is a second death, a destruction that is fearful beyond all description – Then Death and Hades were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. (Revelation 20:14 NKJ)

"But the cowardly, unbelieving, abominable, murderers, sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death." (Revelation 21:8 NKJ)

"he himself shall also drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out full strength into the cup of His indignation. He shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels and in the presence of the Lamb. 11 "And the smoke of their torment ascends forever and ever; and they have no rest day or night, who worship the beast and his image, and whoever receives the mark of his name." (Revelation 14:10-11 NKJ)

B. This dread death is the default, the ultimate destination for all who do not know Christ – There is a way that seems right to a man, But its end is the way of death. (Proverbs 14:12 & Proverbs 16:25 NKJ) 60 million abortions prove this! Death is a FAR WORSE nightmare than most unbelievers dream or think.

3. *Faith in Christ alone provides us salvation from this dread second death and judgment –*
"He who believes in the Son has everlasting life; and he who does not believe the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God abides on him." (John 3:36 NKJ)

IV. The LIFE attained for us by Christ is an abundant life –
"The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly. (John 10:10 NKJ)

1. *It is eternal (not only in duration but quality - Psalm 16:11) – "He who believes in the Son has everlasting life – John 3:36*
"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. (John 3:16 NKJ)

2. *It brings us into right relationship with the Living God - "And this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent. (John 17:3 NKJ)*

"There is a God shaped vacuum in the heart of every man which cannot be filled by any created thing, but only by God, the Creator, made known through Jesus." — Blaise Pascal

Arnold Brevick