



John: The Great "I AM" Gospel

John 13:1

From sermon 8.11.24

Read *John 13:1*

Overview from Sunday's sermon: Everything is about to change. Jesus will be gone. The Old Testament Law will be fulfilled. The Gentiles will be grafted into the family of God. The Levitical priesthood is fading away. The veil that separates Holy God and sinful man will be torn. The Holy Spirit will be coming in a brand-new ministry: namely indwelling and empowering all believers into a new priesthood. The Church will be comprised of people from every nation, language and tongue. This chapter starts the change.

1. Again, what is the difference between Common Grace and Saving Grace? Common Graces are benevolent acts and traits God bestows on all people—elect and non-elect. Life, joy, provision, rain, the beauty of Creation, His patience. Saving Grace is bestowed only on the elect: regeneration unto spiritual life. Living eyes that can see and accept the Gospel. Granting saving faith. The substitutionary death of Christ.

2. Only two groups in all of history are called God's Beloved, God's Elect, and Christ's bride. What are the two groups? Israel and the Church.

See also *Isaiah 45:4, Jeremiah 31:3-4, Malachi 1:2, & Ephesians 5:25-27*

3. How many ministers call New Heights home? Trick question. Ministers are not just Elders & Pastors or deacons. Every believer is a minister, called and equipped for local church ministry.

4. As stated in our overview and study: the Cross changes everything. Discuss...

...The new temple—*1 Corinthians 3:16*.

...The new law & practice. [written upon the believer's heart. No more ceremonial or dietary laws.]

...The new leadership. Former priests = disciplined Levites. {Although other tribes could be ruling Pharisees. Paul was from the tribe of Benjamin. Only a Levite could be a priest/high priests. *Hebrews 9:11-12*}

...The priesthood of believers. See also *1 Peter 2:4-5 & 9, Revelation 5:9-10*

5. What does it mean to consecrate? To make clean. To make holy. To make useful.

5a. Every priest had to be ceremonially consecrated once and then routinely consecrated for service. How does that relate to our consecration as believers? We are washed and cleaned positionally when we receive Christ through the Holy Spirit. Yet, we still sin and must be regularly washed to be effective and maintain joy.

6. The discuss the amazing grace phenomena of taking sinful, fallible people and making them useful ordained priests. See *1 Corinthians 6:11 & 2 Timothy 2:20-21*

7. What do you think would result if more "church members" viewed themselves biblically as priest of the Most High God? Various Personal Answers. Inevitable increase in our worship, faith, commitment, prayer, spiritual warfare preparation, & evangelism.