

THE SOURCE OF LIFE

Page 1

INTRODUCTION

- A. TEXT: *"I am the true vine, and my Father is the husbandman.I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same beareth much fruit: for apart fro me ye can do nothing."* (John 15:1,5).
- B. SETTING:
1. It is the night of the betrayal of Jesus.
 2. His final discourse with the apostles.
 3. A discourse filled with words of comfort and encouragement.
 4. The end of several "I Am" lessons.
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"USE OF "I AM"

- A. GOD, IN HIS APPEARANCE TO MOSES.
1. Moses' question...."Who Will I say sent me...what is your name?"
 2. God answered: "I AM THAT I AM" (Ex. 3:14).
- B. God should always be thought of in this way, (I Am). Never as Was or Is.
1. Man is limited by time and the tenses of time.
 2. God is not (READ Psalms 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."*
- C. Jesus Christ is the Revelation of God unto man today...to see the Father, we must see Christ.
1. In response to the question "Show us the Father...."
 2. *"Have I been so long time with you; and dost thou not know me, Philip? He that hath seen me hath seen the Father"* 9Jn. 14:9).
 3. Let us see Christ today.
- D. We want to note with emphasis and application some of the statements that that Jesus pre-fixed with the words **"I AM"**.
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THE BREAD OF LIFE

- A. With this statement, Jesus compared himself to the "manna of the Old Testament. (John 6:35).
1. The manna sustained the physical life of the children of Israel.
 2. In came down from God. (God was the source of the life giving food).
- B. CHRIST IS NOW....TODAY....*THE BREAD OF LIFE!*
1. Spiritual food for Spiritual Life.
 2. Sent from God.
 3. Without which we cannot live. He is the Source Of Life.
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Page 2

The Door And The Shepherd

- A. "I AM THE DOOR" (John 10:9).
 - 1. The means of entrance.
 - 2. Entrance into what?
 - 3. *"by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved."*
 - B. NO OTHER DOOR OF SALVATION.
 - 1. *"And in none other is there salvation: for neither is there any other name under heaven, that is given among men, wherein we must be saved."* (Acts 4:12).
 - 2. He who would try to enter some other way (other than by Christ) is the same as a thief and a robber.
 - C. THE GOOD SHEPHERD.
 - 1. Without a Shepherd the sheep would be lost and die.
 - 2. Picture so often used because of the helplessness of sheep without a Shepherd.
 - 3. Would not know the way.
 - D. THE ROLE OF THE SHEPHERD.
 - 1. Protects. Guards from harm.
 - 2. Feeds. "Makes me to lie down in green pastures...."
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RESURRECTION AND LIFE

- A. *"I AM THE RESURRECTION AND THE LIFE"* (John 11:25).
 - 1. At the time of the death of Lazarus.
 - 2. The sisters had said... "Lord, if you had been here...he would not have died."
 - B. THE POWER OF JESUS GOES BEYOND DEATH!
 - 1. "Though he die, yet shall he live."
 - 2. Jesus is the power of life, the "I Am" of life, today.
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Page 3

LIGHT

- A. *"I AM THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD"* (John 12:46).
1. The purpose of light.
 - a. It dispels darkness.
 - b. Shows the way safely.
 - c. Reveals sin!
- B. We were delivered out of "darkness" into "Light" (Col. 1:13).
1. Jesus did not say "I will be light..."
 2. Or, "that I was, 2000 years ago"
 3. BUT.... **"I AM" the light of the world.**
 4. ARE YOU IN THE LIGHT?
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AGAIN.....I AM...

- A. *"You call be, Teacher, and, Lord; and ye say well; for so I Am."* (Jn. 13:13)
1. Do we acknowledge Him as our Lord and Master.
 2. "I AM", now...not was...then....or will be.
- B. THREE MORE IN ONE VERSE. (John 14:6).
1. *I am the way*". The way that leads to the Father. v. 12.
 2. *I am the truth*". Only the truth can guide us to the Father.
 3. *I am the life*". The source of life.
 4. *He brought to light, life and immortality....* (II Tim. 1:10).
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OUR TEXT

- A. *"I AM THE VINE AND YE ARE THE BRANCHES"* (15:1,5).
1. Vine supports and gives life to the branch.
 2. The branch must abide in the vine.
 3. The branch apart from the vine **will die!**
- B. Must bear fruit to remain in the vine. Life must give life.
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CONCLUSION

- A. *"I AM....THE BRIGHT, THE MORNING STAR."* (Rev. 22:16).
1. What a wonderful thought and picture of Jesus.
 2. Jesus the Christ.
- B. *"I AM"* the alpha and the omega; first and last, eternal.
- C. IS HE THE **'I AM'** IN YOU LIFE TODAY? RIGHT NOW?
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