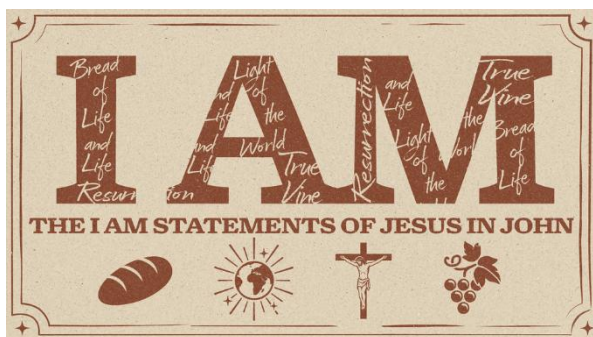




Resurrection and Life

Week 4 – I Am's – 10/4/'26

Introduction - You can divide the book of John in two sections, book of signs (1-11), book of glory (12-21)

- Centered around seven signs, and seven I Am's.
- "sign"- a miracle by Jesus that displays that he is the Son of God, and eternal life for those who believe.

John is the book of sevens

- 7 witnesses to Jesus (John Baptist, Jesus & his works, the Father, Moses, the disciples, the Spirit, and John himself).
- We are told that the Father loves the Son, 7x in John.
- Feasts mentioned 7x.
- John focuses on 7 days at the start of Jesus' ministry, and focuses 7 events/teachings of Jesus' last week leading to the cross.
- 7 signs (water to wine, clearing temple (some have walking on water instead), healing official's son, healing an invalid, feeding five thousand, opening eyes of man born blind, raising Lazarus)
- 7 "I am" sayings (7 other I am sayings) bread of life, light of the world, door/gate, good shepherd, resurrection and life, way/truth/life, and the true vine.
- Today's theme: combines a sign (final one, Lazarus) and an I Am saying, "resurrection/life"!

In Matt 22:29-33, Jesus quoted Exodus 3,

- Jesus debating with the Sadducees who did not believe in a resurrection.

²⁹ But Jesus answered them, "You are wrong, because you know neither the Scriptures nor the power of God. ³⁰ For in the resurrection they neither marry nor are given in marriage, but are like angels in heaven. ³¹ And as for the resurrection of the dead, have you not read what was said to you by God: ³² 'I am the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob'? He is not God of the dead,

but of the living.”³³ And when the crowd heard it, they were astonished at his teaching.

- But Jesus said they were very mistaken, God is a God of resurrection, not of dead, but a God of the living!
- He is the great I Am – created people to be resurrected and live forever.
- And Jesus is the Resurrection and the Life!

THE RESURRECTION AND THE LIFE

*I am the **Resurrection and the Life**. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live.”*

John 11:25

- Jesus, the Resurrection and the Life, gives life to the dead and provides true spiritual life.
- So when we feel stuck, defeated, and spiritually stagnant, Jesus provides resurrection power to overcome death and the Devil. And He provides resurrection power to give life in abundance now and hope for the future.

Passage: John 11:17–27

¹⁷ Now when Jesus came, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. ¹⁸ Bethany was near Jerusalem, about two miles off, ¹⁹ and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them concerning their brother. ²⁰ So when Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, but Mary remained seated in the house. ²¹ Martha said to Jesus, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. ²² But even now I know that whatever you ask from God, God will give you.” ²³ Jesus said to her, “Your brother will rise again.” ²⁴ Martha said to him, “I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.” ²⁵ Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, ²⁶ and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?” ²⁷ She said to him, “Yes, Lord; I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, who is coming into the world.”

The Resurrection is so central to Jesus’ message, without it, our faith is worthless, be pitied!

- Paul talks about that in 1 Cor 15.
- And Jesus’ resurrection was the first fruits, our resurrection will follow his!

1 Corinthians 15:3-4 says,

“For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, ⁴ that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures...”

Resurrection in the Old Testament

Quick Question - What Scriptures might Paul have in mind when he said Jesus was buried and raised on the third day, according to the Scriptures? What OT passages predict the resurrection of Jesus? That’s what we will consider today. A few quick examples.

- **Exodus 3**, burning bush, I Am, Jesus claimed this (Jn 8:58) and an aspect of the I Am is an eternal nature.
- **Ezekiel 34:11-14** – valley of dry bones, dead bones, breathed life, army!
- Abraham believed God could raise Isaac from the dead (**Heb 11:9**)
- Job said, “⁵ For I know that my Redeemer lives, and at the last he will stand upon the earth. ²⁶ And after my skin has been thus destroyed, yet in my flesh I shall see God.” **Job 19:25–26**
 - He had a belief that after he would die, he would see his Redeemer in renewed fellowship, and be vindicated in a resurrected body.
- I want to look at two places (Jonah 2 and Psalm 16)

In Matthew 12:39–40, the people came to Jesus and wanted a sign,

“But he answered them, “An evil and adulterous generation seeks for a sign, but no sign will be given to it except the sign of the prophet Jonah. For just as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of the great fish, so will the Son of Man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.”

- Jesus said, “Someone greater than Jonah is here.” (Mt. 12:42).
- Let’s look at parallels in the OT and how Jesus is greater.
- “Sign of Jonah” - is death for three days.

Question - As read, find parallels between Jonah’s words and experience, and Jesus. What passages can you point to from Jesus’ words and experience that show the parallels?

Jonah 2:1–10,

¹ Then Jonah prayed to the Lord his God from the belly of the fish, ² saying, “I called out to the Lord, out of my distress, and he answered me; out of the belly of Sheol I cried, and you heard my voice. ³ For you cast me into the deep, into the heart of the seas, and the flood surrounded me; all your waves and your billows passed over me.

⁴ Then I said, 'I am driven away from your sight; yet I shall again look upon your holy temple.' ⁵ The waters closed in over me to take my life; the deep surrounded me; weeds were wrapped about my head ⁶ at the roots of the mountains. I went down to the land whose bars closed upon me forever; yet you brought up my life from the pit, O Lord my God. ⁷ When my life was fainting away, I remembered the Lord, and my prayer came to you, into your holy temple. ⁸ Those who pay regard to vain idols forsake their hope of steadfast love. ⁹ But I with the voice of thanksgiving will sacrifice to you; what I have vowed I will pay. Salvation belongs to the Lord!" ¹⁰ And the Lord spoke to the fish, and it vomited Jonah out upon the dry land.

- Jonah in whale for three long days. Jesus was dead for three days.
 - "Cast deep, heart of seas" (3)..."waters closed in" (5).
- Jonah was saved from whale after three days, Jesus was resurrected after three days.
- Jonah called out in his distress (2), Jesus called out to God in his distress on the cross, "why forsaken... and it is finished."
- Jonah was "driven away from your sight" (4), Jesus was driven away from God's sight as the scapegoat in Lv 19 – "driven out of camp into wilderness"
- Yet Jonah said "I will again look upon your temple," Jesus predicted on many occasions that he would rise again, "destroy this temple and in three days I will rise it up." (John 2:19)...his body would die, and be raised in three days.
- Jonah's life was spared "from the pit," (6), after three days, Jesus' life was spared from the pit of death.
- Jonah "hoped in God's steadfast love" (8), Jesus was perfectly loved by the Father and trusted in God's will, though struggled "if this cup...not my will but yours" Knew that the Father loved him and that he loved the Father and this was the plan to provide salvation.
- Quotes Scripture.

A Good summary quote:

"Using the familiar story of Jonah, Jesus was drawing his listeners a picture that would show them exactly what he came to do - in fact, the greatest work he would do. As Jonah went down into the pit of death, so Jesus would descend into the pit of death. And just as the fish would not contain Jonah and coughed him up, so the grave would not contain Jesus. Death's claim on Jesus would have a limit of three days. Jesus gave us the sign of Jonah by his resurrection, the sign of miraculous, unstoppable life and absolute authority over death." (Nancy Guthrie)

Isiah foretold this resurrection of the Messiah who was sacrificed for our sins!

- Isaiah 53:10-12

¹⁰ Yet it was the will of the Lord to crush him; he has put him to grief; when his soul makes an offering for guilt, **he shall see his offspring; he shall prolong his days; the will of the Lord shall prosper in his hand.** ¹¹ Out of the anguish of his soul he shall see and be satisfied; by his knowledge shall the righteous one, my servant, make many to be accounted righteous, and he shall bear their iniquities. ¹² Therefore I will divide him a portion with the many, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong, because he poured out his soul to death and was numbered with the transgressors; yet he bore the sin of many, and makes intercession for the transgressors.”

- Messiah – he poured out soul to death, bore sin of many... but it also says he shall see his offspring, he shall prolong his days... spiritual offspring through resurrection, Jesus will be eternally prolonged in days!
- Jonah said, “salvation belongs to the Lord!” Jesus provided salvation to all who put their trust in him as he conquered death and offers life as, “the Resurrection and the Life!”

Psalm 16, another powerful passage about Jesus as the Resurrection and Life

In what ways is this Psalm fulfilled in Jesus? List parallels of this Psalm and with the words and life of Jesus.

Psalm 16

¹ Preserve me, O God, for in you I take refuge. ² I say to the Lord, “You are my Lord; I have no good apart from you.” ³ As for the saints in the land, they are the excellent ones, in whom is all my delight. ⁴ The sorrows of those who run after another god shall multiply; their drink offerings of blood I will not pour out or take their names on my lips. ⁵ The Lord is my chosen portion and my cup; you hold my lot. ⁶ The lines have fallen for me in pleasant places; indeed, I have a beautiful inheritance. ⁷ I bless the Lord who gives me counsel; in the night also my heart instructs me. ⁸ I have set the Lord always before me; because he is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken. ⁹ Therefore my heart is glad, and my whole being rejoices; my flesh also dwells secure. ¹⁰ For you will not abandon my soul to Sheol, or let your holy one see corruption. ¹¹ You make known to me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

- Jesus, though he died, was “preserved” by the Father as he took refuge in him.
- Jesus delights in his people, the bride, laid down his life “excellent ones, delight”
- “Beautiful inheritance” (5) Jesus will inherit all things, we are co-heirs. Rom 8.

- Jesus, though he died, had “flesh that was secure” (9) as he was raised on the third day.
- Jesus did go to the place of the dead, “Sheol” but he was not abandoned to stay dead, he did not see “corruption” but was raised on the third day. (10)
- Jesus will live forever in this resurrected body “pleasures forevermore” (11)
- Quoted in Acts 13, David’s body saw corruption, Jesus did not, raised up!

Psalm 16:9-11 – not let his holy one see decay, quoted in Acts 13:30-34

Acts 13:30–37, ³⁰ But God raised him from the dead, ³¹ and for many days he appeared to those who had come up with him from Galilee to Jerusalem, who are now his witnesses to the people. ³² And we bring you the good news that what God promised to the fathers, ³³ this he has fulfilled to us their children by raising Jesus, as also it is written in the second Psalm, “ ‘You are my Son, today I have begotten you.’ (Ps 2:7) ³⁴ And as for the fact that he raised him from the dead, no more to return to corruption, he has spoken in this way, “ ‘I will give you the holy and sure blessings of David.’ (Is 55:3) ³⁵ Therefore he says also in another psalm, “ ‘You will not let your Holy One see corruption.’ (Ps 16:10) ³⁶ For David, after he had served the purpose of God in his own generation, fell asleep and was laid with his fathers and saw corruption, ³⁷ but he whom God raised up did not see corruption.”

- The resurrection of Jesus directly fulfilled the prophecy in Psalm 16:10!

BIG Idea

Jesus, the Resurrection and the Life, gives life to the dead and provides true spiritual life. So when we feel stuck, defeated, and spiritually stagnant, Jesus provides *resurrection* power to overcome death and the Devil. And He provides resurrection power to give *life* in abundance now and hope for the future.

Application

What does this look like in our lives? What difference does this I am of Jesus make?

Think back to Mary and Martha ...and how Jesus delayed coming and their brother died... if you would have come earlier!!

“The discipline of delay is one of the hardest lessons we must learn, as followers of Jesus, especially when it is God who does the delaying... The more deeply we know and walk with Jesus, the more readily we accept God’s glory as our greatest good, even when it feels like such a momentary bad. As “the resurrection and the life,” Jesus is always writing better stories than we could ever pen. Martha and Mary would soon find this to be true. “ (Scotty Smith, *Gospel Transformation Bible*)

- They were frustrated and disappointed with Jesus' timing. Didn't understand!
- But his plan in their waiting... to show them his glory – their greatest good and mine,
- He would show them he is the “Resurrection and the life” by raising Lazarus.

So how about you? What difference does the fact that Jesus is the Resurrection and Life make in your life?

Application Questions

1. Our big idea today is, “The I am, Jesus, gives life to the dead and he provides true spiritual life. When we feel stuck, defeated, and spiritually stagnant... Jesus provides resurrection power to overcome death and the Devil. And Jesus provides resurrection power to give life in abundance now and hope in the future.” Are there any areas in your life now where you feel stuck, defeated, or spiritually stagnant? How can what we learned in this lesson help you in your current situation?
2. Read this quote from Greg Matte, “He is the Resurrection and the Life. That gives us freedom to live life with purpose and know that because of Jesus, death does not have the last say. Jesus’ declaration is our foundation. Everything changes... Jesus conquered death completely and for all time on the cross. A heart that truly understands the magnitude of who Jesus is – the Resurrection and the Life – cannot help live differently with such a sure foundation.” Reflect on this quote, what type of people ought we to be if this is true about Jesus?

Growth Project

- Take time to do deeper study of Jonah 2 and Psalm 16. What are some important or meaningful parallels to Jesus? What are some parallels to where you are at in life right now?