

01 I AM...THE LORD WHO HEALS HEALING

I AM EXCITED ABOUT WHERE WE ARE GOING IN OUR NEXT SERIES. WE ARE GOING TO BE TALKING ABOUT THE “I AM’S”.

NOW, IF YOU ARE FAMILIAR WITH SCRIPTURE AND YOU HEAR THE TERM ‘I AM’ MOST PEOPLE THINK WE’RE GOING TO DO A SERIES ON THE 7 ‘I AM’S’ JESUS TALKED ABOUT CONCERNING HIMSELF.

HOWEVER, I CAME ACROSS AN ARTICLE THAT LISTED 35 TIMES GOD THE FATHER OR JESUS REFER TO THEMSELVES WITH AN ‘I AM’.

OVER THE NEXT 8-WEEKS WE ARE

GOING TO LOOK AT 8 DIFFERENT 'I AM'S'
FROM BOTH THE OLD AND NEW
TESTAMENTS. I BELIEVE ITS GOING TO
BE AN AMAZING SERIES.

BEFORE I GET INTO OUR FIRST 'I
AM', LET ME ASK, WHY ARE YOU HERE
IN CHURCH TODAY?

WHAT WAS YOUR MOTIVATION TO
GET OUT OF BED AND ATTEND THIS
SERVICE ON THIS PARTICULAR SUNDAY?

PERHAPS THERE ARE GUESTS WHO
HAVE BEEN INVITED AND YOU ARE HERE
BECAUSE OF THE INVITATION.

PERHAPS THERE ARE SOME HERE
WHO WERE FORCED. SOMEONE IN
AUTHORITY SAID, **"YOU ARE GOING!"**

PERHAPS IT'S YOUR HABIT TO GET UP ON SUNDAY MORNINGS AND ATTEND CHURCH.

MAYBE SOME DIDN'T HAVE ANYTHING BETTER TO DO.

WELL, THE TRUTH IS, WHATEVER GOT YOU HERE IS FINE WITH ME. I'M GLAD YOU'RE HERE.

AND, IF YOU'RE A GUEST I DO HOPE YOU WILL COME BACK.

ALTHOUGH I MEAN IT WHEN I SAY, I AM GLAD YOU'RE HERE FOR WHATEVER REASON, I WOULD LIKE TO POINT OUT THE REASON WHY WE SHOULD BE HERE.

REGARDLESS OF WHAT GOT US
THRU THESE DOORS THERE IS ONE
REASON THAT SHOULD BE OUR
CONSISTENT MOTIVATING FORCE.

ACTUALLY, IF THIS REASON
DOESN'T EVENTUALLY TAKE PRIORITY
THEN ATTENDANCE TO ANY HOUSE OF
GOD WILL BE INCONSISTENT, AT BEST.

WHY ARE WE HERE?

LET'S LET **ISAIAH 53:1-6 (CEV)**
ANSWER THIS QUESTION FOR US.

WHATEVER THE REASON WE
ATTENDED THIS MORNING IT BOILS
DOWN TO THE REASON WE ARE HERE IS
BECAUSE OF THE CROSS OF JESUS

CHRIST.

WHETHER WE CONSIDER
OURSELVES BORN AGAIN OR NOT, THIS
CHURCH EXISTS BECAUSE OF THE WORK
OF THE CROSS, THEREFORE, YOU'RE
HERE BECAUSE OF THE WORK OF THE
CROSS.

IF IT WERE NOT FOR JESUS DYING
ON THE CROSS FOR THE SINS OF THE
WORLD, MAKING A WAY FOR MANKIND
TO HAVE A RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD,
THIS CHURCH WOULDN'T BE HERE AND
NONE OF US COULD BE HERE.

WE ARE HERE BECAUSE OF JESUS
AND BECAUSE OF HIS WILLINGNESS TO
GO TO THE CROSS.

THE CROSS OF CHRIST IS A
HORRIBLE PICTURE OF PAIN AND
SUFFERING AND YET IT PRODUCED THE
BEAUTY OF NEW LIFE.

THE LIVING, HOLY SON OF GOD
LAID ASIDE ALL SPLENDOR AND
MAJESTY FOR THE SOLE PURPOSE OF
GOING TO THE CROSS.

LET US ONCE AGAIN BE REMINDED
OF THIS FACT.

JESUS DID NOT COME TO EARTH TO
HEAL THE SICK. HE CAME TO EARTH TO
GO TO THE CROSS.

JESUS DID NOT COME TO EARTH TO

GIVE PREACHERS GOOD SERMON
MATERIAL FROM HIS PREACHING ON
THE MOUNT. HE CAME TO GO TO THE
CROSS.

JESUS DID NOT COME TO CAST OUT
DEMONS. HE CAME TO GO TO THE
CROSS.

ALL OF THESE THINGS JESUS DID IN
FACT DO, HOWEVER, ALL THESE THINGS
PLAYED A ROLE IN PRODUCING THE
MAIN REASON WHY HE CAME TO THIS
EARTH – TO GO TO THE CROSS.

HE HEALED PEOPLE AND THE
PHARISEES GOT MAD BECAUSE IT
SHOWED THEM UP AND SO THEY

WANTED HIM DEAD.

HIS TEACHING ON THE MOUNT
CONTRADICTED THE TEACHINGS OF THE
RELIGIOUS LEADERSHIP OF THE DAY
AND THEY DIDN'T LIKE IT SO THEY
WANTED HIM DEAD.

HE CAST OUT DEMONS AND THOSE
WHO WITNESSED IT WERE AFRAID OF
HIM AND ANGRY AT HIM AND SENT HIM
AWAY.

THIS ALL LEAD JESUS TO THE
PAINFUL CONCLUSION OF THE CROSS.

WHAT MAKES THIS EVEN MORE
TRAUMATIC IS, JESUS KNEW HE WOULD

BE REJECTED AND YET HE STILL CAME.

GOD THE FATHER KNEW HIS SON
WOULD BE DESPISED AND TREATED
LIKE A NOBODY AND YET HE STILL
ASKED THE SON TO COME AND JESUS
CAME.

GOD OFFERED HIS SON AND JESUS
WILLINGLY CAME TO REDEEM US BACK
TO THE FATHER.

WHAT MORE COULD WE ASK FOR?
WHAT MORE COULD WE POSSIBLY
WANT? I'M FREE, I'M FREE PRAISE GOD
I'M FREE - FROM SIN AND DEATH.

BUT GUESS WHAT? THERE IS
ACTUALLY MORE IN THE CROSS THAN

THIS FREEDOM. A BETTER WAY TO PUT IT IS, BECAUSE OF THIS FREEDOM THERE IS MORE.

BECAUSE OF THE CROSS, BECAUSE OF THE FREEDOM FROM SIN, I HAVE:

1. PEACE OF MIND
2. GUIDANCE IN MY DAY TO DAY WALK
3. FELLOWSHIP WITH THOSE WHO HAVE EXPERIENCED THE SAME THING I HAVE
4. I HAVE THE PROMISE OF LIVING FOREVER IN HEAVEN WITH JESUS

THE LIST OF BENEFITS IS ALMOST
ENDLESS BUT THERE IS ONE MORE THAT
I WANT TO MENTION TODAY.

ONE OF THE ADDITIONAL BENEFITS
OF THE CROSS OF CHRIST FINALLY
BRINGS US TO OUR 'I AM' TODAY.

LISTEN TO **EXODUS 15:26. I AM THE
LORD WHO HEALS YOU!!!**

WHEN WE TAKE WHAT GOD SAYS
ABOUT HIMSELF IN EXODUS AND THAT
ADD WHAT THE HOLY SPIRIT SAYS
ABOUT JESUS IN **ISAIAH 53:5** WE ARE
LEFT WITH AN AMAZING DESCRIPTION
OF ONE OF THE CHARACTERISTICS OF
GOD AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST.

ISA 53: 5 SAYS "...AND BY HIS
SCOURGING (STRIPES) WE ARE HEALED".
(NAS)

BECAUSE OF THE WORK OF THE
CROSS WE CAN BE HEALED.

I'M TALKING ABOUT PHYSICAL
HEALING.

TURN TO **MARK 16:16-18 (CEV)**

I BELIEVE IN THE HEALING POWER
OF OUR LORD AND SAVIOR JESUS
CHRIST.

LISTEN TO **JAMES 5:13-15 (CEV)**

DO YOU BELIEVE THE WORD OF
GOD? DO YOU BELIEVE JESUS IS THE
SAME YESTERDAY, TODAY, AND
FOREVER?

IF WE ANSWER YES TO THESE
QUESTIONS, THEN WE HAVE TO BELIEVE

IN DIVINE HEALING.

LOOK WE ALL KNOW HOW IT IS -
SOMETIMES WE SHY AWAY FROM
DECLARING JESUS HEALS BECAUSE WE
ALL KNOW SOMEONE WHO WAS PRAYED
FOR AND THEY WEREN'T HEALED.

I ADMIT I STRUGGLE WITH THIS
SOMETIMES.

SITUATIONS LIKE THAT PRODUCE
HESITATION IN PROCLAIMING THE
TRUTH OF HEALING. WHY? **"WHAT IF
IT DOESN'T HAPPEN?"**

BUT FOLKS, I LIKE WHAT JOHN
WIMBER SAID.

“MY RESPONSIBILITY IS TO PRAY
GOD’S RESPONSIBILITY IS TO HEAL. IF
HE CHOOSES NOT TO DO SO, THEN HE’S
RESPONSIBLE FOR THAT.”

I CAN’T EXPLAIN WHY SOME ARE
HEALED AND OTHERS AREN’T, BUT THAT
CAN’T STOP US FROM ASKING. IF WE
DID, NO ONE WOULD BE HEALED.

LET ME GIVE YOU ANOTHER
REASON WE SOMETIMES DON’T
PROCLAIM THE TRUTH OF HEALING.

IN SOME CASES IT PRODUCES
ACCUSATION. "IF YOU HAD ENOUGH
FAITH YOU WOULD BE HEALED", "IT'S
YOUR FAULT YOU'RE NOT HEALED".

WELL FOLKS, I MAY BE A LITTLE TOO SIMPLISTIC FOR SOME, BUT I HAVE ONLY ONE RESPONSE TO BOTH THESE REACTIONS.

NO WHERE IN SCRIPTURE AM I TOLD TO DEFEND GOD.

AGAIN, I DON'T KNOW WHY SOME ARE HEALED AND OTHERS AREN'T. ALL I KNOW IS THAT GOD HAS ALWAYS PROVEN HIS FAITHFULNESS.

FROM BEFORE THE DAWN OF TIME GOD HAS BEEN FAITHFUL. THEREFORE, I WILL PRAY FOR THE SICK WITH FAITH BELIEVING GOD IS HEARING OUR PRAYERS.

I BELIEVE GOD CAN AND DOES
HEAL SO I'LL PRAY AND LEAVE THE REST
IN THE HANDS OF MY MOST FAITHFUL
GOD.

I KNOW HE KNOWS WHAT HE IS
DOING. SO, I'LL BE OBEDIENT AND PRAY
FOR THE SICK.

– COMMUNION

– PRAYER FOR THE SICK