

I AM WHO I AM

Beverley Watkins

I AM HE Series

Tithe & Offerings / Bruce Birch

Luke 16:10-13 NLT

“If you are faithful in little things, you will be faithful in large ones. But if you are dishonest in little things, you won’t be honest with greater responsibilities. 11 And if you are untrustworthy about worldly wealth, who will trust you with the true riches of heaven? 12 And if you are not faithful with other people’s things, why should you be trusted with things of your own? 13 “No one can serve two masters. For you will hate one and love the other; you will be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and be enslaved to money.”

MESSAGE / Beverley Watkins

New Series: **I AM HE**

There is no time where Jesus doesn’t want to show you who He is.

We are journeying with the apostle John. He was one of Jesus’ inner circle disciples.

John’s Gospel is written with the intention that we might know who Jesus really is.

John tells us about different people who had encounters with Jesus. And every time the religious people had a fit. Because the enemy doesn’t want to know you who Jesus is.

John 8:58

Jesus said to them, “Most assuredly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I AM.”

Why does it cause such a reaction by the leaders in Israel?

I AM WHO I AM

Moses had been living in the desert for 40 years. And one day he sees a fire in a bush.

Moses knows that it is God speaking to him, telling him that He wants to use him to bring God’s people out of Egypt. Moses knows that it’s God that is speaking to him. And he knows that it is the same God that spoke to his ancestors. The Israelites had been almost 400 years in Egypt. Before that God had spoken to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. And they passed on the stories of God who had spoken to Abraham and bringing them as a people into a place..

But for 400 years God had not been speaking. 400 years. That is several generations. They have been telling the stories, but there has been no new word from God. They don’t know much about God. All they have is a story about God who spoke to their ancestors. When God says, I am that God that is the first time God is speaking in 400 years roughly.

This God that Moses had been hearing about is now speaking to him. And He is telling him the thing that he is going to do. And He says, Don’t worry, I will be with you.

Exodus 3:13 NLT

But Moses protested, “If I go to the people of Israel and tell them, ‘

The God of your ancestors has sent me to you,’ they will ask me, ‘What is his name?’

Then what should I tell them?’

Moses understood that these were people who now lived in Egypt. There were many gods in Egypt that you could worship. If in Egypt you went and said, God told me that, people would say, Which one? They wouldn’t just assume. In Western World for many generations we know that we mean the one true God when we speak about God. But in those days when you said God, they would ask, which one? There were all these different gods, and they all had names.

So Moses, having grown up in Egypt, is saying, if I just say “The God of our ancestors”, he says, Give me Your Name. And this is what God replies.

Exodus 3:14 NLT

God replied to Moses, “I am who I am.

Say this to the people of Israel: I am has sent me to you.”

God responds to Moses and says, My Name is: I AM WHO I AM. You can tell them, I AM has sent me. This is the first time that **God is introducing himself** to Moses, and to the elders, and to his people. God is coming and saying: I am going to tell you My Name.

This is important. Because when God comes and says, I AM WHO I AM, He is saying...

THIS IS MY NAME

Exodus 3:15 NLT

God also said to Moses, "Say this to the people of Israel: **Yahweh**, the God of your ancestors—the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob—has sent me to you. **This is my eternal name, my name to remember for all generations.**

God says, This is My Name. And that is how I want you to call me eternally, and for all generations.

THE NAME IS—I AM WHO I AM

Other translations put it: I am that I am—I will be who I will be. God is saying: I have always been. I don't have a beginning, I don't have an end. You can't put me in a box. I just am.—It comes from the Hebrew root word "to be".

When God said, Tell them Yahweh is the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, that word Jahweh, we use that word today. And it is actually **Jahweh =YHWH** (4 consonants in the Hebrew).

What happened was...

Moses went and told the elders. God's name. Later on on Mount Sinai, they were given the 10 commandments, and one of the commandments said " You should not use My name in vain". So the Isrealite people took that very seriously.They feared and they never really wanted to use His name in vain, so they actually tried not to use His name. In fact, they would not even write His name. And they didn't want to say His name. So they even wouldn't say Jahweh. But they would say Yashem, which means "the name". Because the fear of God came on them and they didn't want to use His name wrongly. So they kind of went overboard and they stopped using His name.—And Jewish scholars tell us that only the High Priest was allowed to say the actual name of God once a year when he went into the Holy of Holies and when he came out to bless the people. It was such a holy name that nobody spoke it or said it.

The problem was, around the third century after Jesus, the pronunciation of this name was lost. What happened then is, we took the consonants of YHWH and created a word that we could pronounce and they came up with "**Jehovah**". So sometimes in the Bible the translation of God's name will be "Jehovah".—Many times in your Bible, when you see the word "**THE LORD**" (in capital letters) that is how it has been translated into English. It means this name of God—JAHWEH, or Jehovah.—If we see "THE LORD", it is this NAME.

God showed to Moses, THIS IS MY NAME—**MY PERSONAL NAME.**

THIS IS MY NAME—YAHWEH

God has a name. It is important. For when God shared His Name with Moses, He is first of all saying to him, I HAVE A NAME. I am not just out there. I am not just a force out there in the universe. God is not the universe out there, sending good vibes to you. God is not a power. Not just a higher power.

Our God has a name and His Name is YAHWEH—**I AM WHO I AM**. He is not just any god, He is the God, JAHWEH. I am that I am. And He wants His people to know that He has a Name.

He said to Moses: I want you to know Me. I don't want you to worship Me and bring your offerings. And you hope that they bring blessings to you. He says: I want to be personal with you.

I AM TELLING YOU MY NAME BECAUSE I WANT YOU TO KNOW ME

In Hebrew understanding when you told someone your name, your name spoke to your character. Or it spoke to who you were. Like Moses' name means "drawn from the water". Esau's name means "Red" because when he came out his skin was all red.

NAMES ARE IMPORTANT

We should give people names that mean something.

- Names speak to DESTINY—Names speak FORMATION
- Names open up something in somebody's life

Don't give people stupid names. When a child is born, here is someone coming into the world with a destiny in God that Jesus for. Here is somebody to grow up to be something. And every time you call their name, you are prophesying what they are going to be. —So find out from God about your child, and give him a good name.

When God says, This is My Name, He is saying to the people, I'm not going to be that God out there, just the God of your ancestors. **I AM YOUR GOD.** What He is saying is, I am going to be present with you. I am here with you. You are going to have access to Me. I am interested in what's happening to you. My power is coming near you. My attention is on you. —This is the God of the universe. The God who created everything. The God who has been watching over them, who has been silent for a long time, He says...

- NOW I AM ABOUT TO MOVE
- **HERE IS MY NAME** so that you can know that **I AM WITH YOU**

I will tell you CLM, you might feel that God is far away from you, and you haven't heard Him, but in this season, God says...

I AM DECLARING MY NAME TO YOU that you might KNOW THAT I AM WITH YOU

There is a reason why we are going deeper about God and who He is in this series.

GOD IS DECLARING WHO HE IS TO US

He says, I am with you. I WANT TO KNOW YOU.
Here is a God who is saying, I WANT TO KNOW PEOPLE.

If you want to know someone you have to go and introduce yourself to them. Don't you? If you want to know someone, the first step is that you come and say, Hey, hi my name is Beverley. And when I say that I am opening up something. Because I am saying, I am inviting you into a place that we can get to know each other a little bit.

How much more God. Because when He begins to give HIS NAME, His name speaks to things. When He says, My Name is... I AM WHO I AM, it means, Listen, I don't have limitations. It doesn't just mean He exists. It means: He's always being. He's eternal, from before there was no beginning and there is not going to be any end. He says, I just am. Nobody made me, I AM. Not only is He eternal but HE DOESN'T CHANGE.

GOD DOES NOT CHANGE

He is the same God that appeared to Abraham, to Moses, the God whom you met. He is the same God. Our God does not change

Malachi 3:6
I am the Lord, I do not change...

We can depend on Him because He does not change. He doesn't say, I love you, I'll be with you. And tomorrow, I'm sorry, I'm busy, couldn't be with you today. Catch you on the next one. —That's not God. He is faithful. He is with you. When He says something He is true to His Word. That is HIS NAME: **I AM WHO I AM.** It's who He is.

So to Moses He's opening this up, and He's saying, THIS IS MY NAME.
Now when you go and you tell the people, tell them: *I am YAHWEH has sent me to you.*

God was making a statement right in the beginning. Before He began to deliver them out, He said, I want you to know I am a God who is going to be with you.

- I HAVE CHOSEN YOU
- I AM GOING TO BE PRESENT WITH YOU
- I AM going to be ATTENTIVE TO YOU. I am going to be watching you
- MY POWER is close to you. It's going to be ACCESSIBLE TO YOU.

But He's saying, I want you to know Me.

I WANT YOU TO KNOW ME

It was AN INVITATION. As we read through the Old Testament, there were many times where God continued to unfold Himself. He continued to tell who He was. He would take that word YAHWEH or JEHOVAH, and He would add a phrase to it—I am JEHOVAH **JIRAH**—I am the Eternal One who never changes, who will be your provider. And He revealed that actually to Abraham. He says, I am your HEALER. He reveals that to Moses when they run into bitter water. When they first come into the Wilderness after coming out of Egypt. And the Water's bitter. And everyone thinks they're going to die. And He says: No. Put this in the water and it turns sweet. And God says, I will be the GOD WHO HEALS YOU. I am JEHOVAH **RAPHA**.

He says to Gideon, I am JEHOVAH **SHALOM**, I am the God who gives you PEACE. I am JEHOVAH **SHAMMAH**. I am the God who is there. The God who gives you RIGHTEOUSNESS. I am JEHOVAH SHAMMAH, the God who GUIDES YOU and surrounds you.

You see, He keeps saying: I AM. I AM. I AM. And then into people's lives He says, Let me show you this part of me. Let me show you the Healer. Let me show you the PROVIDER. Let me show you the COMFORTER. Let me show you.

But He is all of those things. But you've got a journey with Him. And then you begin to see these different pieces that open u about Him.

As I was preparing for this message and saying, God, what are You saying through this?

God is saying
I WANT MY PEOPLE TO KNOW
I WANT TO KNOW THEM
I WANT TO BE ABLE TO REVEAL MORE OF MYSELF TO THEM

Some of us have got stuck in our REVELATION OF JESUS. We might know Him as *Savior*. And that's wonderful. He is our *Savior*. But we got to go on from there. He didn't just save you. He delivered you. So some of us know Him as a *Deliverer*. You delivered us out of debt. You delivered us out of drugs. You delivered us out of sickness. You delivered us out of depression. And God we praise You.

You are our *Savior*, our *Deliverer*, but THERE IS MORE than that. He wants to take us on. He wants to take us into NEW UNDERSTANDING of **WHO HE IS**.

I AM HE

He is inviting us and saying, I WANT TO KNOW YOU. That's why in this series we called it **I AM HE**. Because we're going to go into the Word to see, What does He say? Because today *He wants to reveal Himself to you, and to all of us, in new ways*.

GOD WANTS TO REVEAL HIMSELF TO YOU IN NEW WAYS

God is not in a box. God is not limited in who He is. Unfortunately in the church, we've got this picture of Jesus, and we've put Him into boxes. And the spirit of the world wants to keep it in a box. The spirit of the world is happy to have Christmas in a box—baby Jesus. They're happy to have you even have Easter put Easter eggs around it and put it in a box, and it's okay. But they don't want you to know anything more about Him.—At times I almost feel like the enemy is also happy: Okay, you get saved, that makes me unhappy, but you know, once you get saved, if I can just keep you there that you never move on in your relationship with God; you never come into knowing who He truly is. And you don't know Him.

God wants to make sure that happens for you.

God is coming to us, even as He came and said, *ARISE* to us last weekend.

- And He said, I AM BRINGING LIFE BACK TO YOU
- He says, I AM BRINGING NEW REVELATION

Because in a NEW SEASON we need a NEW REVELATION of WHO HE IS.

We need to know who He is in this season. CLM, we need to know who He is to us in this season—who He is in Canada right now—who He is in the USA right now.

WHO IS JESUS IN THIS SEASON?

Is He just the Savior? Is he just the Deliverer? WHO IS HE in this Season?

So we're preparing ourselves to hear from Him in this season.

I AM WHO I AM. It's the NAME of GOD. It's holy. It's WHO HE IS.

So when Jesus comes along and in front of the chief priest, he says things like "before Abraham was I am", they go crazy. Because they know He's saying, *I AM part of God. I AM GOD'S SON.*" It makes them crazy. They call it blasphemy. That's why they want to stone Him.

And when He goes and says, I AM THIS—I AM THIS—I AM THIS, He is saying...

- I AM GOD who is **WITH YOU**
- I AM GOD who is **GOING TO FEED YOU**
- I AM GOD who is **GOING TO GIVE YOU LIFE**
- I AM GOD. I am **THE ONLY WAY**
- I AM GOD. I am **THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD**
- I AM GOD. I am **THE LIVING WATER**

JESUS IS THE REVELATION OF WHO GOD IS FOR US

That's who Jesus is- There's a REVELATION of WHO HE IS.

As we come towards the Christmas season, Jesus is saying,

I have some gifts wrapped up for you, some Revelations of WHO I AM.

And every week we're going to be unwrapping and unpacking a different gift from Jesus.

We're going to be unpacking a different part of WHO HE IS. God says,

Every Sunday as you come together, I am going to open up something FRESH, and something NEW that He wants to give to you.

God knows your address. And He wants to deliver that gift to you as we go towards the end of this year. Because God said to us,

We are in a NEW SEASON. And He is doing SOMETHING NEW. And it is not what we expect.

I believe that in this year He is opening up that FRESH LOOK of WHO HE IS.

There is a FRESHNESS about God. You see, if we are still living in the Revelation we had when we got saved, even if you only got saved six months ago, you need a bit more. You got to keep walking every day. There was Manna every day, except on Shabbat.

- Every day God is speaking to you
- Every day He's got bread for you
- Every day He is bringing light around you
- Every day there's something He wants to show you

We have to get out of this boring Christianity that seems to have engulfed the church, where it's like, Oh, you know we got saved and then we just don't know what we're doing.

Listen! **Being a Christian and knowing Jesus is the most exciting thing there is.**

- *But you got to GO IN THE JOURNEY WITH HIM*
- *And you got to KEEP LEARNING ABOUT HIM*
- *EXPERIENCING HIM*
- *WALKING WITH HIM*

That's why Christianity is different than every other Religion. It's not just a book with rules.

IT'S A RELATIONSHIP WHERE YOU WALK WITH HIM

- Day by day you can *talk to Him*
- You can *receive from Him*
- He can *show you things*
- You can laugh about things—You can cry about things
- You can have discussions about things

IT IS A RELATIONSHIP

And in that relationship YOU ARE FORMED more and more TO LOOK LIKE HIM.

And we need some believers who look like Jesus!

I think part of the challenge that we don't look like Jesus is because we don't even really know Him.

But I want to say to us that at this time, in these days, there's an invitation from God

- **I WANT TO KNOW YOU**
- MY NAME IS **I AM THAT I AM**
- MY NAME IS **I AM JAHWEH**

YAHWEH means: Nothing is impossible for Him—Nothing about you has escaped Him—Nothing about your life is hidden from Him—

And He's saying,

*I AM PRESENT WITH YOU to walk you into this new season,
to open before you the double doors that need to open
to bring out the hidden riches of secret places,
the things that the enemy thought he had taken away from you forever
God says, IN THIS SEASON I AM WALKING WITH YOU INTO THOSE VERY THINGS*

PRAYER

*Father I want to ask and pray today, I want to thank You God that You are leading us,
You are the I AM WHO I AM
You are YAHWEH
And right now I thank You that the weight of YOUR NAME and the weight of your PRESENCE
is coming upon us. Because even as we say YOUR NAME, and we call on YOUR NAME,
You are with us.*

*And I pray that from today, as we go into this Christmas season and towards the end of the year,
I pray for an EVER INCREASING REVELATION of WHO YOU ARE in our lives.
I pray that by the time we come to the 31st of December, LORD, we look completely different.
Because we have looked into the FACE OF JESUS and we have been CHANGED,
we have been CHANGED BY HIM.*

*God, I want to thank You, and I pray, God, that You would release GRACE to us each week
to unpack the gift You have prepared for us.
Lord you want to OPEN UP WHO YOU ARE to us.
I pray today, God may we find GRACE, God, to unwrap WHO YOU ARE each week.
LORD; give us GRACE, because we don't want to stay where we are.
LORD, we are not just writing off these last two months of the year. We're saying, God, in
these days and in these weeks, LORD, we're going to change. We're going to GROW. We're
going to STRETCH. We're going to BE TRANSFORMED to look more LIKE JESUS.*

*God, we want to thank You that You're going to do more than we're even asking for.
I want to thank You, God.*

I just begin to see God. It is like He is saying, We're already thinking of the end of the year, and of next year, but God says,

*You don't even know what I want to do over these next six weeks. You don't understand!
I want to take you from where you are. And I want to bring you through a TRANSFORMATION
and bring you into who I AM MAKING YOU TO BE.*

Because 2025 is a year that we have not seen. And God says,

*I AM and I will have a people that are READY TO STAND where I'm calling them to stand,
and SEAL HIM—that includes you*

*So God I thank You that we find GRACE in these last weeks of 2024 TO KNOW YOU and to
SEE YOU in a NEW WAY we've never seen You before. I thank You God that You will do this
BY YOUR SPIRIT. In JESUS' NAME we pray. AMEN and AMEN.*