

I AM

When God called Moses, and told him that he should lead the Jews out of Egypt, he asked God who he should say sent him. Exodus 3:13-15; **"Then Moses said to God, 'Behold, I am going to the sons of Israel, and I shall say to them, "The God of your fathers has sent me to you". Now they may say to me, "What is His name? "What shall I say to them?" And God said to Moses, 'I AM WHO I AM'; and he said, 'Thus you shall say to the sons of Israel, "I AM has sent me to you".' And God, furthermore, said to Moses, 'Thus you shall say to the sons 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 this is My memorial name to all generations."**

What an amazing name! What an unusual name! When we hear that name we are tempted to ask, "You are what?" I believe the answer to that question is, "**I AM** whatever you need." God has told us in His word, some of the things that He is. He said,

- I am thy shield. Gen. 15:1
- I am the almighty God. Gen 17:1
- I am with thee. Gen. 26:24
- I am God, the God of thy fathers. Gen. 46:3
- I am the Lord your God. Ex. 6:7
- I am the Lord that healeth thee. Ex. 15:26
- I am holy. Lev. 11:44
- I am the Lord, which sanctify you. Lev. 20:8
- I am the one, which wipes out your transgressions. Isaiah 43:25
- I am the Lord that maketh all things. Isaiah 44:24
- I am God and there is none else. Isaiah 45:22
- I am the first; I also am the last. Isaiah 48:12
- I am the Lord your God, who teaches you to profit, who leads you in the way you should go. Isaiah 48:17
- I am the one who is speaking. Isaiah 52:6
- I am found of them that sought Me not. Isaiah 65:1
- I am with you to deliver you. Jer. 1:8
- I am merciful. Jer. 3:12
- I am the Lord who exercises loving kindness, justice, and righteousness on the earth. Jer. 9:24
- I am with you to save you and deliver you. Jer. 15:20

I am a God who is near. Jer. 23:23
I am He who knows and am a witness. Jer. 29:23
I am with you to save you and deliver you from his hand. Jer.
42:11
I am the Lord: I will speak, and the word I shall speak shall come
to pass. Ezek. 12:25
I am and there is none beside Me. Zeph. 2:15
I am a great King. Mal. 1:14
I am the Lord I do not change. Mal. 3:6

JESUS SAID

I am with you always, even to the end of the age. Matt. 28:20
I am among you as one who serves. Luke 22:27
I am the bread of life, he who comes to Me shall not hunger,
and he who believes in Me shall never thirst. John 6:35
I am the living bread that came down out of heaven. John 6:51
I am the light of the world; he who follows me shall not walk in
darkness, but shall have the light of life. John 8:12
I am not of this world. John 8:23
I am the door of the sheep. John 10:7
I am the door, if anyone enters through Me, he shall be saved.
John 10:9
I am the good shepherd; the good shepherd lays down His life
for the sheep. John 10:11
I am the good shepherd; and I know My own, and My own
know Me. John 10:14
I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes in Me shall
live even if he dies. John 11:25
I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the
Father, but through Me. John 14:6
I am in the Father, and you in Me and I in you. John 14:20
I am the vine, you are the branches; he who abides in Me, and I
in him, he bears much fruit; for apart from Me you can do nothing.
John 15:5
I am the alpha and the omega; ...who is and who was and who
is to come, the Almighty. Rev. 1:8
I am He who searches the minds and hearts: and I will give to
each one of you according to your deeds. Rev. 2:23
This is what the "I AM" says about who He is.

Notice that He did not say that His name is **I WAS**. He is not the God of the past. He was God **in** the past but not the God **of** the past. In the past He was the God of the present just as He is today. Tomorrow, today will be in the past. Then He will no longer be the God of this day. What God did for you today will be just as real tomorrow as it is now, but God is not going to work any more in the day that is past. That may sound too obvious to be of any importance but many people are living in the past. They need to know that when they are living in the past they are living in a time zone where God is not operating. There is no reason to pray about what has happened in the past. God is not there anymore. No part of it can be changed. We have all done things that we wish that we could change, but we can't. If you are angry with someone about something that they did in the past, realize that they can't change it. They can be sorry for it. They can ask for forgiveness, but there is nothing that they can do to change it. We can learn from the past; that is wise, but we can't change it. Since no one can control the past, those who live in the past are living out of control. You can ask God and others to forgive you for what you did in the past but none of it can be changed. There may be consequences for what was done in the past that will follow you the rest of your life. You may have done something that has damaged your health for the rest of your life, for example.

Notice that God didn't say that his name is "**I WILL BE**". He is not the God of the future. He will be God **in** the future when it becomes the present. He knows what the future holds but He is active in the present. Many people worry about what will happen in the future but God is working today. Jesus said, "**Do not be anxious then, saying, 'what shall we eat?' or , 'what shall we drink?' or 'With what shall we clothe ourselves?' For all these things the Gentiles eagerly seek, for your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness; and all these things shall be added to you. Therefore, do not be anxious for tomorrow, for tomorrow will care for itself. Each day has enough trouble of it's own.**" (Matt. 6:31-34)

To worry about what may happen tomorrow is totally unproductive. It is true that we need to plan for the future. It is wise to prepare for those things that we can prepare for, but even then we must realize that there are some things that are out of our control. Why do we need to worry about tomorrow when we have **I AM** as

our God who will be there when tomorrow becomes today? My dad used to say that worrying about the future is only borrowing trouble. I don't know what tomorrow holds, but I know that the same God who was with me yesterday will be with me tomorrow when it becomes today.

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