

I Am

January 5 & 6, 2019

Exodus 3:14 *God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM. This is what you are to say to the Israelites: 'I AM has sent me to you.'"*

The absolute "I am" statements of Jesus

John 18:5 *"...I am he," Jesus said. (And Judas the traitor was standing there with them.)* 6 *When Jesus said, "I am he," they drew back and fell to the ground.*

John 8:58 *"I tell you the truth," Jesus answered, "before Abraham was born, I am!"* 59 *At this, they picked up stones to stone him, but Jesus hid himself, slipping away from the temple grounds.*

The metaphorical "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 10:7 I am the door

John 10:11 I am the good shepherd

John 11:25 I am the resurrection and the life

John 14:6 I am the way, the truth and the life

John 15:5 I am the vine

THE SIGN: John 6:35 *I am the bread of life*

THE SETTING:

1. God had fed them manna in the wilderness

John 6:30 *So they asked him, "What miraculous sign then will you give that we may see it and believe you? What will you do? 31 Our forefathers ate the manna in the desert; as it is written: 'He gave them bread from heaven to eat.'*

2. Passover was celebrated with unleavened bread

John 6:4 *The Jewish Passover Feast was near.*

3. 85% of their income was spent on food.

4. Jesus had just fed the 5,000.

THE STORY:

1. Jesus went to the far shore of the Sea of Galilee to escape the crowds seeking more miracles.
2. They followed him. He fed 5000 men with five loaves two fish and had 12 baskets left over!

3. The crowd tried to make Jesus their king.
4. Jesus sent his disciples across the lake.
In the storm, Jesus walked to them on the water
5. The crowd pursued Jesus across the lake. Jesus told them they were only chasing the free food.
6. Jesus offered them bread that would satisfy forever!
7. Jesus proclaimed, "I am the bread of life."
8. The crowd became increasingly disinterested in Jesus.

THE SIGNIFICANCE (sign-ificance):

1. Physical satisfaction fades quickly; spiritual satisfaction is eternal.

John 6:26 Jesus answered, "I tell you the truth, you are looking for me, not because you saw miraculous signs but because you ate the loaves and had your fill. 27 Do not work for food that spoils, but for food that endures to eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you.

2. No amount of material satisfaction can fill our need for spiritual satisfaction.

John 6:47 I tell you the truth, he who believes has everlasting life. 48 I am the bread of life. 49 Your forefathers ate the manna in the desert, yet they died. 50 But here is the bread that comes down from heaven, which a man may eat and not die.

3. Jesus is the source of our spiritual satisfaction.

John 6:51 I am the living bread that came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever. This bread is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world."

4. It is our nature to chase what will not satisfy to the neglect of the only One who can satisfy.