

THE PRE-EXISTENCE OF CHRIST

This is our third Truly, Truly messianic doctrine from John 8:34, 51, and 58.

(Jn.8:58) "**Jesus said** (lego/ a.a.ind.3ms) **to them, 'truly, truly, I say** (lego/ p.a.ind 1ps) **to you, Before** [principle of time] **Abraham was** (ginomai/ a.m.infin) [came to be], **I am** (ego/ nms/ eimi/ p.a.ind.1ps)."

John the Baptist declared the pre-existence of Jesus as Christ.

(Jn.1:15) "This was He of whom I said, 'He who comes after me has a higher rank than I, for He existed before me.'"

Yet we know that John the Baptist was six months older in age (Luke 1:26).

<p>We will study <u>four aspects</u> of the Pre-existence of Christ.</p>

1. The book of John is known for Jesus declaring His pre-existence as The Christ, the Eternal Son of God (Jn.14:8-12).

In (Jn.8:58), the Jews understood Jesus was comparing himself to the "I am who I am" of (Ex.3:14-15).

John carries this same doctrine in (Rev.1:8; 21:6-7) (Alpha and Omega) [Who is, Who was, Who is to come].

The Jews charged Jesus with blasphemy (Jn.10:31-33).

2. Seven "I AM" pre-existence declarations by Jesus in addition to that in (Jn.1:15) and (Jn.8:58).

Write the promise to the believer in each listing (home study).

[\(Jn. 6:35\)](#) **I am** the bread of life

The Promise: _____

[\(Jn.8:12\)](#) **I am** the light of the world

The Promise: _____

[\(Jn.10:7-10\)](#) **I am** the sheep gate

The Promise: _____

[\(Jn.10:11-15\)](#) **I am** the good shepherd

The Promise: _____

[\(Jn.11:25-26\)](#) **I am** the resurrection and the life

The Promise: _____

[\(Jn. 14:6\)](#) I am the way, the truth, and the life

The Promise: _____

[\(Jn.15:1-5\)](#) I am the true vine

The Promise: _____

3. All of John's "I AM" notations denote the eternal, pre-existent Jesus Christ as the visible member of the Godhead (Jn.1:14, 18).

(Jn.17:5) "And now, glorify Thou Me together with Thyself, Father, with the glory which I had with Thee before the world was." (Jn.17:24)

(Col.1:15-16) "**He is the image of the invisible God**, the firstborn of all creation. For by Him all things were created, both in the heavens and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities – all things have been created through Him and for Him."

Six Clues to the Mystery:

(1Tim.3:16) "By common confession, **great is the mystery of godliness**: He who was revealed in the flesh, was vindicated in the Spirit, seen by angels, proclaimed among the nations, believed on in the world, taken up in glory." (1Tim.6:15-16)

These "I AM" declarations are the historical realities of the **Incarnation of Immanuel** (Matt.1:23; Luke 1:32).

4. Embodied in Jesus Christ dwells the total essence of undiminished deity and true humanity (hypostatic union).

(Col.2:9-10) "For **in Him all the fullness of Deity dwells in bodily form**, and **in Him (positional truth) you have been made complete**, and He is the head over all rule and authority." (Phil.2:6-8)

(Col.3:3) "For you have died and **your life is hidden in Christ in God** (Jn.10:28-30).

Jesus was in constant conflict with a Jewish religion that believed in the same God, same Bible, same prophecies of the coming of Christ, **YET REJECTED** Him as their Savior (Jn.1:11-15; 19:15).

"Works" religion created a vacuum in soul that brought Nicodemus (John 3), the woman at well (John 4), and Paul (Acts 8-9) to salvation in Jesus.

Do you understand the futility of looking for spiritual fulfillment in a "works" religion?

"For we maintain that a man is justified by faith apart from works of the Law."
(Rom.3:28; Eph.2:8-9; Gal.2:16)

Your
Saving faith is based upon the finished work of Christ for your sins,
His death, His burial, and His resurrection.

[Jn.19:30](#)
[1 Cor.15:3-4](#)
[Rom.1:16](#)
[Jn.3:16](#)