

JESUS CHRIST-THE GREAT I AM
THE CHRIST OF CHRISTMAS

AS CHRISTMAS DAY APPROACHES AND WE START GETTING BUSIER AND BUSIER WITH ALL THE STUFF THAT THIS BEAUTIFUL HOLIDAY BRINGS, WE CAN GET CAUGHT UP IN THE BUSY AND LOSE SIGHT OF THE MAIN PURPOSE OF WHY WE CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS. I SAID IT BEFORE AND I WILL SAY IT AGAIN, THERE IS NOTHING WRONG WITH THE TRADITIONS OF CHRISTMAS. I LOVE THEM PERSONALLY, BUT WE ARE CHRISTIANS. CHRISTIANS MAGNIFY THE CHRIST OF CHRISTMAS IN THE MIDST OF BEAUTIFUL FAMILY TRADITION. I WANTED TO EXALT OUR LORD AND SAVIOR SPECIFICALLY THROUGH THE SERMONS THIS MONTH SO THAT, WHEN WE LOOK AT THE PRETTY LIGHTS AND THE CHRISTMAS TREE, WHEN WE EXCHANGE GIFTS WITH PEOPLE WE LOVE AND WHEN WE SING OUR FAVORITE CHRISTMAS SONGS, WE GIVE THANKS TO GOD FOR OUR SALVATION AND FREEDOM IN JESUS CHRIST. WE CELEBRATE THE BIRTH OF OUR HUMBLE KING WHO STEPPED OUT OF GLORY TO BECOME ONE OF US. A GREAT HIGH PRIEST WHO'S PERFECT LIFE AND BLOOD WERE SUFFICIENT TO REDEEM OURS. WHAT A GIFT GOD HAS GIVEN US!! ETERNAL LIFE WITH A HOLY GOD, AN ACTIVE AND INTIMATE RELATIONSHIP WITH THE LIVING GOD ALMIGHTY, AND FREEDOM FROM THE DEATH AND SIN THAT ONCE HAD US BOUND. WE WERE DEAD SPIRITUALLY AND NOW BECAUSE OF GRACE THROUGH FAITH IN JESUS CHRIST, THE GREAT I AM, WE ARE SECURED AND SEALED BY HIS HOLY SPIRIT. HALLELUJAH!!!

TODAY, WE WILL PULL THE THREAD FROM THE OLD TESTAMENT TO THE NEW, EXALTING THE GREAT I AM IN THE PERSON OF JESUS CHRIST

Exodus 3:11-15 NIV

¹¹ But Moses said to God, “Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?”

¹² And God said, “I will be with you. And this will be the sign to you that it is I who have sent you: When you have brought the people out of Egypt, you will worship God on this mountain.”

¹³ Moses said to God, “Suppose I go to the Israelites and say to them, ‘The God of your fathers has sent me to you,’ and they ask me, ‘What is his name?’ Then what shall I tell them?”

¹⁴ God said to Moses, “I am who I am. This is what you are to say to the Israelites: ‘I am has sent me to you.’”

¹⁵ God also said to Moses, “Say to the Israelites, ‘The Lord, the God of your fathers—the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob—has sent me to you.’

“This is my name forever,
the name you shall call me
from generation to generation.

I AM WHO I AM----NO BEGINNING AND NO END----ALWAYS WAS, IS, AND ALWAYS WILL BE PRESENT IN EXISTENCE

LORD--HEBREW VERB—YHWH IS A TETRAGRAMATON MEANING “TO BE” ALSO JEHOVAH....YHWH USED 6,800 TIMES IN THE OT

GOD/ ELOHIM/ PLURAL FORM BUT SINGULAR IN MEANING/
MAJESTY

THE LORD ESTABLISHES THAT HE IS THE CENTER OF
REDEMPTION AND HE WILL BE WITH THEM JUST LIKE HE IS WITH
US

THE TRIUNE GODHEAD—THE FATHER, SON, AND HOLY SPIRIT
ONE GOD IN 3 PERSONS.....THUS THE GREAT I AM

LET'S LOOK AT JESUS AS HE DESCRIBES HIMSELF THROUGH "I
AM" STATEMENTS

John 8:53-58 NIV

⁵³ Are you greater than our father Abraham? He died, and so did the prophets. Who do you think you are?"

⁵⁴ Jesus replied, "If I glorify myself, my glory means nothing. My Father, whom you claim as your God, is the one who glorifies me. ⁵⁵ Though you do not know him, I know him. If I said I did not, I would be a liar like you, but I do know him and obey his word. ⁵⁶ Your father Abraham rejoiced at the thought of seeing my day; he saw it and was glad."

⁵⁷ "You are not yet fifty years old," they said to him, "and you have seen Abraham!"

⁵⁸ "Very truly I tell you," Jesus answered, "before Abraham was born, I am!"

JESUS VERY CLEARLY DECLARES HIS DIETY, THIS GIVES PEOPLE A
CHOICE IN THAT MOMENT, WORSHIP HIM OR KILL HIM

John 14:6-7 NIV

⁶ Jesus answered, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷ If you really know me, you will know my Father as well. From now on, you do know him and have seen him.”

JESUS/THE LORD SAVES...DECLARES I AM THE WAY TO LIFE WITH GOD, I AM THE TRUTH OF LIFE WITH GOD, I AM THE LIFE THAT BRINGS THE DEAD TO LIFE WITH GOD
IF YOU KNOW JESUS, YOU KNOW GOD ALMIGHTY

John 10:7-10 NIV

⁷ Therefore Jesus said again, “Very truly I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. ⁸ All who have come before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep have not listened to them. ⁹ I am the gate; whoever enters through me will be saved. They will come in and go out, and find pasture. ¹⁰ The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.

JESUS CALLS OUT THE RELIGIOUS FAKES (PHARISEES)

John 10:14-18 NIV

¹⁴ “I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me— ¹⁵ just as the Father knows me and I know the Father—and I lay down my life for the sheep. ¹⁶ I have other sheep that are not of this sheep pen. I must bring them also. They too will listen to my voice, and there shall be one flock and one shepherd. ¹⁷ The reason my Father loves me is

that I lay down my life—only to take it up again. ¹⁸ No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down and authority to take it up again. This command I received from my Father.”

JESUS IS OUR SHEPHERD COMPLETELY DEDICATED TO GUIDE US AND KEEP US. HE LAID DOWN HIS LIFE FOR US AND IS THE FIRST ONE INTO THE RESURRECTED LIFE. WE LIKE SHEEP HAD GONE ASTRAY, BUT OUR GOOD SHEPHERD TRADED HIS LIFE FOR OURS. SO, WE IN OBEDIENCE DENY OUR OWN LIFE TO LIVE FOR HIM

John 15:5-11 NIV

⁵ “I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. ⁶ If you do not remain in me, you are like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. ⁷ If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸ This is to my Father’s glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.

⁹ “As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. ¹⁰ If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commands and remain in his love. ¹¹ I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete.

JESUS IS THE SOURCE OF OUR FRUIT BEARING AND OUR JOY

WHEN WE DO OUR OWN THING IN DISOBEDIENCE WE DRY UP
AND WITHER SPIRITUALLY

WHEN WE ARE FILLED WITH HIS WORDS WE CAN ASK FOR
WHATEVER WE WISH, BECAUSE IT WILL LINE UP WITH THE
FATHER'S WILL

OBEDIENCE TO HIS WORD IS ESSENTIAL TO REMAINING IN HIS
LOVE

JOY/CHARA/A DEEP FEELING OF INNER GLADNESS, ASSURANCE,
CONFIDENCE, AND CONTENTMENT INDEPENDENT OF
CIRCUMSTANCES

John 8:12 NIV

¹² When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, "I am the light
of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness,
but will have the light of life."

WE HAVE BEEN ILLUMINATED IN THE LIGHT OF GOD!!
FOLLOW CHRIST AND WATCH THE DARK WORLD AROUND YOU
LIGHT UP!! WE CAN CHANGE THE ROOM WE STAND IN

John 6:35 NIV

³⁵ Then Jesus declared, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes
to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will
never be thirsty.

HE IS THE BREAD THAT WAS BROKEN FOR ALL OF HIS PEOPLE
SPIRITUALLY NURISHING US ETERNALLY. WE WILL NEVER GO

HUNGRY OR THIRSTY SPIRITUALLY FOR HE ALWAYS SATIFIES
AND SUSTAINS US

John 11:25-26 NIV

²⁵ Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; ²⁶and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. Do you believe this?"

WE ARE SAFE IN JESUS. HE IS GIVING US GOLD RIGHT HERE:
WE BELIEVE IN HIM AND WE FIND LIFE EVEN THOUGH WE DIE
TO OURSELVES AND BY DOING THIS WE WILL LIVE FOR
ETERNITY WITH HIM IN GLORY... DO YOU BELIEVE THIS?

END