

The God that we serve

Sunday Ifere

CCF

29/01/2017

I AM WHO I AM (1)

The Moses experience

- ¹⁴ God said to Moses, ‘I AM WHO I AM. This is what you are to say to the Israelites: “I AM has sent me to you.”’
- ¹⁵ God also said to Moses, ‘Say to the Israelites, “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 for ever,
the name you shall call me
from generation to generation.

• **Ex 3:14-15 (NIV)**

I AM WHO I AM (2)

Ellicott's Commentary for English Readers

I AM THAT I AM.—It is generally assumed that this is given to Moses as the full name of God.

It is rather a deep and mysterious statement of His nature

- My nature, i.e.,
 - Cannot be declared in words,
 - Cannot be conceived of by human thought.
 - I exist in such sort that my whole inscrutable nature is implied in my existence.
 - I exist, as nothing else does—necessarily, eternally, really.
 - If I am to give myself a name expressive of my nature, so far as language can be, let me be called “I AM.”
- Isaiah 45:6.....I am the Lord and there is no other

I AM WHO I AM (3)

- You cannot by searching find God out in a location
- God can only reveal himself to you
- You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart
 - **Jeremiah 29:13**
- And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.
 - **Hebrews 11:6**

I AM WHO I AM (4)

	GOD	MAN
Yesterday	I AM	i was
Today	I AM	i am
Tomorrow	I AM	i may be
Existence	Uncreated, eternal	Created, limited life span

I AM WHO I AM (5)

I exist in such sort that my whole inscrutable nature is implied in my existence.

- Jehovah, YAHWEH YHWH
- Immanent - Self existing one
- Omniscient – all knowing
- Omnipotent –unlimited power
- Omnipresent – all present

I AM WHO I AM (6)

Unchanging changer

“I am God—yes, I Am. I haven’t changed. And because I haven’t changed, you, the descendants of Jacob, haven’t been destroyed. You have a long history of ignoring my commands. You haven’t done a thing I’ve told you. Return to me so I can return to you,” says God-of-the-Angel-Armies.

“You ask, ‘But how do we return?’

- **Malachi 3:6-7 (MSG)**

The IMPLIED NATURE of the I AM WHO I AM

Our God can see (1a)

For the eyes of the LORD run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to shew himself strong in the behalf of them whose heart is perfect toward him. Herein thou hast done foolishly: therefore from henceforth thou shalt have wars

• **2 Chronicles 16:9 (KJV)**

- GOD is always on the alert, constantly on the lookout for people who are totally committed to him. (MSG)

The IMPLIED NATURE of the I AM WHO I AM

Our God can see (1b)

- ¹⁵ GOD keeps an eye on his friends, his ears pick up every moan and groan.
- ¹⁶ GOD won't put up with rebels; he'll cull them from the pack.
- ¹⁷ Is anyone crying for help? GOD is listening, ready to rescue you.
- ¹⁸ If your heart is broken, you'll find GOD right there;
if you're kicked in the gut, he'll help you catch your breath.
- ¹⁹ Disciples so often get into trouble; still, GOD is there every time.

• **Psalm 34:15-19 (MSG)**

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Our God can hear (2)

¹ Surely the arm of the LORD is not too short to save, nor his ear too dull to hear.

² But your iniquities have separated you from your God; your sins have hidden his face from you, so that he will not hear.

³ For your hands are stained with blood, your fingers with guilt.
Your lips have spoken falsely, and your tongue mutters wicked things.

Isaiah 59:1-3 (NIV)

The IMPLIED NATURE of the I AM WHO I AM Powerful and Reliable (3a)

God is not human, that he should lie, not a human being, that he should change his mind. Does he speak and then not act? Does he promise and not fulfil?

²⁰ I have received a command to bless; he has blessed, and I cannot change it.

Numbers 23:19-20 (NIV)

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Gives strength and can never be tired (3b)

- ²⁸ Do you not know? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He will not grow tired or weary, and his understanding no one can fathom.
²⁹ He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak.
³⁰ Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall;
³¹ but those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.

• **Isaiah 40:28-31 (NIV)**

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Our God is holy and expects us to be (4)

- ¹⁵ But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; ¹⁶ for it is written: 'Be holy, because I am holy.'

• **1 Peter (NIV)**

Warning and encouragement

- ¹⁴ Make every effort to live in peace with everyone and to be holy; without holiness no one will see the Lord.

• **Hebrews 12:14 (NIV)**

The IMPLIED NATURE of the I AM WHO I AM I AM as a son 5 (a)

Jesus is the physical manifestation of our invisible God –

Christ Is Supreme

- Very truly I tell you,' Jesus answered, 'before Abraham was born, I am!'

John 8:58 UK (NIV)

- Christ is the visible image of the invisible God.
He existed before anything was created and is supreme over all creation

• Colossians 1:15 (NLT)

- ⁶For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

• Isaiah 9:6-7(NIV)

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Jesus is the way - 5 (b)

- For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.
• John 1:17 (NIV)
- ⁶ Jesus answered, 'I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.
• John 14:6 (NIV)
- ¹¹ Believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; or at least believe on the evidence of the works themselves.
• John 14:11 (NIV)

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The sacrificial lamb 5 (c)

John testifies about Jesus

The next day John saw Jesus coming towards him and said, 'Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!

John 1:29 (NIV)

- ²⁷ Just as people are destined to die once, and after that to face judgment, ²⁸ so Christ was sacrificed once to take away the sins of many; and he will appear a second time, not to bear sin, but to bring salvation to those who are waiting for him.

• Hebrews 9:27-28 (NIV)

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The sacrificial lamb gives eternal life 5(d1)

- For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal **life**.

• **John 3:16 (NIV)**

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The sacrificial lamb loves 5(d2)

- 3 See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are! The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him.

• **1 John 3:1 UK (NIV)**

- because the Lord disciplines the one he **loves**, and he chastens everyone he accepts as his son.'

• **Hebrews 12:6 (NIV)**

Compare life outcomes

- ² Multitudes who sleep in the dust of the earth will awake: some to everlasting life, others to shame and everlasting contempt.

• **Daniel 12:2 (NIV)**

The IMPLIED NATURE of the I AM WHO I AM Christ Jesus gives the Helper –Holy Spirit (5e)

Holy Spirit

- Counsellor for ever
- Spirit of truth
- Wisdom
- Power
- Revelation
- Teach all things and a reminder

• **John 14:15-26**

• **John 14 &16**

The IMPLIED NATURE of the I AM WHO I AM Peace of God (6)

- Perfect peace in God - **Isaiah 26:3-4**
- Perfect peace in Jesus – **John 14:27; Phil 4:7, 2 John 1:3**
- Perfect peace in the holy Spirit **Roman 14:17**

The IMPLIED NATURE of the I AM WHO I AM

The Alpha and Omega (7)

- 'I am the **Alpha** and the Omega,' says the Lord God, 'who is, and who was, and who is to come, the Almighty.'

• **Revelation 1:8**

- He said to me: 'It is done. I am the **Alpha** and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. To the thirsty I will give water without cost from the spring of the water of life.'

• **Revelation 21:6**

- I am the **Alpha** and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End.

• **Revelation 22:13**