

## God the Son, Week 2

*And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth. John 1:14*

### **Review**

Jesus was fully man.

He was tempted in every way as we are, yet without sin (Heb. 4:15).

He bore our grief and carried our sorrows (Isa. 53:4).

Jesus is also fully God—the fulfillment of the Old Testament promises of a Redeemer, the Messiah, who would come and deliver Israel.

The Old Testament refers to the coming Redeemer as the *Anointed One*, which in Hebrew translates as *Messiah*, and in Greek, to *Christ*. Jesus Christ is the same as saying Jesus the Messiah.

### **I AM**

\*I AM is the name God said He wanted to be remembered by for all generations.

\*I AM is the self-existent One.

\*The One who always was and always will be.

\*The One who can never change.

\*I AM is God's personal name. The name that sets Him apart from all other gods.

\*It is God's covenant name.

\*It is the Name which tells us who God is, not just what He does.

I AM, LORD in all caps, Jehovah, and Yahweh, all mean the same thing and can be used interchangeably. They are just different ways the 4 Hebrew letters of I AM are translated into English.

Jesus Christ is the eternal, immutable God. As the I AM, He always was and always will be. He can never stop being God. Yet, as fully man, "Jesus gave up His independent use of His divine attributes, and put Himself into subjection to the Father and the Spirit. He took upon Himself the REAL limitations of humanity, yet without sin" (Kirk Welch).

### **Jesus, the I AM in the Gospel of John**

Jesus' own claims to be the Messiah, Yahweh in the flesh.

John's purpose for writing his gospel is found in John 20:30-31.

<sup>30</sup> Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; <sup>31</sup> But these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ [*the Messiah*], the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

### **Jesus, the I AM– John 8:56-59**

In response to the Pharisees' questions, "Who are you?"... "Are you greater than our father Abraham, who died?... Who do you make yourself out to be?" (John 8:25, 53)

Jesus answered: John 8:56-59

<sup>56</sup>Your father Abraham rejoiced that he would see my day. He saw it and was glad. <sup>57</sup>So the Jews said to him, "You are not yet fifty years old, and have you seen Abraham?" <sup>58</sup>Jesus said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was, ***I am.***" <sup>59</sup>So they picked up stones to throw at him, but Jesus hid himself and went out of the temple.

Leviticus 24:16 Whoever blasphemes the name of the **LORD (I AM)** shall surely be put to death. All the congregation shall stone him. The sojourner as well as the native, when he blasphemes the Name, shall be put to death.

### **Claim #1: I AM the Bread of Life – John 6:35, 48, 51**

Bread was an important symbol for Israel which pointed to the presence of God among them.

\*Manna

\*The "Bread of His Presence" on the table of showbread in the Holy Place.

\*The Feast of Passover

John 6:32-33, 35 <sup>32</sup>Truly, truly, I say to you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but my Father gives you the true bread from heaven. <sup>33</sup>For the bread of God is he who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world... <sup>35</sup>***I AM the bread of life; whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst.***

John 6:48-51 <sup>48</sup> ***I am the bread of life.*** <sup>49</sup>Your fathers ate manna in the wilderness, and they died. <sup>50</sup>This is the bread that comes down from heaven, so that one may eat of it and not die. <sup>51</sup>***I am the living bread that came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever. And the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh.***

Jesus had switched from talking about physical food to speaking of spiritual food which leads to eternal life. He also foreshadowed His crucifixion when He said that the bread He would give for the life of the world was His flesh.

\*\*Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the Living God, the Bread of Life, who gave Himself that those who believe may eat of Him and have eternal life.

### **Claim #2: I AM the Light of the World – John 8:12; 9:5**

John 8:12 ***I am the light of the world.*** Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

John 9:5 As long as I am in the world, ***I am the light of the world.***

Light represented the presence of God.

- \*Creation

- \*Led Israel in the wilderness with a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night.

- \*Golden Lampstand in the tabernacle

- \*Feast of Tabernacles at the time of Jesus

Jesus gave physical and spiritual sight to a man born blind.

In speaking of Jesus, John 1:9-12 says, <sup>9</sup>“The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world. <sup>10</sup>He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. <sup>11</sup>He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. <sup>12</sup>But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God.

Revelation 1:12-16 (John’s vision of Jesus)

Then I turned to see the voice that was speaking to me, and on turning I saw seven golden lampstands, and in the midst of the lampstands one like a son of man, clothed with a long robe and with a golden sash around his chest. The hairs of his head were white, like white wool, like snow. His eyes were like a flame of fire, his feet were like burnished bronze, refined in a furnace, and his voice was like the roar of many waters. In his right hand he held seven stars, from his mouth came a sharp two-edged sword, and his face was like the sun shining in full strength.

Revelation 21:22-23 (John’s vision of the New Jerusalem)

And I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and its lamp is the Lamb.

\*\*Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the Living God, the Light of World, who gave Himself that all who follow Him will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.

**Claim #3: I AM the Door– John 10:7-9**

<sup>7</sup>So Jesus again said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, ***I am the door of the sheep.*** <sup>8</sup>All who came before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them. <sup>9</sup>***I am the door.*** If anyone enters by me, he will be saved and will go in and out and find pasture.

- \*One entrance to the presence of God in the wilderness tabernacle.

- \*One entrance to the sheepfold.

\*\*Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the Living God, the only Door through which one may enter and be saved.

**Claim #4: I AM the Good Shepherd – John 10:11, 14-15**

<sup>11</sup>***I am the good shepherd.*** The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep...

<sup>14</sup>***I am the good shepherd.*** I know my own and my own know me, <sup>15</sup>just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep.

\*Psalm 23: 1 “The LORD [*Jehovah-raah*] is my shepherd; I shall not want.

\*Revelation 7:17 (Martyrs from the Great Tribulation are praising God around the throne.)  
For the Lamb in the midst of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of living water, and God will wipe every tear from their eyes.

\*\*Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the Living God, the Good Shepherd, who laid down His life for His sheep.

**Claim #5: I AM the Resurrection and the Life – John 11:25-26**

Jesus said to her, “***I am the resurrection and the life.*** Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?”

Revelation 1:17-18

<sup>17</sup>When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. But he laid his right hand on me, saying, “Fear not, I am the first and the last, <sup>18</sup>and the living one. I died, and behold I am alive forevermore, and I have the keys of Death and Hades [the place of the dead].

John 11:47-48

<sup>47</sup>So the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered the council and said, “What are we to do? For this man performs many signs. <sup>48</sup>If we let him go on like this, everyone will believe in him, and the Romans will come and take away both our place and our nation.”

\*\*Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the Living God, the Resurrection and the Life, who gives eternal life to those who repent and believe in His name.

**Claim #6: I AM the Way, the Truth and the Life – John 14:6**

Jesus said to him, “***I am the way, and the truth, and the life.*** No one comes to the Father except through me.”

The Way

Only one door, one way, to the Father and that is through Jesus Christ.

The Truth

John 1:14 And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

John 17:17 Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth.

John 8:31-32 <sup>31</sup>So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, "If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, <sup>32</sup>and you will know the truth and the truth will set you free."

Abide: To remain, dwell with, live with; stay there.

Dr. Francis Schaeffer: "true truth." Truth is absolute. Truth cannot change.

The Life

Romans 6:23 For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

\*\*Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the Living God, the Way, the Truth, and the Life, through whom we can know truth and therefore, know the way to the Father where we will live with Him forever.

### **Claim #7: I AM the Vine – John 15:1, 5**

<sup>1</sup>***I am the true vine***, and my Father is the vinedresser...

<sup>5</sup>***I am the vine***; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing.

\*Old Testament: Israel is often referred to as a vine. (Ps. 80:8, Jer. 2:21, Isa. 5:3-7; 27:2-6).

Jesus claims to be the True Vine who would fulfill what God had intended for Israel.

\*Drink Offering

\*Passover

John 15:1-11 <sup>1</sup>I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. <sup>2</sup>Every branch that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit. <sup>3</sup>Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. <sup>4</sup>Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. <sup>5</sup>I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. <sup>6</sup>If anyone does not abide in me he is thrown away like a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. <sup>7</sup>If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. <sup>8</sup>By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples. <sup>9</sup>As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Abide in his love. <sup>11</sup>These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full.

\*\*Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the Living God, the True Vine, who gives to those who abide in Him a life that is fruitful and full of joy.

### Jesus, the I AM—John 18:4-6

<sup>4</sup>Then Jesus, knowing all that would happen to him, came forward and said to them, “Whom do you seek?” <sup>5</sup>They answered him, “Jesus of Nazareth.” Jesus said to them, “**I am** (\*he).” Judas, who betrayed him, was standing with them. <sup>6</sup>When Jesus said to them, “**I am** (\*he),” they drew back and fell to the ground.

\*The translators have added “he,” but it is not in the original Greek.

In Jesus’ final moments, He applies God’s covenant name to Himself. The power in that name was so overwhelming that it caused those who had come to arrest Him to fall to the ground. Jesus could have walked away at that moment, but He voluntarily surrendered Himself to them.

In the life of Jesus Christ we see the extent to which God went to show His love for sinful humanity. Jesus loved you enough to leave His throne in heaven, humbling Himself, taking “the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men;” then voluntarily going to the cross to suffer a horribly cruel death to pay the penalty our sin deserved (Philippians 2:7, 8).

May we never stop giving God the gratitude and praise He deserves!

A thousand years before Jesus was born, God promised David that an offspring would come from his own body whose kingdom would be established forever!

Jesus Christ is that promised  
    Son of David,  
        Son of God, the “I AM,”  
            fully man and fully God.  
And He shall reign forever and ever,  
    King of kings & Lord of lords,  
        *Hallelujah!*