

Easter 2025: According to Jesus

John 14:1-7

"Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in me. 2 My Father's house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you? 3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am. 4 You know the way to the place where I am going."

5 Thomas said to him, "Lord, we don't know where you are going, so how can we know the way?"

6 Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. 7 If you really know me, you will know my Father as well. From now on, you do know him and have seen him."

John 14:1-7

Seven "I Am" Statements of Jesus:

(from the book of John)

- 1) I am the bread of life (John 6:35)
- 2) I am the light of the world" (John 8:12)
- 3) I am the door" (John 10:7)
- 4) I am the good shepherd" (10:11)
- 5) I am the resurrection and the life (John 11:25). (Lazarus)
- 6) **I am the way and the truth and the life** (John 14:6)
- 7) I am the true vine" (John 15:1, 5).

Two More: Similar "I am" statements of Jesus:

(In the book of John)

Jesus responds to the Pharisees.

*"I tell you the truth," Jesus says, "**before Abraham was born, I am!**"*
(John 8:58, NLT).

When the mob came to arrest Jesus, He asked them whom they sought. They said, "*Jesus of Nazareth,*" and Jesus replied, "**I am he**" (John 18:4–5)

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1. Jesus leads all of us to a place where we have to make a choice.

2. Our choices make us who we are.
3. Indecision becomes decision over time.
4. What or you choose about Jesus?

End of video

Music

Message Part II

He Has Risen...

1 After the Sabbath, at dawn on the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to look at the tomb.

2 There was a violent earthquake, for an angel of the Lord came down from heaven and, going to the tomb, rolled back the stone and sat on it. 3 His appearance was like lightning, and his clothes were white as snow. 4 The guards were so afraid of him that they shook and became like dead men.

5 The angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. 6 He is not here; he has risen, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay. 7 Then go quickly and tell his disciples: 'He has risen from the dead.... Matthew 28:1-7

Before the empty tomb...

32 Two other men, both criminals, were also led out with him to be executed. 33 When they came to the place called the Skull, they crucified him there, along with the criminals—one on his right, the other on his left. 34 Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing." And they divided up his clothes by casting lots.

Luke 23:32-34

39 One of the criminals who hung there hurled insults at him: "Aren't you the Messiah? Save yourself and us!"

40 But the other criminal rebuked him. "Don't you fear God," he said, "since you are under the same sentence? 41 We are punished justly, for we are getting what our deeds deserve. But this man has done nothing wrong."

42 Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom."

43 Jesus answered him, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise."
Luke 23:39-43

What does this mean for us?

— You are not too late.

— You are not too 'bad'.

****** Jesus forgives sin and gives eternal life.
but time is running out.

— And indecision becomes decision - over time.

The Decision:

...for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, Romans 3:23

*But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners,
Christ died for us. Romans 5:8*

*For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our
Lord. Romans 6:23*

*Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus,
Romans 8:1*

*If you declare with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that
God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. Romans 10:9*

Nobody really thinks about death until somebody dies.

*Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life.
No one comes to the Father except through me. John 14:6*

So... What do you think?