

I Know "The I Am"

Matthew 16:13-20 - Peter Confesses Jesus as the Christ

¹³ When Jesus came into the region of Caesarea Philippi, He asked His disciples, saying, "Who do men say that I, the Son of Man, am?"

¹⁴ So they said, "Some say John the Baptist, some Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets."

¹⁵ He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?"

¹⁶ Simon Peter answered and said, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God."

¹⁷ Jesus answered and said to him, "Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah, for flesh and blood has not revealed *this* to you, but My Father who is in heaven.

¹⁸ **And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it.**

¹⁹ And I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven."

²⁰ Then He commanded His disciples that they should tell no one that He was Jesus the Christ.

***Have you ever known anyone that was not happy with themselves?**

- ***There are millions of dollars worth of hair dyes, makeup, colored contact lenses, and many other cosmetics sold yearly - -***
- ***WHY...because someone is not happy with themselves.***
- I know people that have had **stomach reduction surgery** and then made the statement **I am still not happy, why?**
- ***Because happiness is not an outside emotion.***

The spirit of this world has sold people on the falsity that you have to look a certain way, or be a certain weight or wear certain clothes, drive certain vehicles among other things to fit into society.

- ***If you're not careful you begin to look at other people and say,***
- ***If I had what they had, or if I was more like them***
- ***It is a temptation that we all fight at times***

If you're not careful this will slip into your walk with God

- You will feel inadequate because you don't live up to someone else's standards....
- **Your daddy** was not a preacher - **Your momma** don't come to church
- **I can't pray** like so and so
- **I can't sing** like so and so
- **You don't know what I have done.....**where I have come fromWhat I have been through!

DON'T RUN FROM YOUR PAST

- IT IS YOUR GREATEST **TESTIMONY...**
- I WAS A DRUNK..DRUG ADDICT....IMMORAL....
- **BUT LOOK WHAT THE LORD HAS DONE - - AMEN** 😊

I don't care if you drank like a fish, used more drugs than the pharmacy can sale, **made out with every person** on your street, **God wants you**

You are not, but you know the I am

- Can I tell you God **created you to be yourself...**
- No matter what you cut, tuck, dye or wear you will **never** be anyone else
- JUST AS WE EXPECT **GOD TO BE WHO HE IS**
- HE EXPECTS US TO **SIMPLY BE WHO WE ARE**
- Don't let the devil, the world or people put thumbs down on you
- **DON'T LET LOW SELF ESTEEM HOLD YOU DOWN**

YOU ARE A CHILD OF THE KING

When you get up in the morning you should **remind yourself** - - -

- I am highly favored....I am adopted child
- That means **HE CHOSE ME....**
- He delights in me.....He purchased me.....I am a child of God..
- **The devil doesn't** want you to get ahold of this.....
- **Low self esteem will stop you in your tracks.**
- Hey when you get out of bed in the morning and your feet hit the floor Satan ought to start shaking in his shoes.....
- His knees should start knocking and his teeth should start chattering.....

You got to start believing in yourself again.....

- Come on you can do it
- Start believing in yourself again
- start believing in your pastor again
- start believing in your church again
- start believing in your children again

***** You need to serve notice...**

- devil I can make it...
- I will live for God...
- I am going to church.....
- I ain't letting you hold me back anymore.....

Satan wants you to live in condemnation

- He wants you to **come to church hanging your head**

Romans 8:1 NKJV - Free from Indwelling Sin – THE Bible says - - -

8 There is therefore now **no condemnation** to those who are in Christ Jesus, **who do not** walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit.

The word condemnation in the **Hebrew means adverse judgment**

What this scripture is really saying is: **Satan cant render judgment on us!**

The Bible says that Satan is the accuser of the brethren (Rev.12-10)

- There is a time according to **the book of Job** that ***Satan even presents himself before God*** and ***brings accusations against Gods children***
- **The book of Job states** that **the adversary even writes a book about us**
- **You know what it is???**
- **It's a book of judgment and accusations** that he has collected concerning our lives from day 1.
- He stands before God and **God says have you considered my servant** Sim, Corina, YOU!!!
- **Satan gets out his book** opens it up and says **look here though what I have found**

- They said a bad word two weeks ago...6 months ago she got a nasty attitude with her momma.....he told the boss off.....he did not pray for a whole week.....he messed up...she fell.....
- **God says let me see that book!!!!**

WHEN HE OPENS IT UP: ALL HE SEES IS BLOOD DRIPPING ON EMPTY PAGES

ITS UNDER THE BLOOD...

- **QUIT BEATING YOURSELF UP OVER IT**
- **PUT IT BEHIND YOU - GET ON WITH LIVING FOR GOD**

We're not perfect....we all make mistakes.....I am not:

BUT, I KNOW THE GREAT I AM!!!!!!

- He is the redeemer, the healer, the savior, the bright and morning star,
- the lion of Judah, the rock, the messiah.....

I am the loser

- the damaged goods,
- the faithless one...
- I have bad days,
- I get an attitude at times...
- I get discouraged
- I feel like giving in or giving up **[But]**

Just as we expect God to be who he is - - -

He simply expects us to be who we are

- **You are not the rock...but you are a piece of the rock**

Jesus asked Peter who do men say that I am

- **They say you are** John the Baptist, Elijah, Jeremiah

Ok Peter, **who do you say** that I am

- **Thou are the Messiah!**
- Jesus said...that's right Simon son of Jonah...**I am**

Now here is the message - And I say also unto thee, that thou art Peter

That's all you will ever be ...just simply Peter

- A man that rebuked the Lord
- A man that fished without his clothes [naked]
- A man that cut off Malchus' ear
- A man that returned to his old lifestyle of fishing
- A rough hard brazen man that cursed and denied the Lord.

Simply Peter.....[a piece of the rock]

- **Thou art Peter** and upon this rock [**Jesus pointing to himself**] I will build my church
- **Simon was not the rock, the church is built on Jesus!!!!!!**

But **even though you are simply Peter I am** going to give you the keys to the kingdom.....

Even though Peter was not him, he knows him I am not but I know the I am

- All of the sudden this normal man...this failure...this denier...
- **Stands up** and begins to get a realization
- **I know who he is** 😊
- **He begins to preach, Repent, and be baptized everyone of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins!**

The same Peter that had said, **I don't know him, I am not** one of them.....

- Now says Silver and gold have I none, but such as I have give I unto thee, **in the name of Jesus Christ rise up and walk.**

This same man that tried to hide in the shadows when Jesus was crucified...

- Now walks by sick people and **as his shadow falls on them** they are healed.

I am not but I know the I am.....

- Come on stand up and be yourself....
- You belong, just like you are
- In all your imperfections you belong
- Your just as much a part as anyone

CLOSE:

There was a man who went out and found a beggar living in a cardboard box.

- He took him home and fed him cleaned him up and put new clothes on him.
- He said beggar I am giving you a fresh start, here are the keys to this house, its yours, I give it to you.
- One month later the man came back to check on the beggar. The front door to the house was open, the man went from room to room looking and calling for the beggar.
- He checked the whole house but could not find him.
- He walked downstairs to the basement opened the door and there on the floor was the beggar,
- With his cardboard box set up on the floor and he was sleeping in it.

He had it all, but felt like he did not belong!

- Someone needs to **get out the basement** throw away our cardboard box!
- **AND REALIZE - This is your house.....**
- **You have the same power and anointing** as everyone else.....
- **Your shadow can heal the sick -**
- **You can say** in the name of Jesus.....**HOW... YOU KNOW THE I AM**
- **He is the healer, the deliverer, the prince of peace**.....
- And when you know him.....
- **THESE THINGS SHALL YE DO AND GREATER THINGS SHALL YE DO**

Peter at the end of his life was cast into the prison, for nine months....

- In absolute **darkness**
- He endured **monstrous torture SHAKLED** to a post.
- He was **chained** in an upright position,
- Unable to **lay down or rest**
- Yet it's said **he converted the jailers and 47 others**...

WHY?? - Because he knew the I am!!! -

Jesus - the I am ...the rockwas crucified on Calvary]

Peter - the piece of the rock... Said I am not him, in fact I am so unworthy,

- I don't want to be crucified like my Lord...
- crucify me upside down....

You are unique to God - He wants you just the way you are!!!!