

## I Am the Light of the World

In the Gospel of John, Jesus makes 7 “I Am” statements. These statements reveal a lot of what Jesus is about and of His character.

### God reveals Himself as “I Am”

**Exodus 3:14** And God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM." And He said, "Thus you shall say to the children of Israel, 'I AM has sent me to you.' "

- The name YHWH, consisting of the sequence of consonants Yod, Heh, Waw, and Heh, is known as the tetragrammaton.
- The word אֶהְיֶה (‘Ehyeh) is the first person singular imperfective form of הָיָה (hayah), ‘to be’, and owing to the peculiarities of Hebrew grammar means ‘I am’, ‘I was’, and ‘I will be’.
- Jesus takes this title in Revelation
  - **Revelation 1:8** "I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End," says the Lord, "who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty."

### Jesus makes 7 I Am statements in the book of John.

#### I am the light of the world

**John 8:12** Then Jesus spoke to them again, saying, "I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life."

- Jesus is the light of the world
- Those that follow Him do not walk in darkness
- Those that follow Him have the light of life

## Jesus is the light of the world

- **Isaiah 9:2** The people who walked in darkness Have seen a great light; Those who dwelt in the land of the shadow of death, Upon them a light has shined.
- The imagery of darkness implies several things. Not being able to see being the most obvious. But what could they not see?
- Hope! Hope for their future.
  - When we see no way out of our situation, we lose hope
  - When we do not have hope, despair sets in.
  - **1 Thessalonians 4:13** But I do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning those who have fallen asleep, lest you sorrow as others who have no hope.
  - **Ephesians 2:11-13** Therefore remember that you, once Gentiles in the flesh--who are called Uncircumcision by what is called the Circumcision made in the flesh by hands-- <sup>12</sup> that at that time you were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. <sup>13</sup> But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ.

### We may feel hopelessness because of all kinds of situations:

We may feel hopeless when we get a bad health report

- **Luke 4:40** When the sun was setting, all those who had any that were sick with various diseases brought them to Him; and He laid His hands on every one of them and healed them.
- But Jesus can heal us.

We may feel hopeless when we fail at something

- **2 Corinthians 12:9** And He said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness." Therefore most gladly I will rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

- **Luke 12:6-7** "Are not five sparrows sold for two copper coins? And not one of them is forgotten before God. <sup>7</sup> But the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Do not fear therefore; you are of more value than many sparrows.
- Jesus values us. He gives us our worth

We may feel hopeless when there is a financial crisis

- **Philippians 4:19** And my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus.
- Jesus supplies for all of our needs

We may feel hopeless if we feel unworthy of God

- **2 Corinthians 5:21** For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.
- **Romans 5:1** Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ
- **Hebrews 10:19** Therefore, brethren, having boldness to enter the Holiest by the blood of Jesus,
- Jesus is our righteousness making us worthy

**Because Jesus is the light of the world – We have hope!**

**We can see above the line**

**We can see a future that is secure in Him.**

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## Those that follow Him do not walk in darkness

- Our world is in darkness because of sin -There is so much sin in the world.
- John 8:1-2 – Jesus is teaching people
- John 8:3-11 – Jesus is interrupted
- John 8:12 – I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life.
- What prompts Jesus to say this statement? The interruption.
- The interruption is the woman caught in adultery
- The key is vs. 10-11
- **John 8:10-11** When Jesus had raised Himself up and saw no one but the woman, He said to her, "Woman, where are those accusers of yours? Has no one condemned you?" <sup>11</sup> She said, "No one, Lord." And Jesus said to her, "Neither do I condemn you; go and sin no more."
- Go and sin no more
  - She was in darkness. Then she met Jesus. Now she is not in darkness.
  - Jesus did not condemn her for her sin. But He also did not condone it.
  - We are not condemned for our sin when we come to Jesus, but He will have us change.
  - Sin = being in disagreement with God. When we come to God, one of us will have to change. It won't be God.
- Jesus, as light of the world, reveals our sin, but not to condemn us, but to change us and form us into His image.
  - **Romans 12:2** And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.
  - **Romans 8:28-29** And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose. <sup>29</sup> For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren.

## Those that embrace darkness will not understand those who embrace holiness.

- **John 1:5** And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it.

### Those that follow Him have the light of life

- **Matthew 5:14-16** "You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden. <sup>15</sup> Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house. <sup>16</sup> Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.
- **Isaiah 60:1-3** Arise, shine; For your light has come! And the glory of the LORD is risen upon you. <sup>2</sup> For behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, And deep darkness the people; But the LORD will arise over you, And His glory will be seen upon you. <sup>3</sup> The Gentiles shall come to your light, And kings to the brightness of your rising.