



Repentance Tabernacle Church

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The Great I Am!

Focus Verses: John 8:56-59 - ⁵⁶Your father Abraham rejoiced to see my day: and he saw it, and was glad.

⁵⁷Then said the Jews unto him, Thou art not yet fifty years old, and hast thou seen Abraham? ⁵⁸Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Before Abraham was, I am. ⁵⁹Then took they up stones to cast at him: but Jesus hid himself, and went out of the temple, going through the midst of them, and so passed by.

Lesson Text: Exodus 3:14; John 8:42-59

Truth About God: The I AM manifested Himself as Jesus Christ.

Truth For My Life: I will worship Jesus as the I AM.

God revealed Himself to Moses when He said, *“I am the God of thy father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob”* (Exodus 3:6). God had seen the affliction of His children and intended to rescue them from Egypt. God wanted to partner with Moses to deliver the Israelites out of bondage. God saw no problem, He assured Moses He would go with him, but Moses still was not sure; after all, he was talking with a talking bush. Moses questioned what to tell the children of Israel when they asked who sent him. *“And God said unto Moses, I Am That I Am: and he said, Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, I Am hath sent me unto you”* (Exodus 3:14).

Moses felt unqualified because of his slow speech. To expel all his excuses, God told Moses that his brother Aaron could go as a spokesman. No more excuses—Moses was about to discover the **I AM** is all in all. God rained down ten plagues on Egypt. When Pharaoh finally folded and let them go, God guided them through the desert with a cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night. Everything they would need, God would provide. They would know He is the **I AM**, all in all.

Moses led this mass of people right up to the shores of the Red Sea. What now? God simply parted the waters and made the muddy floor of the Red Sea dry for Moses and the children of Israel to pass. When all His people finally reached the other side, the waters suddenly crashed back into place, rushing with such force that the Egyptian soldiers giving chase were drowned. God is the protector for those who serve Him and the avenger for those who torment His beloved children. He is the I AM, all in all. Moses was overcome with awe for what God had just done, He broke out in song (Exodus 15:1), worshiping God Almighty for bringing them through the Red Sea. Worship is an expression of reverence or adoration for God.

Jesus Christ was revealed as the I AM when He forgave a woman caught in the act of adultery (John 8:4-11), never mind the fact only God could forgive sins. The religious leaders' trap was thwarted, and most of them meandered off into the crowd. The religious leaders were offended at Jesus. However, with every accusation they threw out, Jesus had a comeback they could not dispute. The Jews claimed that Abraham was their Father, but Jesus refuted their claim (John 8:39). Jesus stated boldly *“Before Abraham was, I am”* (John 8:58). This declaration was the last straw. The Jews picked up stones intending to kill Jesus on the spot for His blasphemy. However, Jesus disappeared through their midst out of the Temple.

This was one of the boldest claims to deity Jesus made while He walked this earth. It may have been one of the most provoking statements that sealed His death with the unbelievers who had Him crucified. The great I AM came to earth as a little baby, and when the time was fulfilled, He paid for our sins through His amazing redemption plan. God came in flesh and dwelt among us. We celebrate this wonderful truth to this day. **Jesus Christ is the great I AM.**

Jesus is God who came in flesh. Such a concept is hard for unbelievers to grasp, but it is a wonderful truth for true believers. The disciples saw the miracles Jesus did in His Father's name. They witnessed Him raise the dead to life. No one had ever demonstrated that kind of power. Jesus was quick to explain the power did not come from His humanity but from the Spirit that indwelt Him. *“And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifest in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory”* (1 Timothy 3:16). **God declared He was the I AM from the beginning of time, and He will be the I AM forever.**