



I AM THAT I AM – LOVE

9 December 2012, Ps Stephen Smith

¹⁴And God said to Moses, **I AM WHO I AM** and **WHAT I AM**, and **I WILL BE WHAT I WILL BE!**

¹⁵God said also to Moses, This is My name forever, and by this name I am to be remembered to all generations.

Exodus 3:14-15

The foundational motivating factor in my life is my faith in **GOD - I AM!**

Who is God – I AM?

God is the only unrestricted being in the entire universe. God is the creator of everything. He is without beginning or ending. He is omnipotent, omnipresent, omniscient and invisible.

If I say that I can know God because of **natural laws** then that makes God subject to natural laws. If I say that God can be known because of **creation**, it still limits God based on His creation!

The first revelation of God is that **He is the Lord!**

My faith does not stand on the arguments of man or on the forces of nature or the understanding of natural laws. **My faith stands because God has made Himself known unto me.**

We looked at:

- I Am the Lord: *Sovereign; Owner; Above all.*
- I Am Holy: *Other; Separate; totally distinct from everything else.*
- I Am the Name of the Lord: *I Am all knowledge; all might.*

The damage comes as we relate in relationship with God, when we think we can capture, qualify and quantify the thoughts of God.

We get the Word of God to back-up what we already have decided!

This demands the understanding that I get to keep walking with Him and the more I walk with Him, the more I will get to know Him.

GOD IS LOVE

He who has no love has no knowledge of God, because God is love.

1 John 4:8

The Four Loves

• **Storge** – affection

Affection is fondness through familiarity, especially between family members or people who have otherwise found themselves together by chance.

• **Philia** – friendship

Philia is the love between friends. Friendship is the strong bond existing between people who share common interest or activity.

• **Eros** – romance

Eros is love in the sense of 'being in love' or 'loving' someone.

• **Agapē** – the God kind of love

Agapē love is selfless, sacrificial, unconditional love, the highest of the four types of love. The love that brings forth caring regardless of the circumstance. Agapē love is the greatest of loves.

Don't teach your version of love based on your experience, or on your religious upbringing and doctrines.

And this is love, not that we had love for God, BUT that he had love for us, and sent his Son to be an offering for our sins.
I John 4:10

There's a tension between the Holiness of God and Love of God. The revelation is to go on! Meaning: if you stop at the Lord I Am or the Holiness of God, you miss the rest of it.

Jesus' sole purpose was to come and manifest the love of God the Father. To seek and to save that which was lost. He came to call sinners to repentance. He did not come to condemn – He came to show them the love of God.

Jesus Christ, is God's unique and eternal Son.¹ He is the Alpha and Omega,² the Great I AM,³ the "Mighty God"⁴ by whom all things were created⁵ and in whom all things consist.⁶ Jesus, who is the head of all things,⁷ humbled Himself in such a way that the human mind couldn't even bear the thought of it. He came into this sin-cursed world and actively partook in our sufferings. Even as we are flesh and blood, He shared in the same.⁸ He became a man and dwelt among us.⁹ He shared in the sufferings we brought upon ourselves through our rejection of His holy precepts.¹⁰ And as if that were not enough to convince us of His love and concern for us, Jesus, the immortal God and the Giver of Life, gave up His own life upon the cross in the greatest act of love the world has ever known! In doing so He took our sins away, effectively nailing them to the cross with Himself. Thus, He who knew no sin became sin for us¹¹ and He who gave life to all, tasted death for those condemned to it.

Bible References: ¹John 1:1-3; 3:16; ²Revelation 1:8; cf. Revelation 1:13-18, 21:4-7; 22:6-7, 12-16, 20; ³John 8:56-59; cf. Exodus 3:13-14; ⁴Isaiah 9:6; ⁵Colossians 1:16; ⁶Colossians 1:17; ⁷Colossians 1:17; 2:10; ⁸Hebrews 2:14; ⁹John 1:14; cf. John 1:1-3; ¹⁰Galatians 6:7; 1 Peter 3:18.

The reason why you have got to have a revelation of the Holiness of God is because it gives you a glimpse of how great the Love of God is.

- **Holiness builds separation.**
- **But love builds communion!**

"I Am" is not a revelation of God's power; in fact, it is a revelation of His love. As soon as we examine His love, and really understand all the aspects of His love, we will be able to delve into (open ourselves to; experience; connect with) His wonderful power.

The love of God can provide us with what we need to live a victorious life. Faith cannot be our root. The anointing cannot be our root. Only the fruit that grows as a result of us being grounded in God's love, can lead to Godly fruit and good results in our lives.

LOVE NEVER FAILS

Love wants to fulfil the needs of others. Love is real. It wants to help others, and not just in theory, but in reality - ***Love from the center of who you are; don't fake it. Run for dear life from evil; hold on for dear life to good.***

Romans 12:9 (Message)

Love is the best and greatest gift to the world. It makes life worthwhile. Love liberates us from the Law.

And so, faith, hope, love abide ... these three; but the greatest of these is love.

I Corinthians 13:13

Paul says that ***love is the more excellent way*** .

I Corinthians 12:31

He prays ***that your love may abound yet more and more and extend to its fullest development in knowledge and all keen insight...***

Philippians 1:9

The Lord loves you. He says "Look, I renew everything, EVEN YOU!"

- Basilea Schlink

But you, my loved ones, building yourselves up on your most holy faith, and making prayers in the Holy Spirit, Keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for life eternal through the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ.

