

Series on our Worship Banners – 2022

Saturday, 10/15 at 4:00 | Sunday, 10/16 at 9:00

Yahweh

Part
3



Text: Gospel of John Selections NAS 1995

Introduction: Dear Friends in Christ: Our current sermon series is working through our eight **I AM** banners.

So far, we have focused on these words of Jesus, *which are written on our banners on the **south** side of our worship area:*

1. **“I AM the Bread of Life” (John 6)**
2. **“I AM the Light of the World” (John 8)**
3. **“I AM the Door” (John 10)**
4. **“I AM the Good Shepherd” (John 10)**

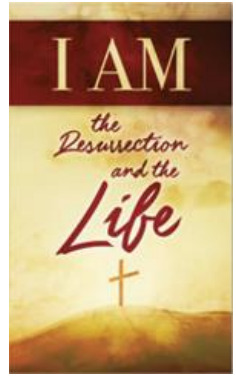
Today, we focus on banners 5 and 6, *which are located on the **north** side of our worship area;* Jesus said:

5. **“I AM the Resurrection and the Life” (John 11)**
6. **“I AM the Way and the Truth and the Life” (John 14)**

5. I AM the Resurrection and the Life (John

11:17-27).

John chapter 11 focuses on three siblings: Lazarus, Mary, and Martha, *who were friends of Jesus*. When Lazarus became seriously ill, Mary and Martha sent word of his illness to Jesus.



- a. ¹⁷ ...when Jesus came, He found that [Lazarus] had already been in the tomb four days. ¹⁸ Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, about two miles off; ¹⁹ and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary, to console them concerning *their* brother. ²⁰ Martha therefore, when she heard that Jesus was coming, went to meet Him, but Mary stayed at the house. // **"The days of deep mourning lasted for seven days"** (Kretzmann), so Jesus arrived during that time. When a loved one is ill, we pray for healing. But when a loved one dies, it is normal and natural to be sad because of the separation that has occurred.
- b. ²¹ Martha then said to Jesus, "Lord, if You had been here, my brother would not have died. ²² Even now I know that whatever You ask of God, God will give You." ²³ Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." ²⁴ Martha said to Him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." // Martha expressed **great faith in Jesus**: ☉You could have healed Lazarus, ☉You will raise him on the last day, and, *even now*, ☉You could raise Lazarus from the dead!
- c. ²⁵ Jesus said to her, "**I am the resurrection and the life**; he who believes in Me will live even if he dies, ²⁶ and everyone who lives and believes in Me will never die. Do you believe this?" ²⁷ She said to Him, "Yes, Lord; I

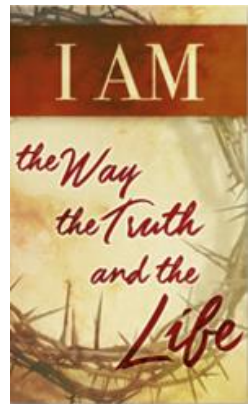
have believed that You are the Christ, the Son of God, *even He who comes into the world.*" // Let's break down what Jesus said:

- i. "I am the resurrection and the life" – Jesus is our source of *physical life* and *eternal life*!
- ii. "...he who believes in Me will live even if he dies" – For believers in Jesus: ♦they are physically alive, ♦most will physically die, and, *when Jesus returns*, ♦He will make them physically alive again.
- iii. "...everyone who lives and believes in me will never die" – If, *while physically alive*, we believe in Jesus; then, *even when we physically die*, we continue living spiritually, *thus, we never die!* By the HS *Martha believed such things. Do you?*

6. **I AM the Way and the Truth and the Life** (John 14:1-6).

Now we are in **John chapter 14** and Jesus is in the upper room with His disciples:

♦The feet have been washed, ♦the Passover meal is being eaten, ♦Jesus has predicted His betrayal, ♦Judas has left the room, ♦Jesus has predicted Peter's denial, and ♦Jesus has mentioned His departure. Then, *knowing all things*, Jesus said:



- a. ¹ "**Do not let your heart be troubled; believe in God, believe also in Me.**" // As those disciples were troubled by the previous words and actions, *so we find ourselves troubled at times. What is the cure?* Trust in God the Father and in Jesus: They ♦are almighty, ♦are in control, ♦have a plan, and ♦love us so very much!

- b. ² “In My Father’s house are many dwelling places; if it were not so, I would have told you; for I go to prepare a place for you. ³ If I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself, that where I am, *there you may be also.*” // Jesus’ disciples had grown so close to Him and dependent upon Him. Since His departure troubled them, Jesus explained the reason for His departure **and** their future reunion: ▶ I am going to heaven, ▶ I will prepare a place for you there, and ▶ I will come back and get you.
- c. ⁴ “And you know the way where I am going.” ⁵ Thomas said to Him, “Lord, we do not know where You are going, how do 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 but through Me.” //
- i. Where was Jesus going? *To His Father’s house.*
 - ii. Where is God the Father? *In heaven.*
 - iii. How do we know? Because Jesus taught us to pray: *Our Father who art in heaven.*
 - iv. Why is Jesus the only way to heaven? To enter, we must be righteous, that is, *sinless in God’s sight.* For all who are righteous, *they are clothed in the righteous, perfect, sinless life of Jesus.* We receive Jesus’ righteousness *by grace through faith!*

Let Us Pray: Dear Lord Jesus, each week, *as we see our banners*, let us ▶rejoice in knowing You, *the Great I AM*, ▶give thanks for the fullness of the life to come, and ▶continue trusting in You – *the only way to the Father and to heaven!*

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