

The Great I AM

John 8:46-59

📖 John 8:46–53 (NIV84) “Can any of you prove me guilty of sin? If I am telling the truth, why don’t you believe me? ⁴⁷ He who belongs to God hears what God says. The reason you do not hear is that you do not belong to God.” ⁴⁸ The Jews answered Him, “Aren’t we right in saying that you are a Samaritan and demon-possessed?” ⁴⁹ “I am not possessed by a demon,” said Jesus, “but I honor my Father and you dishonor me. ⁵⁰ I am not seeking glory for myself; but there is one who seeks it, and He is the judge. ⁵¹ I tell you the truth, if anyone keeps my word, he will never see death.” ⁵² At this the Jews exclaimed, “Now we know that you are demon-possessed! Abraham died, and so did the prophets, yet you say that if anyone keeps your word, he will never taste death. ⁵³ Are you greater than our father Abraham? He died, and so did the prophets. Who do you think you are?”

The Lord **Jesus** had this [to say about who He was](#):

📖 John 8:54-56 (NIV84) “Jesus replied, “If I glorify myself, my glory means nothing. My Father, whom you claim as your God, is the one who glorifies me. ⁵⁵ Though you do not know Him, I know Him. If I said I did not, I would be a liar like you, but I do know Him and keep His word. ⁵⁶ Your father Abraham rejoiced at the thought of seeing my day; he saw it and was glad.”

The Lord’s **accusers** did this [in response to who Jesus said He was](#):

📖 John 8:57 (NIV84) “You are not yet fifty years old,” the Jews said to Him, “and you have seen Abraham!”

📖 John 8:58–59 (NIV84) “I tell you the truth,” Jesus answered, “before Abraham was born, I am!” ⁵⁹ At this, they picked up stones to stone Him, but Jesus hid Himself, slipping away from the temple grounds.”

📖 Exodus 3:14 (NIV84) “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.’”

The Lord’s **followers** had this [to say about who He was](#):

📖 John 1:1–3 (NIV84) “ In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was with God in the beginning. ³ Through HIM all things were made; without HIM nothing was made that has been made.”

📖 Matthew 16:13–16 (NIV84) “When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi, He asked His disciples, “Who do people say the Son of Man is?” ¹⁴ They replied, “Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” ¹⁵ “But what about you?” He asked. “Who do you say I am?” ¹⁶ Simon Peter answered, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.”

📖 Colossians 1:15–17 (NIV84) “He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. ¹⁶ For by Him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things were created by Him and for Him. ¹⁷ He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together.”

Who do you say He is? _____

📖 Matthew 7:22–23 (NIV84) “Many will say to me on that day, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and in your name drive out demons and perform many miracles?’ ²³ Then I will tell them plainly, ‘I never knew you. Away from me, you evildoers!’”

📖 John 8:31–36 (NIV84) “To the Jews who had believed Him, Jesus said, “If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. ³² Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.” ³³ They answered Him, “We are Abraham’s descendants and have never been slaves of anyone. How can you say that we shall be set free?” ³⁴ Jesus replied, “I tell you the truth, everyone who sins is a slave to sin. ³⁵ Now a slave has no permanent place in the family, but a son belongs to it forever. ³⁶ So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.”

📖 Galatians 4:7 (NIV84) “So you are no longer a slave, but a son; and since you are a son, God has made you also an heir.”

Digging Deeper: Many think that Jesus was a prophet or a great moral teacher; why is that not enough? Why is it important that Jesus be seen and understood as God? Is it enough to just believe He is God? Who do you say He is? How does knowing who Jesus is affect your daily life?