

## Ask Dr. Lillie:

### Questions About Bible Words and Creation

Question: What does God's name *I Am* mean? Let us look at a few of the many times this name is used in the Holy Scriptures for our answer.

Let's start with Moses, when God was instructing him to lead the children of Israel out of Egypt. In Exodus 3:11-15, Moses was rehearsing with God what he would say to the children of Israel and what their response to him would be. When he asked God, "Who shall I say sent me?" God said, "*I Am that I Am has sent me.*" But the word Moses was to repeat to the children was, "*I Am hath sent me unto you.*" This response used the I Am God-name only once, emphasizing the one, now-present God. In verse 15 God said to Moses, "*I Am is my name forever unto all generations.*"

*I Am* means *now*, and *I Am that I Am* means now and forever I Am the Light of Life; the Son of the Morning, the God of the Living. The *I* means light and the *am* means morning light. *I Am* the light that rules the day -- the greater light. *I Am* the Spirit and Wisdom of Truth, which is greater than the spirit and wisdom of error. *I Am* now the God that *is*. *I Am* also means the one that *is* the eye of Truth.

In Exodus 29:46, God said, "I Am the Lord *their* God," meaning the Truth and Light of the *past*. In Leviticus 11:44, God says, "I Am the Lord *your* God," meaning the *now-present* Light of Truth and Life. Exodus 3:14-15 says, "I Am shall be my name *forever*." I, the Light of Truth and Life, never change. I Am the same yesterday, today, and forever. I Am the all-sufficient one, everywhere, throughout all of time and beyond.

In Genesis 17:1, God says, "I Am the almighty God." The term *almighty* in Hebrew means: to spread out as a flat land; a field for planting; the all-sufficient one. In Greek it means: the all-ruling God, absolute and universally sovereign -- omnipotent, omnipresent, and omniscient at all times, always and evermore.

In Exodus 15:26, God said, "I Am the Lord that healeth." *Healing* means to cure; to repair; to thoroughly make whole; to mend as by stitching by the prick of a needle -- as to mend a broken heart by sewing it together again. In Acts 9:5 Jesus said, "*It is hard for thee to kick against the pricks,*" meaning the pricks from the needle, the Word (Sword) of the Spirit / Father that hurts as it corrects, disciplines, cleanses, and makes repairs in you. Healing comes by cleansing and repairing that which has been soiled and damaged -- body, mind, and soul.

Jesus said in John 17:17, "Sanctify them through thy Truth; *thy Word is Truth.*" Psalms 107:20 says, "He sent his 'Word' and healed them." In Luke 8:11 Jesus said, "*Now the parable is this: the seed is the Word of God*" -- meaning that the Word of God is the *seed* of the true God and that the embodied word is the Son of God. The seed called faith is the Seed of God.

Galatians 3:16-19 speaks of a *seed-of-faith* that is the *word-of-faith*, the *seed-of-Abraham*; these are all one seed. Through this Word of the Lord we are healed, sanctified, *cleansed from our old nature*, saved, and made whole. After this seed has come we are no longer under the rule and authority of the word (law) and the spirit of man. The knowledge and spirit of man work through his mortal senses and they are his schoolmaster.

The Master / Teacher of Truth is the Spirit of Truth. He is the Spirit that was promised to come. The seed-of-faith, the Word-of-Truth, the son-of-promise comes first. After faith has been planted in the field of the mind and heart, then the Spirit of the Father, who is the resurrection and the Life, will appear. He will quicken and raise the seed that are dead (asleep) from the deadness of the letter of the Law, and out of the living seed bring forth the first fruit.

The Spirit and Life within the buried seed (Word), after it is quickened, are a lamp / light for our pathway *as we begin our journey out of the darkness of the cold, clammy, grave of ignorance wherein the seed was planted*. If we continue to follow Christ, who is the light of the Word that *first shines in the darkness of our heart and mind*, he will lead us out of the darkness of ignorance, into the marvelous Light of Truth and Life. See John 1:1-5.

The work of the living seed / faith / substance of God within us will make us whole and complete in Christ, the Lord. The "I" (the Light of Truth) leads, teaches, corrects, disciplines, heals, and sanctifies one who is a doer of the Word instead of a hearer only. We are not saved by the planting of the Word / seed alone, but we are made whole *by the work of the Spirit and increase of the Living Word within us*.

The Father / Spirit and the Son / Word work together and are one. Eternal life in the body comes by the work of Spirit, the Father who is *in* the living Word, *the resurrected Son*, who is the builder and maker of our eternal home. The Lord / Spirit said, "*I Am the resurrection and I Am the Life.*"

He who *knows* the Father also *knows* the Son, however *one can have the Son / Word* and not *know* the Father or the Son. The Spirit of the Father reveals the Son / Word *after the seed is quickened and raised from the dead letter of the Law*. The Son / Living Word reveals the Father. See Luke 10:22.

"I Am" *is* Spirit; "I Am" *is* Truth; "I Am" *is* Light; and "I Am" *is* Life. I Am / God, the Living Word, *is* He who was in the beginning of earthly creation as a dead seed. In the God-seed alone *is* Truth, but in the *living* Word *is* Spirit and Life.

The Word, called Jesus, has the Spirit of the Father *in* him. In John 14:6 Jesus said, "*I Am the way* (to the Father), *the Truth* (who knows the Father), *and the Life* (the Spirit of the Father): *no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.*" He said, "*In me (the Word) dwells all the fullness of Life, now and forever.*"

One who *knows* the Father and the Son will *know* Truth in Spirit only, and no other voice will he hear. *I Am* means that whenever, wherever or whatever *is* -- *THE GOD WHO IS I AM, IS THERE ALSO!*

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