



John: The Great "I AM" Gospel
John 8:48-59
From sermon 3.10.24

Read *John 8:48-59*

Overview from Sunday's sermon: After pausing for one week to review the historic spiritual warfare that backs and empowers all opposition to Christ, God's plan, and God's people, we now return to the text that concludes John chapter 8. Jesus has systematically dismantled their entire false belief structure. They are trusting in the wrong things (lies) and rejecting the One way (truth) to salvation—the God of Abraham.

1. Review again the biblical doctrine of spiritual warfare. The ageless battle between God and the devil/angels and demons. Satan is always trying to thwart the plan of God by enlisting his captive human world. The fallen people then oppose truth and holiness.

1a. How is it being fought in this exchange between Jesus and the leaders? Jesus sees and knows who controls the crowds and their reactions to His message. He continues to use words, even when they pick up stones.

Addressing the text: Jesus Dissects Everything About Abraham

2. Review each aspect of Abraham that the rejectors had wrong and Jesus clarified.

- Abraham was chosen by Sovereign Unconditional Election, not heritage (History).
- Abraham was Justified with an Imputed Righteousness, (Salvation) not works (Law).
See *Galatians 3:16-18*
- Abraham was gifted Faith which was evidenced by works (Fruit. The story of Isaac).
- Abraham Rejoiced that Christ would redeem him and, one day, reign. See *Hebrews 11:13*
(A Heart of Hope)

3. What is some of the symbolism and parallel that exists between the account of Abraham and the life and mission of Christ. Had the one and only son. Called to Sacrifice. God provided the Substitute. Upon Mount Moriah. See *Genesis 22:2 & 2 Chronicles 3:1.*

3a. How could the crowd and Scripture experts have missed this? Blindness. See *2 Corinthians 4:3-4*

4. Jesus delivers His ultimate "I AM" statement. How does this force the hearers that day and all afterwards to render a verdict? Everyone must do something with that claim. Dismissing it is a decision. Other choices include: He never said it. A liar. He was crazy. That's not what He meant. Or He is who He says He is.

(Which is, ironically, exactly what "I AM" means. See *Exodus 3:13-15*)

5. How will knowing this exchange between Jesus and the crowds in John 8 help your evangelistic efforts when it comes to family, friends, co-workers, and those God puts in your path? Various Answers.