

Your name is important to you, it is important to me, and most assuredly it's important to God. Jesus knows your name and He calls you by name and leads you through life.

Last week we looked at God calling Moses' name and sending him to deliver the children of Israel from slavery in Egypt.

- God told Moses, “I have seen the suffering of my children in Egypt and I'm here to deliver them!”
- Moses thought, “Great Lord! I'm glad you see it and glad you are going to do something about it!”
- Then God told Moses how He was going to deliver them. **Exodus 3:10 So now, go. I am sending you to Pharaoh to bring my people the Israelites out of Egypt.”**
- Moses said, “I am not able to do that!” **Exodus 3:12 And God said, “I will be with you.**

Exodus 3:13-14 Moses said to God, “Suppose I go to the Israelites and say to them, ‘The God of your fathers has sent me to you,’ and they ask me, ‘What is his name?’

Then what shall I tell them?” 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.’”

I have come down to rescue them... I am sending you, and if anyone questions what you are doing, tell them, *I AM has sent you!*

- As God identifies Himself as **I AM WHO I AM**, this divine name declares His character and attributes, **reinforcing that the issue is not who Moses is, but who is with him.**
- This name is wonderfully significant. Its central idea is that of existence and personality. The words signify “**I AM, I WAS, I SHALL BE.**” **Revelation 1:8 “I am the Alpha and the Omega,” says the Lord God, “who is, and who was, and who is to come, the Almighty.”**
 - 1) I AM is Eternal. 2) I AM is Self-Sufficient. 3) I AM is The Real Thing.
 - 4) I AM is The Unchangeable God.

I Stand Amazed in the Presence of I AM

As I researched and studied the names of God and refreshed myself on His attributes and character, I found myself overwhelmed. I realized that we could talk about “God” for hours upon hours and never begin to scratch the greatness of who He is. I again find myself standing amazed in His presence.

I'm in agreement with Job. **Job 11:7-9 “Can you fathom the mysteries of God? Can you probe the limits of the Almighty? 8 They are higher than the heavens above—what can you do?**

They are deeper than the depths below —what can you know?

9 Their measure is longer than the earth and wider than the sea.

I say Amen to Paul. **Romans 11:33 Oh, the depth of the riches of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable his judgments, and his paths beyond tracing out!**

- I understand what Paul was saying in **1 Corinthians 13:12 For now we see only a reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known.**

I Am Not

It had to be sobering when Moses stood before the “**I AM THAT I AM.**”

- He experienced an overwhelming sense of the power, might, and reality of the living God.
- When Moses really understood that he was standing before the “**I AM THAT I AM,**” he had to come to the realization that if you are the “**I AM THAT I AM,**” then I realize that “**I (Moses) Am NOT.**”

The more I studied the **I AM**, the more that I (Scott) realized that **I Am NOT.**

NEXT STEP: This week I will think about the fact that, since God is the I AM, then I Am Not.

The Example of John the Baptist

John 1:6-8 There was a man sent from God whose name was John.

7 He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all might believe.

8 He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light.

John 1:14-15 The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

15 (John testified concerning him. He cried out, saying, “This is the one I spoke about when I said, ‘He who comes after me has surpassed me because he was before me.’”)

John 1:19-20

Now this was John’s testimony when the Jewish leaders in Jerusalem sent priests and Levites to ask him who he was. **20** He did not fail to confess, but confessed freely, “**I am not** the Messiah.”

- I am not your Savior. I am not your answer. I am not the one you are looking for. John knew that he was not.
- PRIDE says: We want to be a savior. We want to build great ministries on our own great saving power! We want to solve everything for all people because that would make us great and exalt us. But we are not the Christ.

John 1:21 They asked him, “Then who are you? Are you Elijah?” He said, “**I am not.**” “Are you the Prophet?” He answered, “No.”

We need to get this in our vocabulary. I am not. Say it with me. **I Am Not.** I Am Not. I Am Not.

ILL: This would save money on nametags. This would help us know everyone’s name. We would have no need for a church directory. Everyone’s name would be “I am not.”

John 1:22-23 Finally they said, “Who are you? Give us an answer to take back to those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?” **23** John replied in the words of Isaiah the prophet, “**I am the voice of one** calling in the wilderness, ‘Make straight the way for the Lord.’”

- How did John know that he was “I am not”? How do I know that “I am not”?

How do we know that we are “I am not”?

We know we are not because we know that He is “I AM” and if God is “I AM”... then “I am not.”

- That’s what Moses knew and understood that day standing before the burning bush.

Exodus 3:10-11 So now, go. **I am sending you to Pharaoh** to bring my people the Israelites out of Egypt.” (I have come down to rescue them. I am sending you.) **11** But Moses said to God, “Who am I, that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?” Who was Moses that God would use him? Who am I that God would use me? Who are you that God will use you?

I Am Not! But I know I AM!

The more I get to know I AM. The more I know I am not, but the good news is I know I AM. Just like Moses, you know someone who can. You know the great I AM!

Exodus 3:12 And God said, “I will be with you.

Exodus 3:14 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.’”

I have come down to rescue them.... I am sending you, and if anyone questions what you are doing, tell them I AM has sent you!

I AM THAT I AM is with you today! I AM is Eternal. / I AM is Self-Sufficient. / I AM is The Real Thing. I AM is The Unchangeable God. / **And I AM is With You!**

NEXT STEP: I will do all God is calling me to do in the confidence that I am not, but I know I AM.

Because You Understand I Am Not! But I know I AM!

- **You Walk in I AM's Purpose and Plan for Your Life**

Even during a seventy-year captivity, God reminded his people that He had a purpose for them.

Jeremiah 29:11-13 For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the LORD, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. 12 Then you will call on me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. 13 You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart.

- As we discover and walk in His purpose and plan for our lives, we will be walking in a true relationship with Him. A partnership.
- You are hard wired and created to do something good that God has planned for you to accomplish.

Ephesians 2:10 For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

- **You Will Be Given a New Name in Heaven**

God does loves you and He loves your name, but He has a very special name for you, that you will receive when you get to heaven.

Revelation 2:17 Whoever has ears, let them hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To the one who is victorious, I will give some of the hidden manna. I will also give that person a white stone with a new name written on it, known only to the one who receives it.

Just something a little special between you and Jesus!

- **Your Name is On The Most Important Name List of All Time**

People strive to be “A” listers, to have their names known in important places.

To move their name to the top of a list. Maybe even have their name written about in a history book. But the most important list of all time is to have your name written in the Lamb's Book of Life!

Speaking of The New Heaven and New Earth, John Writes:

Revelation 21:27 Nothing impure will ever enter it, nor will anyone who does what is shameful or deceitful, but only those whose names are written in the Lamb's book of life.

Revelation 20:15 Anyone whose name was not found written in the book of life was thrown into the lake of fire.

But that's not what Jesus wants for you.

John 17:3 Now this is eternal life: that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent.

Jesus said in **John 15:15** I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you.

Salvation Call:

James 4:8 Come near to God and he will come near to you. Wash your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded.

Receive Jesus as your savior today and declare **I Am Not, but I know I AM.**