

John Newlin Ministries, Inc.
- realizing the power of a life in Christ-

JESUS!

In a few days we will be celebrating the greatest event in human history – the reconciliation of human beings to God. In going to and through the cross, in rising from the dead, Jesus did everything that was necessary for this reconciliation. He did it! “It is finished,” he said in his last words on the cross in the book of John. Nothing more to do. Now it was and is up to each person to receive.

Often you hear someone say that Jesus Christ is the greatest man who ever lived. Or that he is the greatest teacher who ever lived. This is who he really is:

He is the Son of God.
He is the King of the Kingdom of God.
He is the Savior of the world.

There is only one God. The Trinity, the Godhead, exists in three forms – God the Father, God the Son (Jesus Christ), and God the Holy Spirit. Jesus said he is one with the Father. Jesus, in a word, is God. He is so far above us we cannot imagine.

When God called Moses to send him to Egypt and to the children of Israel there, Moses asked what he should say when the people asked him the name of the God sending him. God replied, “I AM THAT I AM.” He also said that Moses should say, “I AM hath sent me unto you.” I AM. God.

Not very clear in our English translations of the Bible, Jesus often identified himself the same way, sometimes infuriating many around. In the original Greek of the New Testament, “Ego eimi,” - “I am.” Sometimes specifically that, sometimes when describing a quality he possesses.

In John 4 is the remarkable account of Jesus speaking with the Samaritan woman at the well. After an amazing discussion, the woman has been emboldened to exclaim that she knows that the Messiah is coming and that when he comes he will tell them all things. In the original Greek of the New Testament, in verse 26 Jesus replied, **“I AM, the one speaking to you.”**

Just as dramatic, in John 6 the disciples were in a boat and a great wind was blowing. Jesus came walking on the water. In the original language of the New Testament, Jesus in verse 20 said, **“I AM. Do not fear.”** That, by the way, is a command - do not fear - not just a comforting word.

In John 8 Jesus had been speaking to a crowd. Finally, in verse 58, he made the bold statement, **“Before Abraham came into being, I AM.”** That’s when the people took up stones to throw them on him.

In John 18, just before Jesus was arrested and taken off to be tried and crucified, a large group of officers and military people approached him and the disciples. Jesus asked who they were seeking. They replied, Jesus of Nazareth. In verse 6 Jesus said, “**I AM.**” The large group went backward and fell to the ground! Jesus’ declaration of who he is had such power that it knocked them all backwards and down! He could have just eliminated them on the spot had he wished. But he had come to go to the cross, so he did.

I AM. GOD. Emmanuel – God with us. Jesus Christ. Jesus the Messiah. The anointed one.

From the point of defining his qualities, look at John 11. Jesus is talking with Martha a few days after Lazarus, Martha’s brother, has died. Martha has said that had Jesus been there, her brother would still be alive. Jesus has replied that Lazarus will rise again. Martha then has said that she knows he will rise in the resurrection at the last day. At that extraordinary moment, in verse 25, Jesus says “I am the resurrection and the life....” In other words, he says – Martha, I’m God, right here with you, now, right now. I am the resurrection. I am life. Lazarus is going to rise again.

In the same vein in other verses:

I am the bread of life
 I am the light of the world
 I am the way
 I am the vine
 I am the good shepherd

In Matthew 23:34, Jesus speaking to a large group says “I send unto you prophets, and wise men, and scribes: and some of them ye shall kill and crucify, and some of them shall ye scourge in your synagogues, and persecute them from city to city...”

Who sends prophets and wise men and scribes (teachers)? Who can do such a thing? God. God.

Jesus Christ – God. Thank you Lord for going to and through the cross, for taking all the horrors of the world (sins, sicknesses, disease, curses of the law, more) on yourself and overcoming all.

When you pray ask God to help you realize the fullness of who Jesus is and was. And thank Jesus again that you and I and all who believe have hope and a future.

May you always live in the blessings of God. And may you have a wonderful Easter season.

John and Cathy

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Keep Your Eyes on Jesus!

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