

The Seven I AM Statements

“I AM the Vine”

John 15:1-25

June 27, 2021 - Bob Hightchew

Introduction:

- **Exodus 3:13-14**
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 - YHWH – Tetragrammaton pronounced Yahweh – The Self-Existing One.
 - Seven different times, Jesus uses the “I AM” statement to describe who He is.
 - **John 15:1-25**
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1. I AM the True Vine:

- John 15:1-8**
- What is meant by the True vine? ... AND ... What does the Gardner do?*
- John 15:2**
- The Father does TWO things:
 - Cuts Off – Those who are not bearing fruit.
 - Prunes – The others, trimming away bad twigs so that it can bear more fruit.
- John 15:4**
- John 15:5-8**
- Matthew 3:7-10**
- You have a choice between two things. It seems simple:
 - Remain in Christ – Be fruitful in God’s plan.
 - Try it alone – Be fruitless and be eternally punished and separated from God.

2. Love Each Other:

- John 15:12-17**
- Greek – Agapao ... English – Love ... “A deep devoted love, not earned, but shown to the recipient no matter what.”
- John 15:9-11**
- Many people today want to redefine the Love of God.
- Because of the hostility that many will feel because of the Word of God, Jesus gives us a NEW command: “Love one another as I have loved you.”
- Christians who participate in the “Cancel Culture” mentality, better beware.
- 2nd Corinthians 10:3-6**
- 1st Corinthians 16:13**
- How can we love in difficult situations? Consider a few scenarios:
 - Matthew 18:15-17**
 - Hebrews 3:13**
 - Ephesians 4:2-6**
 - Proverbs 16:28**

3. The World Hates Us:

- a. **John 15:18-25**
- b. If you live by the Word of God as your measure of : Character, Integrity, Family, Honor, Justice and Truth, you will be rejected, by NON-Christians and Christians, alike.
- c. **Romans 12:1-2**
- d. **1st John 2:15-17**
- e. Consider a few things that the Bible and Christianity has given the world: (literally, only a few)
- f. Jesus gives us four things to keep in mind as Christians:
 - i. **John 15:20**
 - ii. **John 15:22 ... Romans 1:18-32**
 - iii. **John 15:21**
 - iv. **John 15:25**
- g. **John 15:26**
- h. **Acts 2:36-38**

