

The Seven "I AM" Statements of Jesus in the Gospel of John

- I. I Am the Bread of Life
- 3. I Am the Gate of the Sheep
- 5. I Am the Resurrection and the Life
- 7. I Am the True Vine

- 2. I Am the Light of the World
- 4. I Am the Good Shepherd
- 6. I Am the Way, the Truth and the Life

NOTE: Each of these statements tells you something of who Jesus is—His character and nature.

The Most Famous "I AM"

God to Moses:

"Do not come any closer," God said. "Take off your sandals, for the place where you are standing is holy ground." • Then he said, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob." At this, Moses hid his face, because he was afraid to look at God.

Exodus 3:5–6 (NIV)

Moses to God:

"Suppose I go to the Israelites and say to them, 'The God of your fathers has sent me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is his name?' Then what shall I tell them?" Exodus 3:13 (NIV)

God Responds:

"I AM WHO I AM. This is what you are to say to the Israelites: 'I AM has sent me to you."

Exodus 3:14 (NIV)

When God told Moses that His name is "I AM WHO I AM,"	
God was saying, "I am the	"

Certainly, we live, move and exist because of Him.

Acts 17:28a (GW)

1800 Years Later: Jesus Speaking to the Jewish Religious Leaders

"...Your father Abraham rejoiced as he looked forward to my coming. He saw it and was glad." ⁵⁷ The people said, "You aren't even fifty years old. How can you say you have seen Abraham?" ⁵⁸ Jesus answered, "I tell you the truth, before Abraham was even born, <u>I AM!</u>" ⁵⁹ At that point they picked up stones to throw at him. But Jesus was hidden from them and left the Temple.

John 8:56–59 (NLT)

That was not the only time Jesus claimed to be God.

If you don't believe that I AM, you will die in your sins.

John 8:24b (CEB)

So Jesus said to them, "When the Human One is lifted up, then you will know that I AM." John 8:28a (CEB)

John 6:4, 30-35 (NIV)

How does this story tell us who Jesus is and how Jesus gives life?

Hint #1: The Jewish Passover Festival was near.

John 6:4 (NIV)

For the Jews, Passover is their salvation story.

Jesus—the Bread of Life—is God's
____for us!

Hint #2: Very truly I tell you, the one who believes has eternal life. ⁴⁸ I am the bread of life. ⁴⁹ Your ancestors ate the <u>manna</u> in the wilderness, yet they died. ⁵⁰ But here is the bread that comes down from heaven, which anyone may eat and not die. ⁵¹ I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats this bread will live forever. This bread is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world." John 6:47–51 (NIV)

Jesus—the Bread of Life—gives us
_____ and
satisfies the _____

From this time many of his disciples turned back and no longer followed him. ⁶⁷ "You do not want to leave too, do you?" Jesus asked the Twelve.

⁶⁸ Simon Peter answered him, "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. ⁶⁹ We have come to believe and to know that you are the Holy One of God.

John 6:66–69 (NIV)

Primary Sources for today's teaching: Exalting Christ...The Son of God by Chuck Swindoll; John: The Gospel of Light and Life by Adam Hamilton.

⁴The Jewish Passover Festival was near.

³⁰ So they asked him, "What sign then will you give that we may see it and believe you? What will you do?

Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written: 'He gave them bread from heaven to eat.''

³² Jesus said to them, "Very truly I tell you, it is not Moses who has given you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. ³³ For the bread of God is the bread that comes down from heaven and gives life to the world."

³⁴ "Sir," they said, "always give us this bread."

³⁵ Then Jesus declared, "<u>I am the bread of life</u>. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.