

Verse 12

This verse contains the 2nd of 7 “I am” sayings found in John. Jesus will draw from **Exodus 3:14** in using Ego Eimi in reference to the name of God to declare His deity and also add a metaphor to Himself to describe who He is. Jesus declares He is Yahweh and that He is the Light of the world.

The I Am sayings of Jesus:

- I Am the Bread of Life (**John 6:35,41, 48, 51**)
- I Am the Light of the World (**John 8:12**)
- I Am the Door of the Sheep (**John 10:7,9**)
- I Am the Good Shepherd (**John 10:11,14**)
- I Am the Resurrection and the Life (**John 11:25**)
- I Am the Way, the Truth, and the Life (**John 14:6**)
- I Am the True Vine (**John 15:1,5**)

During the Feast of Booths there was a water ceremony that was to reflect and remember how God provided water from the rock for them while on the wilderness journey. Also during the Feast of Booths was a light ceremony that was to symbolize and cause remembrance of God leading them by the pillar of fire in the wilderness (**Exodus 13:21-22**) until they reached the promised land.

He is the Light

- **1 John 1:5** This is the message we have heard from Him and announce to you, that God is Light, and in Him there is no darkness at all.
- **John 3:19-21** And this is the judgment, that the Light has come into the world, and people loved the darkness rather than the Light; for their deeds were evil. ²⁰For everyone who does evil hates the Light, and does not come to the Light, so that his deeds will not be exposed. ²¹But the one who practices the truth comes to the Light, so that his deeds will be revealed ^[a]as having been performed in God.”
- **1 Timothy 6:15-16** which He will ^[a]bring about at *the* proper time—He who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of ^[b]kings and Lord of ^[c]lords, ¹⁶who alone possesses immortality and dwells in unapproachable light, whom ^[d]no one has seen or can see. To Him *be* honor and eternal dominion! Amen.
- **Revelation 21:22-25** I saw no ^[a]temple in it, for the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb are its ^[b]temple. ²³And the city has no need of the sun or of the moon to shine on it, for the glory of God has illuminated it, and its lamp *is* the Lamb. ²⁴The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth ^[c]will bring their glory into it. ²⁵In the daytime (for there will be no night there) its gates will never be closed;
- **Revelation 22:3-5** There will no longer be any curse; and the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and His bond-servants will serve Him; ⁴they will see His face, and His name *will be* on their foreheads. ⁵And there will no longer be *any* night; and they ^[a]will not have need of the light of a lamp nor the light of the sun, because the Lord God will illuminate them; and they will reign forever and ever.

Christ in blinding Light

- Mount of transfiguration (**Matthew 17:1-7**)
- To Saul on the road to Damascus (**Acts 9:1-5**)

Believers are children of Light and should walk in the Light

- **1 Thessalonians 5:5** for you are all sons of light and sons of day. We are not of night nor of darkness;
- **Ephesians 5:8-9** for you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord; walk as children of light ⁹(for the fruit of the light *consists* in all goodness, righteousness, and truth),
- **1 John 1:5-7** This is the message we have heard from Him and announce to you, that God is Light, and in Him there is no darkness at all. ⁶If we say that we have fellowship with Him and *yet* walk in the darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth; ⁷but if we walk in the Light as He Himself is in the Light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin.

Verses 13-14

Old Testament laws stated that no matter could be confirmed on the witness or testimony of just one witness, but required at least two witnesses.

- Old Testament verses on two or three witnesses: **Deuteronomy 17:6, 19:15**
- New Testament verses on two or three witnesses: **Matt 18:15-20, 2 Cor 13:1, 1 Tim 5:19**

The confrontation with Jesus begins to escalate as they now straight to His face are calling Him a liar. Jesus, knowing they are referring to the Old Testament law concerning two witnesses, states that His testimony is true even if He testified about Himself as He is truth. His testimony is true as He has come down from Heaven, but the Pharisees don't understand this truth. They don't know where He is from or where He is going.

Verses 15-16

Jesus tells them that they judge according to the flesh and by appearance, but He does not judge according to the flesh, but rather He judges spiritually as He sees the heart of all people. His judgment is true, perfect, and righteous as He is not alone in it, but with the Father (**John 5:30**).

Verses 17-18

Jesus returns to the reference by the Pharisees that His testimony that He is the Light of the world is not true as His witness of Himself does not validate a claim. They hold to minimum requirement of two witnesses. We have seen previously in **John 5:31-47** that are many people and things that testify about Him (the Father, John the Baptist, His works, scripture). Now Jesus will declare He has a second witness to testify on His behalf: God the Father! Within the triune Godhead (Father, Son, Spirit) each testifies of the other two divine persons of the Godhead. The Father testified of the Son as He set His seal upon Him (**John 6:27**).

- **John 5:31-32** "If I *alone* testify about Myself, My testimony is not ^atrue. ³² There is another who testifies about Me, and I know that the testimony which He gives about Me is true.
- **John 5:37-38** And the Father who sent Me, He has testified about Me. You have neither heard His voice at any time, nor seen His form. ³⁸ Also you do not have His word remaining in you, because you do not believe Him whom He sent.
- **Matthew 3:16-17** After He was baptized, Jesus came up immediately from the water; and behold, the heavens were opened, and ^ahe saw the Spirit of God descending as a dove *and* ^bsettling on Him, ¹⁷ and behold, a voice from the heavens said, "This is ^cMy beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased."
- **Matthew 17:5** While he was still speaking, a bright cloud overshadowed them, and behold, a voice from the cloud said, "This is My beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to Him!"

Verse 19

They want to know who Jesus earthly Father and why his testimony about Jesus makes it true. However, Jesus is talking about God the Father. Jesus makes a claim that is vital to Christianity. If one does not know the Son, they don't know the Father and if one does not know the Father, they don't know the Son. Many people claim to know and believe in God but refuse to believe Jesus is God. Anyone who does not believe Jesus is God, is not a Christian and they do not know God.

- **1 John 2:23** Whoever denies the Son does not have the Father; the one who confesses the Son has the Father also.

Verse 20

This scene takes place in the treasury where giving and alms were carried out and now the greatest gift to mankind was standing in this area. Although they wanted to seize Him, no one did because His hour had not yet come.

Verses 21-23

Jesus is telling them that He is not from below as He is sent from above. He is carrying out the work of the Father and then will soon ascend back to Heaven.

Verse 24

Jesus claims deity again by telling them that unless they believe He is "I AM (Ego Eimi, Yahweh) they will die in their sins. Belief in Jesus being God is non-negotiable to be a Christian. Everyone will either die in their sins or die in faith with their sins being atoned for by Christ.

Verses 25-27

Again, they are confused by Jesus. He reiterates all that He has told them is true as He is speaking the things He has heard from the Father. However, those that claimed to know and follow God had no idea that He was talking about God the Father.

Verse 28

Earlier in verse 22, they asked if He was going to kill himself. Here Jesus is prophetically speaking as to how the Jews will kill Him by crucifixion (the Son of Man being lifted up).

- **John 3:13-14** No one has ascended into heaven, except He who descended from heaven: the Son of Man. ¹⁴ And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up,

He does nothing on His own initiative but speaks the things the Father has taught Him. Throughout His life and His death on the cross, Jesus is speaking from the Father. If we look to His life, the cross, and the resurrection we can see the Father and hear the Father speaking through His Son. The invisible God became visible through His Son who became flesh.

Verse 29

The Son was never alone as the Father was always with Him for Jesus always did the things that were pleasing to Him. He completed His work perfectly. He fulfilled all righteousness, died for those the Father has given to Him, and then was raised from dead which pleased the Father.

Verse 30

Although many hated Jesus' words, those who were being drawn by the Father heard His words as truth and believed. In the middle of a world that hates God and His message let us never stop delivering the message, because some will believe.

He is the Light of the world. The Light shined bright when darkness fell upon all the land when He was lifted up on the cross to lay His life down for His Sheep. We were once children of darkness walking in the dark and hating the Light. At the time of our regeneration God came to our hearts that were full of darkness and declared that there be light as He did into the darkness at creation. Now we are new creations and are to walk in the Light as we now love the Light. There will be no need for the dull light of the sun in our eternal home because the true Light will illumine it forever!