

INTRODUCTION.

- A. Scripture text: **Acts 9:1-5.**
- B. We are discussing one of the great questions of scripture, "Who art thou, Lord?" as was spoken by Saul on the road to Damascus. Our answer is 8-fold, looking at the "I am" statements of X found in the gospels (and NT).
- C. Tonight we conclude this morning's lesson, looking at who Jesus is.
- D. The eight "I Am" statements of Christ:
The four discussed this morning's lesson were:
 - 1. "I am the door of the sheep."
 - 2. "I am the good shepherd."
 - 3. "I am the resurrection and the life."
 - 4. "I am the way, the truth, and the life."Tonight, the four to be taught are:
 - 1. "I am the alpha and the omega" (Rev. 1:8).
 - 2. "I am the bread of life" (Jn. 6:35).
 - 3. "I am the light of the world" (Jn. 8:12).
 - 4. "I am the true vine" (Jn. 15:1).

I. "I AM THE ALPHA AND THE OMEGA" (Rev. 1:8).

- A. Alpha is the first letter of the Greek alphabet, and omega is the last letter.
- B. Jesus is saying that He is the beginning and the end of all things.
- C. In Him alone is the answer to all things spiritual. Everything pertaining to salvation, Xianity, the church, the word, etc., begin and end in X.
- D. Christ is head over everything (all things) to the church (Eph. 1:22,23).
- E. He is the beginning, the middle, and end of all things. He never changes (Heb. 13:8).

II. "I AM THE BREAD OF LIFE" (Jn. 6:32-35).

- A. Physical hunger can only be temporarily satisfied by bread and water. Spiritual hunger is more important and exclusively satisfied in X. People turn to many sources in trying to solve their spiritual hunger (occult, new age, etc.), but X alone is the bread of life.
- B. Jesus offers Himself as bread that can satisfy (Jn. 4:13).
- C. Spiritual hunger is something to be desired. Living in a very carnal and fleshly world would have us to neglect our spiritual needs. Satan would have us believe that we have no spiritual need (or hunger).
- D. Unfortunately the crowds of Jo., chapter 6 would rather see Jesus as one who could supply their physical needs and not their spiritual. When He spoke of eating His flesh and drinking His blood the application was to spiritual hunger. The crowds would have none of that.
- E. But Peter understood what Jesus was talking about! He knew that in X alone had the words of eternal life (Jn. 6:68).

III. "I AM THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD" (Jn. 8:12).

- A. Those who are in sin, can only grope in the darkness--hoping for a way out (Ac. 17:27).
- B. Even the way that seems right, is the way of death (Prov. 14:12).
- C. It is not within a human to direct their own life (footsteps), see Jer. 10:23.
- D. This light allows us to truly see. X's light allows us to see:
 - 1. The glory of God.
 - 2. The true nature of sin.
 - 3. The true life and how to live it.
 - 4. The truth and what is error.
- E. X's light allows us to have insight to the profound questions of life. Everyone at one time or another will ask about three main philosophical areas:
 - 1. Ontology (existence).

2. Epistemology (knowledge).
 3. Axiology (values).
- F. And, finally, light is the only thing I know of that can come in contact with filth and not be contaminated. We are to be in the world, but not of the world--the light of the world (Mt. 5:14).

IV. "I AM THE TRUE VINE" (Jn. 15:1).

- A. As branches, we are to continue to grow and bear fruit in our lives:
1. We are to have the qualities or fruit of the Spirit (Gal. 5:22-23).
 2. Peter speaks of adding things to our faith (1Pet. 1:5-12).
 3. We are to engage in good deeds to bear fruit (Ti. 3:14).
 4. When it comes to soul-winning, we plant and water, while God gives the increase (1Cor. 3:6). My job is not to convert, but to preach (plant and water the seed).
- B. Those branches that do not do the above, God will cut off (Jn. 15:6).
- C. Notice that the only requirement to bearing much fruit is that of remaining in the vine (Jn. 15:5)! Bearing fruit for God becomes something that is natural and spontaneous! It will not be something that you do, but more so something that you are! By your very Xian nature you will do the things of X, and bear much fruit.

CONCLUSION AND INVITATION.

- A. Once again we have seen 4 more answers to the question, "Who art thou, Lord?"
- B. Jesus is:
- | | |
|---|------------------------------------|
| 1. "I am the door of the sheep." | 5. "I am the alpha and the omega." |
| 2. "I am the good shepherd." | 6. "I am the bread of life." |
| 3. "I am the resurrection and the life." | 7. "I am the light of the world." |
| 4. "I am the way, the truth, and the life." | 8. "I am the true vine." |
- C. To me, these titles suggest that Jesus has the answers to life. He also has the answers to death. We can only be saved through Him.
- D. Plan of salvation for non-Xians, erring Xians.