

Series: The Claims of Jesus

I Am the Light of the World

John 8:12-20

What does it mean for believers in Jesus that he is the light of the world?

¹² Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.”

“I AM” IS A NAME NOT A STATE OF BEING!

Exodus 3: 13 Then Moses said to God, “If I come to the people of Israel and say to them, ‘The God of your fathers has sent me to you,’ and they ask me, ‘What is his name?’ what shall I say to them?” ¹⁴ God said to Moses, “I AM WHO I AM.” And he said, “Say this to the people of Israel: ‘I AM has sent me to you.’”



¹⁵ God also said to Moses, “Say this to the people of Israel: ‘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, and thus I am to be remembered throughout all generations.”

Jews of Jesus’ era would never, never, never use “I Am” in a sentence.
To use “I Am” is saying: I AM GOD!

FIRST TRUTH we discover when reading these seven Claims of Jesus is that he is claiming to be God among us and is the same God as that of Moses!!

The Setting of the Second “I am” Statement

The gospel of John gives us both the location and the occasion of the second statement.

In **John 8:20** we read, *“He spoke these words while he was teaching in the treasury of the temple.”*

When Jesus said to the Jews, *“I am the light of the world”*, He was affirming His Divinity.

Those who heard Jesus speak that day in the Treasury of the Temple would have thought immediately of the pillar of cloud and fire that led Israel during their journey to the Promised Land.

THREE OBSERVATIONS

FIRST: THE WORLD WALKS IN DARKNESS

“I am the light of the world.”

In John 1:5 John says, “The light shines in the darkness, but the darkness has not understood it.”

In John 3:19 the Bible says, “This is the verdict: Light has come into the world, but people loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil.”

SECOND: JESUS IS OUR LIGHT

In the darkness of our world, let's remember that Jesus is our Light.



Listen to those great words of *Psalm 27:1-3*, “*The Lord is my light and my salvation— whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life— of whom shall I be afraid? When the wicked advance against me to devour me, it is my enemies and my foes who will stumble and fall. Though an army besiege me, my heart will not fear; though war break out against me, even then I will be confident.*”

John 1:18, “*No one has ever seen God, but the One and only Son, who is Himself God and is in closest relationship with the Father, has made Him known.*”

“*In your light, we see light*” says *Psalm 36:9*.

Jesus is “*A light of revelation to the gentiles, and the glory of your people Israel*” says *Simeon in Luke 2:32*.

¹³ *So the Pharisees said to him, “You are bearing witness about yourself; your testimony is not true.”*

¹⁴ *Jesus answered, “Even if I do bear witness about myself, my testimony is true, for I know where I came from and where I am going, but you do not know where I come from or where I am going. ¹⁵ You judge according to the flesh; I judge no one. ¹⁶ Yet even if I do judge, my judgment is true, for it is not I alone who judge, but I and the Father who sent me. ¹⁷ In your Law it is written that the testimony of two people is true. ¹⁸ I am the one who bears witness about myself, and the Father who sent me bears witness about me.”*

When you come to know Jesus you have come into the light.

His light enables us to see right and wrong.

His light brings us to genuine repentance.

His light gives us power and purpose.

THIRD OBSERVATION: MATTHEW 5:14 ¹⁴ “YOU ARE THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD. A CITY SET ON A HILL CANNOT BE HIDDEN.”

¹⁹ *They said to him therefore, “Where is your Father?” Jesus answered, “You know neither me nor my Father. If you knew me, you would know my Father also.” ²⁰ These words he spoke in the treasury, as he taught in the temple; but no one arrested him, because his hour had not yet come.*



Jesus makes a monumental point in these words: The real light that illuminates the human heart, gives hope, gives purpose, gives peace, gives eternal life is not found in:

Jesus says that the real light that brings hope and redemption is found in one and only one place: **HIMSELF!**

WHEN WE HAVE JESUS WE HAVE IT ALL NO MATTER WHAT LIFE THROWS AT US.

Today He invites us to receive his light and to be his light in this world.

Jesus, you are the light of the World. You have said that your light now shines through us who believe in you. Use us to bring light to this dark world as we speak up for you, live for you, suffer for you and even die for you. Amen

