

I AM

JOHN 8:48-59

How did you see God working in your life this week? (Romans 1:11, 12)

BACKGROUND: The religious leaders with closed ears and hearts continued to confront Jesus; but Jesus assures the believers of eternal life and encourages them to live with joyful expectation and know that He is God.

GIVES ETERNAL LIFE. The Eternal God, Jesus, gives eternal life to those who are aware of their need to be saved from their sin. To have faith in Jesus is to follow His command to believe. (**John 8:48-51, fn 8:51, John 11:25, 26, fn 11:25-26, Romans 3:20-24, fn 3:23, I John 3:23, fn 3:23, Acts 16:30, 31, fn 16:30, 31**) *How does being aware of my sin help to save me or draw me closer to Jesus?*

BRINGS JOYFUL EXPECTATION. Before Jesus came to the earth, the believer's joyful expectation was the hope that the Messiah was coming to save him and his people. Since the Messiah and Savior, Christ Jesus, has come, made the payment for our sin, and returned to the Father, the believer's joyful expectation is that He is coming again for His people to dwell with Him for eternity. As a believer, my joyful expectation is that even if I die before He comes again, I will be with Him forever! (**John 8:56, fn 8:56, John 1:40-42, fn 1:40-42, I Thessalonians 4:13-5:5, fn 5:1-3, fn 5:2, Revelation 21:1-6, fn 21:3, 4, fn 21:5, I John 2:28-3:3, fn 3:1-24**) *How will you prepare for Jesus' coming for you to be the fulfillment of a joyful expectation?*

IS NOT "I WAS". Abraham "was"—Jesus is I am! In this great moment in history, Jesus revealed to His followers that it was He who declared to Moses "I am". It is He who is one with the timeless God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob and creator of all! Jesus, the "I am", chose you and me to be with Him and be like Him before the creation of the world! Now that's an amazing truth about our great salvation to ponder! (**John 8:57-59, fn 8:58, Exodus 3:12-15, fn 3:13-15, John 1:1-4, fn 1:1, Hebrews 1:1-3, fn 1:3[1st]**) *What does Jesus, the "I Am", mean to you?*

Are you taking time to experience the presence of the Holy Spirit with the Living Word teaching you and giving you His joy, His love, and His peace?