



= I AM SERIES =
I AM HE THAT LIVETH
REVELATION 1:18

INTRODUCTION: Jesus is reminding a persecuted people that He is living and that He is alive forevermore. He is reminding them that He is in Heaven and that He lives there. Revelation 1:18, "I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death." The lesson for today will remind us what He does there in Heaven.

- I. **WE ARE SAVED BY HIS LIFE.** Romans 5:10, "For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of His Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life." The modernist would like to say that this teaches us that we are saved by copying His life or using His life for our example. Nothing could be farther from the truth. Nobody is saved by living like Jesus or by living for Jesus. We are saved initially by trusting His finished work at Calvary. Then we are saved by His life in the fact that He ever liveth. He rose from the dead; He is in Heaven, and He keeps us saved. In other words, the fact that He lives in Heaven means that we are kept saved. The word "saved" here is in the linear, which means we are saved and saved and saved and kept saved by His life.
- II. **HE IS OUR ADVOCATE.** I John 2:1, "My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous." The word "advocate" here is the same as the word for "helper" in other places in the Bible. It is also the same as "comforter" in the Bible. Actually, it means "He runs to our side." He is the runner to our side. He is in Heaven, and when we need Him, He runs to our side. If we stumble and fall, He runs to pick us up.
- III. **HE IS OUR INTERCESSOR.** Hebrews 7:25, "Wherefore He is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them." "Intercessor" means "He is our access to God." We come to God through Him; we come to God by Him, and He gives us access to God. He is between us and God. No man can come to God either for salvation or for prayer except through Christ.
- IV. **HE IS OUR MEDIATOR.** I Timothy 2:5, "For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus." The word "mediator" here means "peacemaker." He went to Calvary and made peace with God by satisfying God's righteous demands. Now He comes to us and asks us to make peace with God by faith in Christ. Then He keeps reminding God, at the right hand of the Father, of the peace that He has made for us. He is like a lawyer or an attorney in court.
- V. **HE IS OUR LIFE.** Colossians 3:4, "When Christ, who is our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory." Colossians 1:27, "To whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory." These two verses teach us a blessed truth. When a person is saved, Christ comes in him to live. That is what the new life really is. That is what the new birth is really all about. In other words, the very life that we live is Christ living

in us, and the new life is Jesus. (Teacher, take a little while to tell the class of the two natures: the old nature before Christ came in, and the new nature which is Christ in us.) Consequently, the battle between right and wrong in our lives is a battle between us and Christ.

- VI. **HE IS OUR WELCOME.** Acts 7:56, "And said, Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of man standing on the right hand of God." Jesus lives in Heaven to welcome the saints. In this verse we find that He is standing at the right hand of the Father as Stephen dies. Compare this to Hebrews 12:2, "Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God." Now notice the words, "is set down at the right hand of the throne of God." There seems to be a contradiction here. Hebrews 12:2 says that He is "set down." Acts 7:56 says He is "standing" at the right hand of the Father. No, there is no contradiction! The reason He is standing is to welcome Stephen home to Heaven. Our dear Lord welcomes us to Heaven. The first person we will see at death is Jesus!
- VII. **HE IS OUR UNDERSTANDER.** Hebrews 4:15, "For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin." Notice the words, "in all points tempted like as we." Ah, this is a wonderful Scripture! He has suffered every suffering we suffer. He has felt every pain we feel. He has been tempted in every temptation that tempts us. He has hurt every way we hurt. He has been lonely as we are lonely, sad as we are sad, persecuted as we are persecuted. There is absolutely no condition in life which our Lord has not faced. This means He can understand us. No one else can understand, but He can understand.

CONCLUSION: All of these things and more are what Jesus is doing now. Thank God, John could say, and we can say with him, that Jesus is He that liveth! Revelation 1:18a, "I am he that liveth."