

## IDENTITY – Part 2

### The Big Easter Story: I AM. Who ... are ... *you*?

April 4, 2021

The “I am” statements of Jesus in John’s Gospel:

#### **John 4:25-26**

<sup>25</sup> The woman said, “I know that Messiah” (called Christ) “is coming. When he comes, he will explain everything to us.” <sup>26</sup> Then Jesus declared, “I, the one speaking to you—**I am he.**”

#### **John 6:35**

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

#### **John 8:12**

<sup>12</sup> When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, “**I am the light of the world.** Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.”

#### **John 10: 9, 11, 14**

<sup>9</sup> **I am the gate;** whoever enters through me will be saved.<sup>[a]</sup> They will come in and go out, and find pasture ... <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 sheep and my sheep know me.

#### **John 14:6**

<sup>6</sup> Jesus answered, “**I am the way and the truth and the life.** No one comes to the Father except through me.

#### **John 15:1,5**

“**I am the true vine,** and my Father is the gardener. <sup>5</sup> “**I am the vine;** you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.”

#### **John 18:5**

<sup>4</sup> Jesus, knowing all that was going to happen to him, went out and asked them, “Who is it you want?” <sup>5</sup> “Jesus of Nazareth,” they replied. “**I am he,**” Jesus said. (And Judas the traitor was standing there with them.)

Jesus is ...

- the Messiah
- the bread of life
- the light of the world
- the gate and the good shepherd
- the way and the truth and the life
- the true vine
- the man, Jesus of Nazareth ...

And Jesus' story is our story, whether we are Living in Truth or Lacking in Truth.

He is relentlessly in pursuit of the people that He is calling to Him. He is relentless ... tenacious ... unyielding. He has not and will not ever give up on you. He has held nothing back from us, even the Son of God himself. And he wants us to hold nothing back as well ... to see ourselves as we are ... sinful and flawed but beloved in the eyes of the God who made us and came to save us.

One more "I am" statement not to miss:

**John 13:19**

<sup>19</sup> "I am telling you now before it happens, so that when it does happen you will believe that **I am who I am**. <sup>20</sup> Very truly I tell you, whoever accepts anyone I send accepts me; and whoever accepts me accepts the one who sent me."

**He is God ... the GREAT I AM!**