



**Sermon Series: *The Birth of Jesus Christ***  
**Sermon Title: *Jesus the I AM***  
**Scripture: Exodus 3:13-15 and John 8:48-59**  
Pastor Chris Fritz  
Sunday, November 26, 2023

## INTRODUCTION

*“...but in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you...”  
(1 Peter 3:15)*

Note: In the Old Testament, the God of Israel is called the “I AM” or “Yahweh” (often translated in our English Bibles as “LORD”) over 6,800 times!  
It is a monumentally significant thing that Jesus declares Himself to be the I AM.

John 8:48-53

Note: In answering their objection, Jesus returns to the subject of glory, of His glory and God’s glory.

Isaiah 48:9-11; Isaiah 43:25; Psalm 23:3; John 8:54-56

Note: Jesus boldly (and rightly!) affirms His relationship with His Father, His worthiness to receive glory, and His rightful place in redemptive history!

John 8:57-59

## I. THE GLORY AND GOOD NEWS OF THE GREAT I AM

Exodus 3:13-17

Note: The name “Yahweh” (LORD) is built on the Hebrew verb for “I am”. This name (this forever, memorial name) is how God wants to be known because it expresses His essence and nature.

**1) God's name (I AM) expresses His ABSOLUTE BEING, meaning that God never had a beginning and He has no end.**

Psalm 90:1-2 and John 10:27-30

**2) God's name (I AM) expresses His ABSOLUTE PERFECTION, meaning that God is not evolving or improving; He is the standard of beauty, wisdom, goodness, and love.**

John 1:16-18 and 1 Peter 1:14-16

**3) God's name (I AM) expresses His ABSOLUTE INDEPENDENCE (His ABSOLUTE FREEDOM), meaning that God is dependent upon no one; He freely speaks and acts from Himself.**

Hebrews 1:3 and John 8:31, 35

**4) God's name (I AM) expresses His ABSOLUTE VALUE AND WORTHINESS, meaning that God Himself is the greatest gift He can give; love's greatest gift is God Himself!**

John 1:17-18 and John 8:58

#### **Questions for Further Study, Reflection, and Application...**

1. What does it mean for Jesus to be honored in our hearts as holy? (1 Peter 3:15)
2. What remarkable claims does Jesus make about Himself in John 8? What surprises you about what Jesus says here about Himself and about His relationship with Abraham?
3. What is significant about the name I AM (Exodus 3)? Why does God declare this to be His memorial name? What does the name I AM communicate/preach about God's character?
4. How should the truth of God's name give strength, comfort, and hope to us?
5. How do you think God wants you/us to live in light of this truth?