

**Exploring the 'I AM' statements of Jesus (1):
Devotional Questions – Answers to Questions:**

PART 1: *'I AM who I am'** Exodus 3:6, 14-15

*The correct expression is "**I AM THAT I AM**" Exodus 3:14 according to Psalm 90:2 "**Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever thou hadst formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting, thou art God.**"

1. Why does God reveal Himself to Moses (Exodus 3:7-9)?

Exodus 3:8 states "**And I am come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land unto a good land and a large, unto a land flowing with milk and honey; unto the place of the Canaanites, and the Hittites, and the Amorites, and the Perizzites, and the Hivites, and the Jebusites.**"

The essential reason was deliverance as Stephen states in Acts 7:35 "**This Moses whom they refused, saying, Who made thee a ruler and a judge? the same did God send to be a ruler and a deliverer by the hand of the angel which appeared to him in the bush.**"

Spiritually God reveals Himself to today's believer as He did to Paul for the same reason concerning "**...them that are lost: In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them**" 2 Corinthians 4:3-4 "**To open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins, and inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith that is in me**" Acts 26:18.

2. What does God want Moses to do (Exodus 3:10)?

Exodus 3:10 states "**Come now therefore, and I will send thee unto Pharaoh, that thou mayest bring forth my people the children of Israel out of Egypt.**" Today's believer is likewise called to be a deliverer. See *Question 1* and note Paul's exhortation that is not limited to Archippus in Colossians 4:17 "**And say to Archippus, Take heed to the ministry which thou hast received in the Lord, that thou fulfil it.**"

3. What difference does this name of God make?

"The name of the LORD is a strong tower: the righteous runneth into it, and is safe" Proverbs 18:10.

PART 2: *'I AM before Abraham'* John 8:57-58

1. Why does Jesus reveal Himself like this (John 8:17-18, 23-25)?

John 8:25 states "**Then said they unto him, Who art thou? And Jesus saith unto them, Even the same that I said unto you from the beginning.**" Paul explains why the Lord Jesus Christ revealed Himself in this way. "**For verily he took not on him the nature of angels; but he took on him the seed of Abraham. Wherefore in all things it behoved him to be made like unto his brethren, that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make reconciliation for the sins of the people**" Hebrews 2:16-17.

John therefore exhorts his readers as it should be today's believer's exhortation with respect to "**...them which believe not...**" 2 Corinthians 4:3 "**And many other signs truly did Jesus in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book: But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name**" John 20:30-31.

2. What is Jesus saying to the Jews (John 8:58)?

John 8:58 states **“Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Before Abraham was, I am.”** The Lord Jesus Christ is saying that He is Who Nebuchadnezzar saw and to Whom John testified as indeed today’s believer should be willing to testify by means of **“...the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus”** 2 Timothy 3:15.

“He answered and said, Lo, I see four men loose, walking in the midst of the fire, and they have no hurt; and the form of the fourth is like the Son of God” Daniel 3:25.

“And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth” John 1:14.

3. What difference should this name make?

See *Question 1* and John 20:30-31 and note John’s testimony with respect to eternal security to which today’s believer should also testify. **“These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God”** 1 John 5:13.

PART 3:

‘I AM the Messiah you are waiting for’

John 4:25-26

1. Why does Jesus reveal Himself to the Samaritan woman?

The Lord did so to reveal Who He really is, as the woman herself understood. **“Come, see a man, which told me all things that ever I did: is not this the Christ?”** John 4:29. That is why the Lord revealed Himself to Paul and reveals Himself to today’s believer. **“But when it pleased God, who separated me from my mother’s womb, and called me by his grace, To reveal his Son in me, that I might preach him among the heathen...That the blessing of Abraham might come on the Gentiles through Jesus Christ; that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith”** Galatians 1:15-16, 3:14.

2. What does Jesus want the Samaritan woman to do?

The Lord wants her to become a true worshipper of God, which is how it should be for today’s believer, noting as Paul admonishes the Corinthians **“What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God’s”** 1 Corinthians 6:19-20.

“God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth” John 4:24.

“For we are the circumcision, which worship God in the spirit, and rejoice in Christ Jesus, and have no confidence in the flesh” Philippians 3:3.

3. What difference does this name make?

The Samaritans said **“...we have heard him ourselves, and know that this is indeed the Christ, the Saviour of the world”** John 4:42. Peter therefore declares **“Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved”** Acts 4:12. See the attached study **Jelly Babies and Aliens etc. Evangelism** for an illustration.

PART 4: *'I AM - the one you are looking for'** John 18:3-8

*The correct expression is **"I am he"** John 18:5, 6, 8. See *New Age Bible Versions* by Gail Riplinger Chapter 4 *The One vs. the Holy One* for warnings against the expression 'the one.'

1. *Why does Jesus reveal Himself to the soldiers?*

John 18:8-9 state **"Jesus answered, I have told you that I am he: if therefore ye seek me, let these go their way: That the saying might be fulfilled, which he spake, Of them which thou gavest me have I lost none."** Note that John 18:9 does not conflict with Luke 6:16 **"Judas Iscariot, which...was the traitor"** because **"...he went his way, and communed with the chief priests and captains, how he might betray him unto them"** Luke 22:4. The Lord did so because as it should be for today's believer and those to whom he ministers **"...having loved his own which were in the world, he loved them unto the end"** John 13:1.

2. *What does Jesus want the soldiers to do?*

See John 18:8 **"...if therefore ye seek me, let these go their way..."** and note Philippians 2:4 **"Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others"**.

3. *What difference does this name make?*

John 18:7 states **"Then asked he them again, Whom seek ye? And they said, Jesus of Nazareth"** and Mark 1:37 states **"And when they had found him, they said unto him, All men seek for thee."** Therefore **"...he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature"** Mark 16:15.

PART 5: *'Fear not - I AM with you'* John 6:18-20

1. *Why does Jesus reveal Himself to the disciples?*

John 6:20 states **"But he saith unto them, It is I; be not afraid"** confirming the promise to today's believer. **"Fear thou not; for I am with thee; be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness"** Isaiah 41:10.

2. *What does Jesus want the disciples to do?*

John 6:21 states **"Then they willingly received him into the ship: and immediately the ship was at the land whither they went."** Today's believer should focus on willingness with respect to obeying the Lord Jesus Christ *and how it is achieved* as King David shows. **"I delight to do thy will, O my God: yea, thy law is within my heart"** Psalm 40:8.

3. *What difference does this name make?*

Note again John 6:21 **"...and immediately the ship was at the land whither they went"** and remember that for today's believer **"But God, who is rich in mercy...hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;) And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus"** Ephesians 2:4-6.

PART 6: 'I AM - today'

1. What does the 'I AM' from Old and New Testament reveal?

"Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever" Hebrews 13:8. See *Hebrews 13 Part 1* pp 4-5 www.timefortruth.co.uk/alan-oreilly/ with respect to Hebrews 13:8.

2. What is Jesus claiming about Himself?

"Look unto me, and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth: for I am God, and there is none else" Isaiah 45:22.

3. What did the Jews understand Jesus to be claiming (John 10:33)?

The Jews said **"...thou, being a man, makest thyself God"** John 10:33. They misunderstood. It was the opposite, as John shows. **"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God...And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth"** John 1:1, 14.

4. What difference does this name make to us today?

Expectation in that **"...God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father"** Philippians 2:9-11.

Jelly Babies and Aliens etc. Evangelism

Jelly Babies Evangelism

This item has been inserted as a summary testimony from this writer with respect to *The Real World of the Lost** locally. It happened in February 2016.

*www.timefortruth.co.uk/alan-oreilly/ *Poison, DIY Versions and the Real World of the Lost* pp 7-16

www.tesco.com/groceries/product/details/?id=272492680

This morning I was waiting for Gill outside the gym when a young lass, obviously a 6th Form student i.e. high school senior walked past. She smiled at me and politely said "Good morning," to which I responded in like manner. However, I thought this most unusual. Then I remembered that last November, while I was taking part in the church's open air work, when I had given many Chick tracts to the local high school seniors, one student, a girl, had kindly rewarded me with a jelly baby. See graphic. I believe that was the young lady who greeted me this morning, evidently having remembered me.



We can pray that **"the words of the LORD"** Exodus 4:28, 24:3, 4, Numbers 11:24, Joshua 3:9, 24:27, 1 Samuel 8:10, 15:1, 2 Chronicles 11:4, 29:15, Psalm 12:6, Jeremiah 36:4, 6, 8, 11, 37:2, 43:1, Amos 8:11 (18 occurrences in all) will do their work in the hearts and minds of these young folk.

"So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it" Isaiah 55:11.

Strictly speaking, I wasn't supposed to be handing out Chick tracts in that situation. The reason I broke the rules is as follows. See Jack T. Chick on Witnessing www.chick.com/default.asp.

Whatever means we use, rules or no rules, it's a reminder to use what time we have left **"Redeeming the time, because the days are evil"** Ephesians 5:16.

"I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work" John 9:4.

Yours in the Lord Jesus Christ
Alan O'R

Jack T. Chick on Witnessing www.chick.com/default.asp

A special message from Jack Chick . . .



CHICK PUBLICATIONS

P.O. Box 662,
Chino, CA 91710

Editorial Offices:
8780 ARCHIBALD,
CUCAMONGA, CA 91730

Dear Ones in Christ:

As a new Christian, I was shocked. It was 1948, and I had just been saved listening to Charles E. Fuller's Old Fashioned Revival Hour. I ran into some high school buddies at the Church of the Open Door in Los Angeles. I thought they had just gotten saved, too. But then came the surprise.

They told me they had known the Lord since they were 9 and 10 years old. I said, "Jim, when we were playing handball back in High School, why didn't you tell me about Jesus? I could have been killed in New Guinea or in Okinawa, and would have gone straight to hell." He replied, "Jack, we talked it over, whether or not to tell you about Jesus, and decided you would be the last guy on earth to receive Him." I was speechless. I felt betrayed. If I had died, my blood would have been on their hands.

I wonder how many souls *I've* overlooked and neglected: neighbors, friends, etc. It's an awesome thought. Ezekiel 3:18 says, "When I say unto the wicked, Thou shalt surely die; and thou givest him not warning, nor speakest to warn the wicked from his wicked way, to save his life; the same wicked man shall die in his iniquity; but his blood will I require at thine hand." That is an awesome verse.

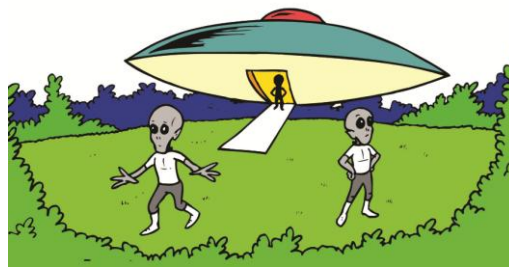
May God give us a greater burden to reach a dying world, and to remember we will give an account at the Judgment Seat of Christ for what we did down here.

Your brother in Christ,

Jack
Jack T. Chick, President
Chick Publications, Inc.

Aliens etc. Evangelism

The other week it was Jelly Babies Evangelism. Today it is Aliens etc. Evangelism as you see. This afternoon I was coming out of the back entrance of the church after having gone in to collect a couple of Bible study question sheets. The answers to those done thus far are here www.timefortruth.co.uk/alan-oreilly/.



See www.clipartbest.com/clipart-KcnreBdcq.

A young man, about 20 I would guess, walked past. From his paint-stained and tattered clothes plus a cap, I'd have guessed that he worked for a car body repair shop. However he stopped and asked me "What is evangelical?" having seen the name of the church on the back entrance. I said it meant that the Lord Jesus Christ died for your sin on the cross, shed His blood for your sin, and rose again to give you eternal life with Him and save you from hell if you'll ask Him to save you.

He then went on for several minutes with a whole raft of questions e.g. did I believe in aliens – see title above, how did the Catholic Church start?, what about the Jehovah's Witnesses and why are there so many different churches etc., punctuated with his own somewhat colourful commentary on those questions.

He never paused long enough to receive a proper answer from me to any of his questions. He had read the Old Testament and possibly the Sermon on the Mount, saying that Jesus had come to do away with the law. I was able to correct him on that but eventually I asked him if he'd ever asked Jesus to save him. He side-stepped that saying he did believe in Jesus and I pointed out that the devils believe in Jesus too (James 2:19) but they're not saved. It has to be heart belief in Jesus, not just head belief and referring to receiving a person into your home, say, cited John 1:12 "But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name." John 1:12, 6:37 [***All that the Father giveth me shall come to me; and him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out***] were the key scriptures that got me saved back in July 1967.

I asked him that if I could answer all his questions to his satisfaction, would he ask then Jesus to save him? He side-stepped that and went on talking as he'd done before.

He then said he had to get back to work, shook my hand and said it had been good talking to me. I gave him my first name but didn't get his in return. However, I had a King James New Testament in my backpack and gave him that, which he was willing to receive. It's a reminder to carry TBS John's Gospels and Chick tracts with you, which I hadn't been doing but will do now.

The timing was quite precise. If it had been a minute either way, we'd have missed each other. In addition, today was an unusual day. I normally get these question sheets on a Monday morning, not Thursday afternoon.

If there'd been time – or if I'd thought of it – I'd have said "I heard you out for several minutes. Now hear me out for a minute or so" and given him a brief testimony plus reiterating the Gospel and challenging him on asking Jesus to save him.

The episode was a reminder of 1 Peter 3:15 "But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear."

Yours in the Lord Jesus Christ
Alan O'R

In sum see linksterdiversions.blogspot.co.uk/2014/04/daily-bible-verse-april-18-2014.html.



LINKSTERART BIBLE VERSES

JOHN 3:16

FOR GOD SO LOVED THE WORLD,
THAT HE GAVE HIS ONLY BEGOTTEN SON,
THAT WHOSOEVER BELIEVETH IN HIM SHOULD NOT PERISH,
BUT HAVE EVERLASTING LIFE.