

## Devotional 2021

**Colossians 3:16** Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God.

### *The I Am Statements of Jesus.*

Two dangerous words: I am. Those two words almost got Jesus stoned. Jesus said, “Before Abraham was, I am.” He was boldly identifying Himself as God. He was claiming to be older and greater than Abraham. In the Gospel of John Jesus makes seven “I am” statements that each have staggering implications and make incredible claims about who Jesus is. Some believed Him, some rejected Him. In the next seven devotionals we encourage you to wrestle with what Jesus says about Himself and how that impacts your view of Him and how it impacts your life.

### *Reflections from Scripture on Jesus’ statement “I Am the Door.”*

**John 10:1-4** Truly, truly, I say to you, he who does not enter the sheepfold by the door but climbs in by another way, that man is a thief and a robber. 2 But he who enters by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. 3 To him the gatekeeper opens. The sheep hear his voice, and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out.

**John 10:7-9** Jesus again said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep. 8 All who came before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them. 9 I am the door. If anyone enters by me, he will be saved and will go in and out and find pasture.

**John 14:3-6** If I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also. 4 And you know the way to where I am going.” 5 Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” 6 Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

**Romans 5:1-2** Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. 2 Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God.

**Ephesians 2:17-18** Jesus came and preached peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near. 18 For through him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father.

**Hebrews 9:11-12** But when Christ appeared as a high priest of the good things that have come, then through the greater and more perfect tent (not made with hands, that is, not of this creation) 12 he entered once for all into the holy places, not by means of the blood of goats and calves but by means of his own blood, thus securing an eternal redemption.

**Hebrews 10:19-22** Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus, 20 by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh, 21 and since we have a great priest over the house of God, 22 let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.

**Matthew 7:13-14** Enter by the narrow gate. For the gate is wide and the way is easy that leads to destruction, and those who enter by it are many. For the gate is narrow and the way is hard that leads to life, and those who find it are few.

**Revelation 3:20** Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and eat with him, and he with me.

### Song

*Psalm 59:16* But I will sing of your strength; I will sing aloud of your steadfast love in the morning. For you have been to me a fortress and a refuge in the day of my distress.

### *Savior Like a Shepherd Lead Us*

Savior, like a shepherd lead us,  
Much we need Thy tender care;  
In Thy pleasant pastures feed us,  
For our use Thy folds prepare:  
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,  
Thou hast bought us, Thine we are;  
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,  
Thou hast bought us, Thine we are.

We are Thine, do Thou befriend us,  
Be the guardian of our way;  
Keep Thy flock, from sin defend us,  
Seek us when we go astray:  
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,  
Hear, O hear us when we pray;  
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,  
Hear, O hear us when we pray.

Thou hast promised to receive us,  
Poor and sinful though we be;  
Thou hast mercy to relieve us,  
Grace to cleanse, and pow'r to free:  
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,  
Early let us turn to Thee;  
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,  
Early let us turn to Thee.

Early let us seek Thy favor,  
Early let us do Thy will;  
Blessed Lord and only Savior,  
With Thy love our bosoms fill:  
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,  
Thou hast loved us, love us still;  
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,  
Thou hast loved us, love us still.

## **Prayer**

*II Chronicles 7:14 If my people, who are called by my Name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land.*

Our Lord Jesus, what a glorious thing to know you as the door. Before you all there was before us was a wall, a dividing wall of hostility, but you have broken down that wall by abolishing the commandments and ordinances that we could not keep and making peace for us through the cross and reconciling us to God. Before you there was a veil separating us from the Holy of Holies but on the cross you torn the veil and opened the way for us to enter in.

You are our great shepherd, the one who has opened the way for us to enter the green pastures of salvation and rest. Forgive us when we close the door of our hearts to you and thank you that you persist in knocking and pursuing us.

Make us instruments in your hands for leading others to your door and helping them enter into a saving of you as the Shepherd Savior. You are the only way, the only hope, the only door to salvation. Open blind eyes to see you more clearly.

Thank you for who you are and for every revelation of yourself to us. In your name we pray, Amen.