

MY NAME IS

A TRANSFORMATION CHURCH SERIES

SERMON: *I AM (Yahweh)*

SUMMARY:

When we read the Bible, we see God described with many different names. These names give us insight into His character. Specifically, God's names describe His redemptive action in human history. Each week of this series we will explore a different name of God as described in Scripture. This week we will focus on the name *Yahweh*, which translates to I AM.

This is the name that God gives to Moses at the burning bush when God calls him to lead the Israelites out of slavery in Egypt (see Exodus 3:1-13) Moses asks God, "Who am I to go to Pharaoh and lead the people?" God's response doesn't address Moses' qualification, but emphasizes God's presence. "I will be with you...", God says. Moses then asks, "What should I tell them your name is?" God's answer is "I AM WHO I AM."

As we see in Exodus 3:14 and following, *Yahweh* is eternal God who is near to us. He hears our cries for freedom and has come to rescue us so that we may worship Him and be with Him forever.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

The story of God rescuing His people from slavery tells us who Yahweh is. In ancient Egypt's superstitious, polytheistic culture with many gods for all manner of things, Yahweh is the God whose eternal name is "I AM WHO I AM". Nothing compares to Him. People today can find themselves enslaved to all kinds of things, trusting in all kinds of lesser powers. Yahweh continues to be the incomparable I AM who delivers people out of slavery.

Read Exodus 3:8-11

What are the circumstances the Israelites find themselves in?

What do powerful people do to perceived threats?

Read Exodus 3:16

Who saw all of this happening?

What did God do about what He saw?

Read Exodus 3:14-17

Why do you think Yahweh was the name God chose to call Himself?

What relationship with Israel do these verses emphasize?

What does this relationship tell you about God?

The plagues God uses that show His power and set His people free are described in Exodus 7-12, culminating in the death of all the firstborn sons. God's people were rescued by the blood of a sacrificial lamb (see Exodus 12:12ff)

How does the blood protect the people of God?

How does this story relate to Jesus?

How did Pastor Derwin's illustration help paint this picture for you?

Read John 8:58-59

Who does Jesus claim to be?

Why did it provoke such a visceral response?

What do you believe about Jesus' claim to be "I AM"?

Read Romans 6:6-11

What do these verses say about our enslavement to sin?

In verse 8 we are promised that we live with Jesus. What does that mean?

What does being "alive to God through Christ Jesus" (v11) tell us about worship?

How are you worshiping God through your life in Christ Jesus?

End your time in prayer.