

1 THE GREAT I AM – THE RESURRECTION AND THE LIFE

JOHN 11:23-27

2 John 11:23-27

▶²³ Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." ²⁴ Martha said to Him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day." ²⁵ 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?" ²⁷ She said to Him, "Yes, Lord, I believe that You are the Christ, the Son of God, who is to come into the world."

3 Resurrection Day

- ▶ He proved that all of His claims were true when He rose from the dead:
 - ▶ 1) He proved that He is the only true and living God;
 - ▶ 2) He proved that He is the only Savior of lost humanity; and
 - ▶ 3) He proved that by believing in Him you may receive eternal life.

4 Sermon Series on The Great I AM.

- ▶ Exodus chapter 3 – Moses was shepherding his father-in-law's flock in the backside of the desert when he saw this burning bush that was not consumed.
- ▶ The Shekinah Glory of God
- ▶ He was standing on holy ground.
- ▶ God spoke to him out of the bush and commissioned him to return to Egypt to lead His people back to the promised land:
- ▶

5 Exodus 3:13-14

▶ *13 Then Moses said to God, 'Indeed, when I come to the children of Israel and say to them, 'The God of your fathers has sent me to you,' and they say to me, 'What is His name?' what shall I say to them?'* *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. . . .15 This is My name forever. . . .''*

6 I AM

- ▶ We commonly translate as YAHWEH or LORD in all capital letters
- ▶ The Jews, to avoid taking God's name in vain, would not say the name "Yahweh," but instead said *adonai* which means "Lord."
- ▶ Throughout the OT, they replaced the vowels of "Yahweh," with the vowels of "Adonai," and
- ▶ Throughout the Greek translation of the OT they translated the word not as "Yahweh" or "I AM", but used *kurios*, the Greek word for "Lord,"
- ▶

7 Significance of I AM or Yahweh

- ▶ God is the eternally pre-existent one
- ▶ God is self-sufficient and self-existent and not defined by His creation.
- ▶ Moses: "Who am I?" God answered, I AM!
- ▶ Moses, it doesn't matter that you are weak, afraid, and not able to speak. What matters is that I AM God, and I will accomplish my purpose through you

8 God from eternity has been engaged in the work of redemption and salvation

- ▶ The book of Exodus tells the story of how God was engaged in the work of redemption of His people from Egypt to the Promised Land.
- ▶ Today we're going to learn that on this special day, RESURRECTION DAY, God was working out our redemption and our salvation through the life, death and resurrection of Jesus, the GREAT I AM!!!



9 Throughout the Old Testament

- ▶ God's majestic glory, His unwavering justice, and His tender love and mercy are all expressed and revealed in the fact that He is the great "I AM."
- ▶ The name Yahweh (LORD, I AM) was used of God 6807 times in the Old Testament.

10 Examples

- ▶ Exodus 20:2-3: *I am the LORD (Yahweh) your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage. 3 You shall have no other gods before Me.*
- ▶ Isaiah 42:8: *I am the LORD (Yahweh), that is My name; And My glory I will not give to another. Nor My praise to carved images.*
- ▶ Isaiah 45:5: *I am the LORD (Yahweh), and there is no other; There is no God besides Me.*

11 JESUS, THE GREAT I AM

- ▶ The Four Gospels tell us the story of Jesus, the GREAT I AM
- ▶ The Gospel of John uniquely reveals to us that Jesus is truly the GREAT I AM.
- ▶ John didn't start by telling the story of His birth in Bethlehem.

12 John 1:1-3

- ▶ *In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 He was in the beginning with God. 3 In the beginning, and without Him nothing was made that was made.*
 - ▶ "In the beginning": He is the eternal God.
 - ▶ "with God": 2nd person of the Trinity.
 - ▶ "without Him nothing was made that was made": Creator of all things.



13 A Unique Phrase – *ego eimi*

- ▶ Jesus used that phrase repeatedly to declare to the Jews of His day that He was indeed the GREAT I AM, the Yahweh of the OT that the Jews were even afraid to say that sacred name.
- ▶ *ego eimi* occurs twenty-four times in the Gospel of John. Seventeen of those times it is followed by a clear predicate, such as John 6:35: *I am the Bread of Life*; John 8:12: *I am the Light of the world*; and John 10:14: *I am the Good Shepherd*; and, of course, our text for today John 11:25: *I am the resurrection and the life*.

14 John 8:56-59

- ▶ *56 Your father Abraham rejoiced to see My day, and he saw it and was glad." 57 Then the Jews said to Him, "You are not yet fifty years old, and have You seen Abraham?" 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.*

15 John 18:3-6

- ▶ *"Then having received the band and officers from the chief priests and Pharisees, Judas came there with torches and lamps and weapons. 4 Then knowing all the things coming on Him, going forth,*

Jesus said to them, Whom do you seek? 5 They answered Him, Jesus the Nazarene. Jesus said to them, I AM! And Judas, he betraying Him, was also standing with them. 6 Therefore when He said to them, I AM, they went backward and fell to (the) ground” (Jay Green’s literal translation).



16 THE GREAT I AM – THE RESURRECTION AND THE LIFE

- ▶ John chapter 8 -- They asked Him, “Who are you?” (John 8:25)
- ▶ He told them plainly that He was , “THE GREAT I AM, Yahweh, the God they claimed to worship.
- ▶ In the Gospel of John he tells us not only the identity of Jesus as THE GREAT I AM, but also the benefits we receive when we believe in Him as our God and Savior.

17 Seven I AM Statements of Jesus

- ▶ John 6:35: *I am the bread of life.*
- ▶ John 8:12: *I am the light of the world.*
- ▶ John 10:9: *I am the door.*
- ▶ John 10:11: *I am the good shepherd.*
- ▶ John 14:6: *I am the way, the truth, and the life.*
- ▶ John 15:1: *I am the true vine.*
- ▶ John 11:25 – *I am the Resurrection and the Life*

18 John 11:23-27

- ▶²³ *Jesus said to her, “Your brother will rise again.”* ²⁴ *Martha said to Him, “I know that he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day.”* ²⁵ *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?”* ²⁷ *She said to Him, “Yes, Lord, I believe that You are the Christ, the Son of God, who is to come into the world.”*



19 The Problem

- ▶ We All Face – Death – Physical Death
- ▶ A fact – death is getting closer every minute of every day.
- ▶ One day, your time and my time will run out.

20 A Lifetime Compared to a Single Day

- ▶ 15, the time is 10:25 a.m.
- ▶ 25, the time is 12:42 p.m.
- ▶ 35, the time is 3:00 p.m.
- ▶ 45, the time is 5:16 p.m.
- ▶ 55, the time is 7:34 p.m.
- ▶ 65, the time is 9:55 p.m.
- ▶ 70, the time is 11:00 p.m. (Please notice that it is always later than you think it is!)

21 Lazarus

- ▶ Everything was over for him.
- ▶ No more family, no more friends, no more joy, no more anything.
- ▶ His life was over, until Jesus passed by!
- ▶ In John 12, we find Lazarus sitting at the table and dining with the Lord Jesus. Jesus gave him a new life, and He can do the same for you.

22 **The Greater Problem – Spiritual Death!**

▶ Romans 5:12: *12 Therefore, just as through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned.*

23 **The Promise Jesus Made – Eph. 2:1-5**

▶ *And you He made alive, who were dead in trespasses and sins, 2 in which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience, 3 among whom also we all once conducted ourselves in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, just as the others. 4 But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, 5 even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved).*

24 **Jesus Conquers Death**

- ▶ Those who place their faith in Jesus Christ will never die! According to God's Word, we have passed from death unto life, and we shall live forever.
- ▶ To receive the promise of Christ and be rescued from spiritual death and from the power of the grave, you have to believe on Jesus.
- ▶ The Bible does not teach us to trust our works, our goodness, or our religion to earn our salvation. Neither can we place our confidence in the church or in a changed life. Salvation comes only through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ

25 **Remember!**

- ▶ Jesus said, *"I am the resurrection and the life." I AM!!! Yahweh!!!*
- ▶ Eternal, Infinite, Creator God who loves you and me. He had the power to create the universe.
- ▶ He had the power to protect and preserve His chosen people, the Jews down to the present time.
- ▶ And, yes, He had the power to stand before Lazarus' tomb and say, *"Lazarus, come forth! And Lazarus walked out of that tomb still wrapped in his grave clothes. Jesus said to them, "Loose him, and let him go."*

26 **Jesus, the GREAT I AM, loves you**

- ▶ He died for you. He shed His blood for you on the cross. He bore your sins. He took your place. Will you receive Him today as your Savior?