

**Exploring the ‘I AM’ statements of Jesus (6):
Devotional Questions – Answers to Questions:**

See Dr Ruckman’s commentary *The Book of John* pp 412-418 and the *Ruckman Reference Bible* pp 1412, 1419-1420 for detailed comment.

PART 1: *I AM the Way’*

1. *What did the Exodus picture (Exodus 3:16-17)?*

Exodus 3:17 states **“And I have said, I will bring you up out of the affliction of Egypt unto the land of the Canaanites, and the Hittites, and the Amorites, and the Perizzites, and the Hivites, and the Jebusites, unto a land flowing with milk and honey.”** Exodus 3:17 pictures the way of comfort that today’s believer needs.

www.tumblr.com/search/edward%20tipper

www.youtube.com/watch?v=Gec7OUrj87M

1 minute 50 seconds in

“Blessed be God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies, and the God of all comfort; Who comforteth us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort them which are in any trouble, by the comfort wherewith we ourselves are comforted of God” 2 Corinthians 1:3-4.



2. *What did Isaiah tell the people (Isaiah 30:21)?*

Isaiah 30:21 states **“And thine ears shall hear a word behind thee, saying, This is the way, walk ye in it, when ye turn to the right hand, and when ye turn to the left.”** The way to get on that way, not neglecting to praise and thank the Guide, is Psalm 107:6-8 **“Then they cried unto the LORD in their trouble, and he delivered them out of their distresses. And he led them forth by the right way, that they might go to a city of habitation. Oh that men would praise the LORD for his goodness, and for his wonderful works to the children of men!”**

3. *What were believers in Jesus called (Acts 9:2, 19:23, 24:14)?*

Acts 9:2 refers to **“...any of this way...”** by whom **“...arose no small stir about that way”** Acts 19:23, **“...the way which they call heresy...”** Acts 24:14 **“that...are the enemies of the cross of Christ”** Philippians 3:18. Note that Paul did not back down before the real heretics and neither should today’s believer. Paul’s steadfastness achieved a good outcome and so will today’s believer’s. **“But when divers were hardened, and believed not, but spake evil of that way before the multitude, he departed from them, and separated the disciples, disputing daily in the school of one Tyrannus. And this continued by the space of two years; so that all they which dwelt in Asia heard the word of the Lord Jesus, both Jews and Greeks”** Acts 19:9-10.

4. *Where does this way lead to (Exodus 3:17, John 14:2, 6)?*

See *Question 1* with respect to the way of comfort Exodus 3:17 and noting John 14:2, 6 **“In my Father’s house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you...no man cometh unto the Father, but by me”** with Acts 4:12, note further the promise for today’s believer to rest upon of John 14:18 **“I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you.”**

PART 2: **I AM** *the Truth*

1. What does Jesus tell the Jewish leadership (Matthew 22:29)? See also Matthew 15:1-9 **“But in vain they do worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men”** Matthew 15:9, Mark 7:13 **“Making the word of God of none effect through your tradition...,”** Galatians 1:6-12 **“...the gospel which was preached of me is not after man. For I neither received it of man, neither was I taught it, but by the revelation of Jesus Christ”** Galatians 1:11-12, 2 Peter 3:14-18 **“Ye therefore, beloved, seeing ye know these things before, beware lest ye also, being led away with the error of the wicked, fall from your own stedfastness”** 2 Peter 3:17.

Matthew 22:29 states **“Jesus answered and said unto them, Ye do err, not knowing the scriptures, nor the power of God.”** These passages warn against **“...the error of the wicked...”** 2 Peter 3:17. Paul’s exhortation to Timothy is the means of avoiding **“...the error of the wicked...”** applicable equally to today’s believer. **“Flee also youthful lusts: but follow righteousness, faith, charity, peace, with them that call on the Lord out of a pure heart”** 2 Timothy 2:22.

2. What is the Old Testament warning (Proverbs 14:12, 16:25)?

Proverbs 14:12, 16:25 state **“There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death.”** Acts 4:12 states **“Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.”** Any and all other names appealed to for salvation **“...are the ways of death.”**

3. What is the question Pilate asked Jesus (John 18:37)?

John 18:37 states **“Pilate therefore said unto him, Art thou a king then? Jesus answered, Thou sayest that I am a king. To this end was I born, and for this cause came I into the world, that I should bear witness unto the truth. Every one that is of the truth heareth my voice.”** The Lord in John 18:37 sets out a principal reason why today’s believer is **“...begotten...again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead”** 1 Peter 1:3. **“For we can do nothing against the truth, but for the truth”** 2 Corinthians 13:8.

4. What does God say about His truth (Psalm 100:5, 117:2)?

Psalm 100:5, 117:2 state **“...his truth endureth to all generations...the truth of the LORD endureth for ever.”** Today’s believer therefore has eternal security **“...who first trusted in Christ...after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise”** Ephesians 1:12-13.

5. How is this connected to Jesus (Hebrews 13:8)?

Hebrews 13:8 states **“Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever.”** Following the answer to *Question 4*, Hebrews 13:8 provides further testimony to today’s believer’s eternal security according to the Lord’s promise of John 10:28 **“And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand.”**

PART 3: **I AM** *the Life*

1. What does John teach us about Jesus (John 1:4, 10:10, 11:25)?

John 1:4 states **“In him was life; and the life was the light of men.”** John 10:10 states **“...I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.”** John 11:25 states **“Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live:”** John 1:4, 10:10, 11:25 teach that life is *in* Jesus Christ, *from* Jesus Christ *without measure* and *through* Jesus Christ *not subject to death*.

Paul therefore declares by way of assurance for today's believer "So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory. O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory?...thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ" 1 Corinthians 15:54-55, 57.

2. What makes man different from any other creature (Genesis 2:7)?

Genesis 2:7 states "And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul." Genesis 1:27 "So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them" shows one reason why man is different from any other creature. Noting that "...all flesh, wherein is the breath of life" is "All in whose nostrils was the breath of life..." Genesis 6:17, 7:15, 22 and that God has given every living creature a soul in that "In whose hand is the soul of every living thing, and the breath of all mankind" Job 12:10, Genesis 2:7 hints at a further reason why man is different from any other creature in that man has the capacity to be *indwelt* by God, which is further proof of eternal security for today's believer as Paul testifies in Romans 8:11 "But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you."

3. What does this mean for us today?

"...for I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day" 2 Timothy 1:12.

