Jesus' 7 "I AM" Statements
"I AM The Good Shepherd"
John 10:11-18, 27-30

Jesus says,

1. I AM The Bread Of Life. (John 6:35) … Dec. 27 & 28, 2025.
2. I AM The Light Of The World. (John 8:12) … Jan. 31 & Feb.1, 2026.
3. I AM The Gate. (John 10:9 NIV) …Feb. 21 & 22, 2026.
4. **I AM The Good Shepherd. (John 10:11) … Today's Message.**
5. I AM The Resurrection and The Life. (John 11:25-26)
6. I AM The Way, The Truth, and The Life. (John 14:6)
7. I AM The Vine. (John 15:5)

<u>John 10:11-18, 27-30 (CSB)</u>

11 "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. 12 The hired hand, since he is not the shepherd and doesn't own the sheep, leaves them and runs away when he sees a wolf coming. The wolf then snatches and scatters them. 13 This happens because he is a hired hand and doesn't care about the sheep.

14 “I am the good shepherd. I know my own, and my own know me, 15 just as the Father knows me, and I know the Father. I lay down my life for the sheep. 16 But I have other sheep that are not from this sheep pen; I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. Then there will be one flock, one shepherd. 17 This is why the Father loves me, because I lay down my life so that I may take it up again. 18 No one takes it from me, but I lay it down on my own. I have the right to lay it down, and I have the right to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father.”

27 My sheep hear my voice, I know them, and they follow me. 28 I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. 29 My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all. No one is able to snatch them out of the Father’s hand. 30 I and the Father are one.”

<u>Jesus, the "I AM"</u>

- The phrase “I am” is a direct translation of “*ego eimi*” in Greek.
- God explicitly reveals his name, "I AM," in the Old Testament, Exod 3:13-15.
- Jesus is literally equating himself with God, declaring himself to be God, and plainly stating

that the "I AM" in Old Testament times is here with you and speaking to you right now.

The Sheep's Characteristics

- God calls his people sheep roughly 200 to 220 times in the Bible.
- If you're one of God's people, what are you? You are one of his sheep!

1. **Sheep are Dumb.**

2. **Sheep are Directionless.**

3. **Sheep are Dirty.**

4. **Sheep are Defenseless.**

JESUS, the Good Shepherd

- The adjective word, "good," means "noble, praiseworthy, desirable, and pleasing to God" (source: Warren Wiersbe, Jesus in the Present Tense).

1. **JESUS, as the Good Shepherd, PROTECTS US as His SHEEP.**

11 "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. 12 The hired hand, since he is not the shepherd and doesn't own the sheep, leaves them and runs away when he sees a wolf coming. The wolf then snatches

and scatters them. 13 This happens because he is a hired hand and doesn't care about the sheep." (John 10:11-14 CSB)

17 This is why the Father loves me, because I lay down my life so that I may take it up again. 18 No one takes it from me, but I lay it down on my own. I have the right to lay it down, and I have the right to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father." (John 10:17-18 CSB)

2. **JESUS, as the Good Shepherd, KNOWS US as His Sheep.**

14 "I am the good shepherd. I know my own, and my own know me, 15 just as the Father knows me, and I know the Father. I lay down my life for the sheep". (John 10:14-15 CSB)

"In Bible language, "to know" involves intimacy, a deep understanding of the person or object involved. It means to be chosen, to be loved. In the original Hebrew text, the word *know* describes the intimate love between husband and wife"
(source: Warren Wiersbe, Jesus in the Present Tense).

"... just as the Father knows me, and I know the Father." (John 10:15a CSB)

3. **JESUS, as the Good Shepherd, PURSUES His Other SHEEP.**

16 But I have other sheep that are not from this sheep pen; I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. Then there will be one flock, one shepherd.

- There will be "one flock" under "one shepherd," meaning there will be one Church (capital "C") under Jesus' shepherding leadership.

- Jesus doesn't say one organization, but says "one flock." This "one flock" represents all of Jesus' followers throughout history.

- Who are those already in the sheep pen and those not yet in it? In the context of this parable, as Jesus is speaking to the Jews, those in that sheep pen are the Jewish sheep.

- The "other sheep" refer to Gentile sheep, meaning non-Jewish sheep. Jesus, as the good shepherd, commits to pursuing his other sheep.

- God's plan of salvation in Christ is not limited to a particular group or race of people.

- God's plan of salvation in Christ is available to all people.

16 "For God loved the world in this way: He gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life. 17 For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him. 18 Anyone who believes in him is not condemned, but anyone who does not believe is already condemned, because he has not believed in the name of the one and only Son of God." (John 3:16-18 CSB)

"Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, I also send you." (John 20:21 CSB)

- Outreach on May 8 and 9 in Tokyo. You're invited to join!

Conclusion

"27 My sheep hear my voice, I know them, and they follow me. 28 I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. 29 My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all. No one is able to snatch them out of the Father's hand. 30 I and the Father are one." (John 10:27-30)

- In essence, Jesus is saying: "My followers and I are intimately related. We deeply know each other.

They are eternally secured in my Father and me, because we are one.”

Let’s pray!

Jo Kaminaga (Joel)
Tokyo Baptist Church
May 2 & 3, 2026

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