Wednesday Bible Study

05/24/2023

"I am" Part 2

Ephesians Chapters 1 and 2

This week's "I am" Bible study is different than last week's in that in Part 1, in which the sovereign triune God of the universe was making truthful claims regarding His eternal omnipotent, omniscient and omnipresent character. The preceding fact is why the "I am" statements in this week's study ARE NOT capitalized! This "I am" is NOT referring to Yahweh. Today, in Part 2, we will look at "I am" statements that you and I can make, only because of the finished work of our Lord and Savior Christ Jesus. **The bracketed and underlined verses will help flesh out today's study and are for you to study on your own time!

Ephesians

1. 1:3 I am blessed with spiritual blessings. [2 Corinthians 4:16-18]

(Heavenly not earthly, eternal not temporal because they are IN CHRIST.)

2. 1:4 lam chosen. [1 Peter 2:9]

(The sovereign God chose to save to the uttermost, those who trust in Christ Jesus.)

3. 1:4 I am holy and blameless before God. [Colossians 1:21-23]

(What can wash away my sins?... Nothing but the blood of Jesus!)

4. 1:5 I am adopted as God's child by His will. [Galatians 4:4-6]

(God predestined us to be adopted as full-fledged sons and daughters of the Most High.)

5. 1:7 **I am redeemed.** [Romans 6:5-14]

(Redeemed from the slave market of sin.)

6. 1:7 I am forgiven of my wrong doings.

(The debt I owed God for my trespasses and sins has been marked "Paid In Full", through the substitutionary death of Christ on the cross.) [Hebrews 10:11-14]

7. 1:9 I am made to have the knowledge of God and to understand His will.

(I am given understanding of the *mystery* {a secret now revealed} of His plan.) [Colossians 1:25-27]

8. 1:10 I am in His plan.

(I am an active participant in His plan during this age.) [Philippians 2:13]

9. 1:13 I am sealed with the Holy Spirit, the first installment of my inheritance.

(My life is sealed by the *permanent* indwelling of the Holy Spirit, which guarantees my salvation.) [2 Corinthians 1:21-22]

10. 1:18 I am the recipient of His enlightenment, the hope of His calling and the boundless greatness of His power toward me.

(I already am enlightened by the ministry of the Holy Spirit, which gives me hope for the future because of His resurrecting power.) [1 Corinthians 4:4-7]

11. 1:20 I am made alive with Christ and seated in heavenly places.

(I have been made alive with Christ just as He was made alive at His resurrection and effectively seated in heaven.) [1 Corinthians 15:22-23]

12. 2:8 I am saved by grace through faith.

(I am saved by undeserved favor through trust in Christ's finished work at Calvary.) [<u>Titus</u> 2:11-14]

13. 2:8 I am the recipient of His gift of salvation.

(My salvation was given, not earned, so I can't brag.) [Romans 8:2-4]

14. 2:10 I am created in Jesus to do good works.

(I was created in Christ to continually walk by faith in good works, as opposed to doing good works to earn salvation.) [James 2:14-18]

15. 2:13 I am at peace in Christ and am part of the family of Promise.

(I am at peace with believing Jews in Christ and am one body with them in His church and have been made part of the family of the Abrahamic Promise.) [Galatians 3:24-29]

16. 2:15 I am freed from the Law and made a new human through the cross.

(I am free from the Law of sin and death by the imputed righteousness of Christ applied to me.) [Romans 3: 20-26]

17. 2:19 I am a member of the household of God.

(I have been robed in His righteousness and counted as a son of God) [John 1:12-13]

18. 2:20 I am growing into a holy temple, a dwelling place of God through the Holy Spirit.

(I am being built up as a part of His church "building" into a holy temple and a dwelling place of God through the ministry of the Holy Spirit, the Cornerstone of which is Christ.) [1 Peter 2:4-5]

<u>POSTSCRIPT:</u> In the Hebrew bible, the Shekinah glory of God dwelt in the Holy of Holies in the tabernacle. In the New Covenant, believers are permanently indwelled and empowered by the Holy Spirit in their hearts. We are to let His glorious light so shine before men that they will give glory to God. (Matthew 5:16 Ephesians 4:1-6)