Jesus' I AM Promises and Teachings Advent-Christmas-New Year 2023 Christmas Day, December 25, 2023 "I AM the Way, Truth and the Life."

1 "Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. 2 In my Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? 3 And 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. 7 If you had known me, you would have known my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him." John 14:1-7

I. Remember...

- I AM statements are in John's Gospel at least 7 times.
- John clearly states that Jesus is fully Creator God in John 1.
- I AM = YHWH = LORD God = LORD (Exodus 3 and throughout the OT)
- Creator Jesus speaks, declares and creates "I AM" Reality for all people. When Jesus says "I AM..." He speaks, declares and creates faith in the listener. (For us!)
 - (Remember: "God said, 'Let there be light' and there was light.")
- I AM statements so far:
 - I AM the Bread of Life; I AM the Light of the World;
 - I AM the Door; I AM the Resurrection and the Life: I AM the Good Shepherd

II. Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

The three promises of this I AM have distinct meanings, but also linked together.

- I AM the way. Not "I show you the way, and then you do it _____."
 - Thomas was worried about getting to the Father's house where Jesus is going. How to get there?

- The way to get to heaven is through Jesus Himself. Jesus not only prepares a place for us but is the Way to get there.

- The first names of Christians was the Way. "This is how we do it. This is the Way."

- I AM the Truth.

- Where will we find somebody who is really, truly honest with us? Who will tell us the actual condition of things?

- Jesus not only teaches about the true situation of sin, death and $\ensuremath{\mathsf{evil}}\xspace$...

He ______ something about it to help us!

Not a temporary fix, "kicking the can down the road," but a fix for _____

- Jesus wants us to live in His true teachings. (Matthew 28:19-20)

- I AM the Life.

- When Jesus is our Way and Truth, we have true Life.
- Again, Not "I will show you a good life and then you do it." I AM the Life.
- In relationship with Jesus is to have Life. On our own, sinners only have _____, but with Jesus we have Life.
- Life from Jesus is <u>not</u> temporary "peaches and cream," but _____ love which provides all that we truly need now, and into eternity.

This is the Baby born for us. I AM the Way, the Truth, and the Life.

Dec 31, Sunday - New Year's Eve Day. "I AM the True Vine." (John 15:1, 5)

Recorded "I AM" sermons are online at www.zionrco.org