

The Gospel of John records seven times that Jesus said, “I Am,” followed by a description to explain to His followers who He really was. This summer we are going to look at each of Jesus’ descriptions to build a clearer and deeper relationship with Him.

No one gets out of here alive. Jim Morrison of the Doors
I Am the resurrection and the life. Jesus Christ the Son of God

John 11:25&26 HCSB

Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in Me, even if he dies, will live. Everyone who lives and believes in Me will never die—ever. Do you believe this?”

Eternal Life is available to us today, under the conditions that only Jesus could set.

Condition #1 - If Jesus is who He said He is, the resurrection and the life!

What exactly did He say about himself with this I Am statement?

1. He has the power to bring you back to life - Gr. Literal - To stand up again.
2. He is divine, the source of where life comes from - ζωή (dzo-ay') life always/only comes from God and is sustained by God's self-existent life.
 - The Valley of Dry Bones in Ezekiel 37:5 in the LXX translates κηϛ (khaw-yaw') as ζωή (dzo-ay') resurrected life.
 - Deuteronomy 8:3 - Man does not live by bread alone. Sustain life, Live on or upon. in the LXX translates κηϛ (khaw-yaw') as ζωή (dzo-ay') resurrected life.
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He was Christ; and when Pilate, at the suggestion of the principal men amongst us, had condemned him to the cross, those that loved him at the first did not forsake him, for he appeared to them alive again the third day, as the divine prophets had foretold these and ten thousand other wonderful things
Flavius Josephus in The Antiquity of the Jews, Book 18, Chapter 3

“All the strictly historical evidence we have is in favor [of the empty tomb], and those scholars who reject it ought to recognize that they do so on some other ground than that of scientific history.”

William Ward of Oxford University (1812-1882)

After eight days His disciples were indoors again, and Thomas was with them. Even though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them. He said, “Peace to you!” Then He said to Thomas, “Put your finger here and observe My hands. Reach out your hand and put it into My side. Don't be an unbeliever, but a believer.” Thomas responded to Him, “My Lord and my God!” Jesus said, “Because you have seen Me, you have believed. Those who believe without seeing are blessed.” John 20:26-29 HCSB

Condition #2 - If Jesus can give you resurrection and eternal life, and He can!

When the Lord saw her, He had compassion on her and said, “Don't cry.” Then He came up and touched the open coffin, and the pallbearers stopped. And He said, “Young man, I tell you, get up!” The dead man sat up and began to speak, and Jesus gave him to his mother. Luke 7:13-15 HCSB

While He was still speaking, people came from the synagogue leader's house and said, “Your daughter is dead. Why bother the Teacher anymore?”... Then He took the child by the hand and said to her, “Talitha koum!” (which is translated, “Little girl, I say to you, get up!”). Immediately the girl got up and began to walk. (She was 12 years old.) At this they were utterly astounded. Mark 5:35, 41, 42 HCSB

My sheep hear My voice, I know them and they follow Me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish - ever! John 10:27&28 HCSB

Condition #3 - Only If you believe in Jesus.

When the Bible was written, people understood faith to be much more than a head knowledge. If it was a belief, then it was manifested in your actions, attitudes, and lifestyle.

Repenting - Giving up old sinful ways and surrendering to Jesus. Admitting that you are not God and that His plan is best for you.

From then on Jesus began to preach, "Repent, because the kingdom of heaven has come near!"

Matthew 4:17 HCSB

"Repent," Peter said to them, "and be baptized, each of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. Acts 2:38 HCSB

This condition is acted out in Baptism. - Therefore we were buried with Him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too may walk in a new way of life. Romans 6:4 HCSB

Accepting His Gift - Romans 6:23; 10:9&10

And this is the promise that He Himself made to us: eternal life. 1 John 2:25 HCSB

I have written these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life. 1 John 5:13 HCSB

Obedying Jesus - Giving up old sinful ways and surrendering to Jesus. This condition is acted out in Baptism.

Romans 6:4

"Why do you call Me 'Lord, Lord,' and don't do the things I say? Luke 6:46 HCSB

"Follow Me," He told them, "and I will make you fish for people!" Matthew 4:19 HCSB

For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life because of Me will save it. Luke 9:24 HCSB

Options for Your Week:

I have a busy Schedule - Try 5 for 5 - Scan this QR code and then type in the search bar

"Resurrection". It only takes five minutes to enjoy one of these devotionals about eternal life that Jesus wants you to have. See if you can squeeze this in five times this week. 5 minutes for 5 days.



I have some time - Use this list of verses to read through Bible passages about resurrection and life.

After reading each one, jot down a phrase or short sentence that summarizes what that adds to or reaffirms of your understanding of resurrection and the eternal life.

John 1:3-5; Isaiah 26:19; Psalm 49:15; Psalm 71:20; Ezekiel 37:7-10; Daniel 12:2; 2 Cor. 4:16-18; 1 Cor. 15:-20-28; 1 Thess. 4:14-18; Revelation 22:1-5

I will make some time -

Read completely through the Gospel of John. As you go, use a highlighter to highlight every I Am statement that Jesus made. When you are finished, review the I Ams. Prayerfully reconsider your view of Him. How do these statements challenge, change, or expand your appreciation for Jesus?

This week's message contrasted the two foundations that we can build upon for the stability of our lives. Describe in your own words the two different foundations that Jesus talked about in His sermon.

For Small Group Discussion: What stood out to you most from the message?

Opening Question: What is a fun thing you hope to be able to do or have in Heaven?

Main Point: Death is not the final word for those in Christ. There is no resurrection apart from Christ, and there is no eternal life apart from Christ. **Main Scripture:** John 11:1-27

Head Questions:

- What did the sisters expect from Jesus?
- Why do you think Jesus waited before going to Lazarus?

Heart Questions:

- Jesus didn't respond right away to their request. When in your life has God not responded in your preferred timeline?
- How has your faith in Jesus changed your perspective about death?

Hands Questions:

- What does knowing your eternal destination change about the way you live in the present?
- Who do you know that needs to know Jesus as the resurrection and the life?

Additional Scripture: John 11:25, 1 John 5:11-12, 1 Corinthians 15:53-57

Tips and Resources: Heaven by Randy Alcorn

For more sermon resources, podcasts, and other tools go to: <https://realliferesources.org/current-series/>