

The Story of Jesus
(Lesson 46)

Introduction:

1. As the apostle Peter concluded his second letter he gave the admonition to grow in the knowledge of Christ (2 Peter 3:18).
2. Jesus indicated in John 5:39 that the Scriptures are the right source for gaining this knowledge.
3. In this lesson we are examining 8 of the Lord's statements in the Gospel of John that reveal key information about His identity.
4. These are called the "I am" statements of Jesus in John.

Discussion:

- I. "*I AM THE BREAD OF LIFE*" (John 6:35)
 - A. Jesus had fed the 5,000 (vs.1-14).
 - B. Some people followed Him because they had eaten the food He provided (vs.26).
 - C. Jesus calls upon us to seek the spiritual food He provides that leads to eternal life (vs.27).
- II. "*I AM THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD*" (John 8:12)
 - A. Jesus brought light to a world of darkness (John 1:4-5, 9).
 - B. He identified Himself as "*the light of the world*" again when He gave sight to the man born blind (John 9:1-7).
- III. "*BEFORE ABRAHAM WAS, I AM*" (John 8:58)
 - A. Jesus had stated in vs.56 that Abraham had seen His day.
 - B. The Jews questioned Jesus about this in vs.57.
 - C. The Lord's statement in vs.58 indicates that He is a member of the eternal Godhead, as John declared at the beginning of his Gospel (John 1:1-3, 14).
- IV. "*I AM THE DOOR OF THE SHEEP*" (John 10:7-10)
 - A. To enter the sheepfold we must go through Jesus.
 - B. Those who enter the sheepfold through Him will be blessed.
- V. "*I AM THE GOOD SHEPHERD*" (John 10:11-16)
 - A. Jesus is the Good Shepherd because He gave His life for the sheep.
 - B. His sheep hear Him and follow Him.
- VI. "*I AM THE RESURRECTION, AND THE LIFE*" (John 11:25)
 - A. Jesus gives His followers eternal life.
 - B. He demonstrated the fact that He is "the resurrection and the life" by raising Lazarus from the grave (vs.43-44).
- VII. "*I AM THE WAY, THE TRUTH, AND THE LIFE*" (John 14:6)
 - A. Jesus had said that He was going to His Father's house to prepare a place for His followers (vs.2).
 - B. In vs.3 He stated that He will return and take His followers to the place He prepared.
 - C. Jesus is the only way to the Father in heaven.
- VIII. "*I AM THE TRUE VINE*" (John 15:1-8)
 - A. According to vs.8, bearing fruit is a requirement of the Lord's disciples, and it glorifies God.
 - B. To bear fruit we must remain attached to the vine.