

# Lord of Life Ministries

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## **"I Am That I Am"**

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I have been really praying that God would send us the people that He has selected to hear what He wants to say today. I begin today, as God directs me, and I want you to know that this message is an update of a previous message. There is a sobering portion at the end of this message that is designed to keep people alert. I really want you to be attentive to what God has to say. I want you to take this message to heart, because everything that the Father has told us over the years has come to pass. And so therefore, we need to really believe what He says and take it to heart and be hearers of the Word and doers of the Word as well.

About three weeks ago, at the end of our meeting, the Lord spoke and His message has been on my mind ever since. I had a desire to go in another direction, but He kept pulling me back to his message, so I knew that we were to go in His direction. He has been saying a lot of things to us lately, and everything that He has been saying is vitally important. I thank God that He warns His people. I thank God that He lets us know ahead of time what He is doing; what is about to take place; what He wants for each one of us. It is a

blessing to be in fellowship with a people that are in tune with Him and listen to Him. I thank God that He is a loving Father and I want to remind you that really and truly it is by God's grace and by God's mercy that you are where you are. God doesn't ever want you to forget that His grace is sufficient. I believe He is a God who gives us grace and mercy and compassion. And I thank God to have the understanding that in the Garden of Eden man started out with grace.

In the Garden of Eden, which is the Kingdom of God, the corporate man (Adam) was feeding off the tree of life, feeding off of love, life, joy, peace, grace and mercy. So grace was there before the law. Actually, if you look at the scriptures you can see that even Abraham received the righteousness of God, and this not by the law. Abraham didn't receive this righteousness by his works, but it was by the grace of God, by faith. Righteousness was imputed to Abraham because of his faith and God's grace. **Rom.4:13** But remember, at one point God didn't speak to Abraham for a long time because he was like you and me, on a journey. Remember that when Abraham went back into Egypt,

he said that his wife was his sister because he had fear. And God had to deal with him regarding this fear.

Later, Abraham disobeyed God again when he listened to his wife. And all of you know the rest of the story. God didn't speak to him for years. When He finally spoke to Abraham He said, "I am the Almighty God. I am the Almighty Lord." Basically He was saying to Abraham, "Get your act together." When Abraham did get his act together, God made a covenant with him. God's covenant established that blessings would go to all the nations down throughout the generations. And so Abraham tapped into the grace of God. But he wasn't the only one.

Noah also tapped into the grace of God. But what does this mean for us today? Many in the world are talking about a new world order that is already in the making and they are trying hard to establish it. They are right, there is a new world order coming on the scene. But it is not man's order, it is God's order. God's order is coming on the scene. And as each of you has been growing in the grace of God, He has set you aside and set you apart unto Himself for his new order. You have been growing by

the Grace of God and yielding to Him and by being obedient, and He has pulled you out of the world. Just like Moses on the back side of the desert, God has been training you, establishing you, setting you apart unto Himself. And for what? For your needs? No! For Him and for His people. And so it is by the grace of God that you grow, just like Noah.

It is also by the grace of God that your heart is being established in Him. So every change that takes place in your mind, it's by God's grace. When Christ went to the cross, He brought grace and mercy to all mankind - past, present and future. And so now, because of what Jesus Christ did on the cross, grace was issued through all the blessings of Abraham upon all of us, the heathen, the Gentiles, the whole world. Now we are able to partake of the blessings of Abraham because Christ went to the cross for every individual. Because of what He issued in, we don't go about establishing our own righteousness.

**Phil. 3:6** Paul confirmed this when he prayed that at the coming of the Lord, he wanted to be found in the righteousness of Christ, rather than his own. I tell you, this is the day that you need to have more faith in Christ's works than your own. Let me say that again. God wants you to have more faith in His works than you have in your own. Even though you are His workmanship and He works through you, yet it is still Him doing the work. If you are doing things right, all you are doing is yielding to His direction.

So the bottom line is: God gets all the glory.

The title of the message today is, "I Am That I Am." The Lord gave me this title when I was reading the second chapter of Isaiah a few weeks ago. He let me know some things that are getting ready to happen and you will soon understand why we are ministering on this subject today. The Lord also spoke using this title at the end of one of our meetings recently and I will never forget it. At the end of that meeting He said, "The I Am is getting ready to stand up in His sons, and the I Am will deliver His people out of bondage and bring them out of Egypt, out of the world, and set them free." God is getting ready to free those that have obeyed Him, that are yielding to Him, that love Him and know the importance of what they are called for.

You need to keep in mind that The I Am is getting ready to stand up once again. Now we know that when He stood in the time of Moses the whole world saw it. The whole world saw it, and I want you to get hold of this today, God did it by using just one man! Today He is preparing a group of people, not just one man, that are His forerunners. He has always had a remnant; He has always been working on a people to accomplish his purposes. So you are His forerunners being established by grace through this deliverance ministry. God is getting ready to raise us up to another realm, a higher realm of deliverance.

I can remember when the Lord used this body, when we were in the charismatic movement and we first came into

the Kingdom of God. For 10 years the Lord used us to minister to people and He delivered people many times, but it was on a lower level of deliverance. You should understand that there are different levels of authority and of deliverance. God used us to cast out spirits, lay hands on the sick and to perform many other things in His Name, but He also told us that there is a higher realm. This is the realm of love which we eventually came into.

Now this doesn't mean that other levels are wrong. They all have their purposes in God and they are where they are. But in order to be effective, to move us into His highest realm, God exerts His authority, His power, His anointing. So, the more authority you want or the more anointing that you want, the more you have to submit to the one that has the authority and the anointing. The more you submit to Him and the more you let Him rule and take possession over you, the more He can flow out of you to minister to His people.

**Isaiah 2:2**, The time is coming where there will be a people who will live in the presence of the Lord, walk in the presence of the Lord and allow God to have His way in their lives. These are the forerunners I spoke about earlier. There are also going to be some who will say, "Let us go up to the mountain of the Lord and learn the ways of our God." These people will not only learn the ways of God, they will also walk in His path. And so there will be a people that will walk in the path of the Lord.

God spoke and reminded me at this point that, "It takes His

great judgment in order to deliver His people out of bondage." As an example, if you look at **Exodus 9:13-16**, the only way that God could get Israel out of bondage was through judgment. In this scriptural lesson, Egypt represents the world. It is a type and a shadow of the world. The Israelites lived in this world, they lived under their taskmasters, which is under the letter of the law and included religion. The Israelites were in bondage for 400 years and then God began to hear their cry.

Just as He heard the Israelites a long time ago, God is now hearing the cries of people all over the world. There are some people who are very dissatisfied with where they are and they are crying out to God. And as time passes, there are going to be even more people crying out because things will get worse before they get better. In order to understand this, you have to understand God's purpose. His purpose during the time of Egypt was that every judgment that He issued paved the way for a great exodus to deliver His people out of bondage. This was done so that He would have a people that would worship him in spirit and in truth - and so that the whole world would know that He was the Almighty God, the Great I Am.

This is what is happening today. The I Am is beginning to raise up in His sons and take over, to really bring forth what He wants to in this hour. And I am excited about this.

I am also amazed that God used Moses and Aaron to help three million people come out of bondage. Notice that He didn't

use 300 people, 30 people or even 3 people to bring the Israelites out of bondage. Do you know why? It is because God does not use great numbers to accomplish his purposes. If He used great numbers of people to accomplish His purposes, everyone involved would think that they did it. No, God does things so that everyone will know that He did it, that He alone is to be exalted. And this is the day that He will be exalted.

**Isaiah 2:11** addresses God dealing with those who have ego and pride. He starts with the cedar trees because judgment begins in the house of God. Who are the cedar trees and why does God start with them? The cedar trees are the sons of God and He starts with them because He has to start at the top with his judgment. This is why some of God's sons are going through trials right now. He begins with the top then He proceeds to work next on the body of Christ. And praise God, because you know what? His judgments are good because and they deliver you and set you free from bondage. Anything that has hindered you or caused you to not allow Him to be who He is through you is being removed. Notice, He is not taking any good thing away from you, He is only removing the bad things. Do you understand that? It is by His grace and mercy that God wants to bring these changes into our lives, and it is all good. The fire of the Lord is all good; it delivers you and sets you free. But there is a part of you that wants to block the Lord from fully operating in you.

This part is the soul and the soul is very afraid of complete deliverance. It is afraid because

this deliverance represents a radical change, a change from death to life. By this I mean a change from being in love with the very thing that is destroying you to being in love with life itself. Our individual souls are so afraid of this change, that it even impacts the soul of the body of Christ. So what God says is, "Okay, you don't want change? Then what I've going to do is to deal with the very thing that you love the most to humble you, because that is the thing that is destroying you." And then the trial begins, the process of change begins, all within the Great I Am's timing. And do you know what? Here I have been watching something very interesting happen. I have been watching God speed up this process with people. Now why, you say, is God speeding up the process of humbling people? The answer is simple: God allotted only so much time in His plan of deliverance and He doesn't have as much time to usher in His order anymore. That's why He is stepping everything up and delivering and releasing His sons really fast.

So you know those things that you have been waiting a long time for? They are going to happen so quickly that you won't even know what hit you! You are going to wake up one morning and find yourself out of bondage, released and delivered. And you won't even care about the things that you used to care about, you won't worry about the things that you used to worry about, you won't think about the things that you used to think about. You will also not be afraid of the things that you used to be afraid of. You

are coming into a place where trusting Him completely is all you know because you understand Him better. This complete trust is vitally important. Because if you don't completely trust him at this point, then the Lord will say, "You know, you still have little more fear in you, so let Me consume that." Now when you do trust Him, you stay in His rest and peace. You don't see and hear things the same way because you are relying only on His eyes and ears. This is exactly what He wants at this hour, so please listen to what He has to say today.

I have been really crying out to God these past three weeks. And, as always, in due time God began to move. He began to take those He had on the back side of the desert, those who have felt sometimes as if they were all alone, He began to take them and move them closer to Him. These are the same people that murmur and complain saying, "You know, I don't have a life." Well, yes, you do have a life. You have a life in Him and you must realize that He has been separating you unto Himself. As a result, some of you have lost your family, some of you have lost your best friends. The reason why God is doing this is so that He can train you to be His shepherds, to be His deliverers. But you can't be a shepherd or a deliverer until you yourself are delivered. You can't be used until God changes you and brings you into the place where He wants you. This is why the Father has been working on you and also why you have been allowing him to have His way in your life.

Maybe you have sat here and been quiet, but God has been using you the whole time anyway. He has been using you to minister to the world and His creation, and He wants you to get a bigger picture of what He is doing. The life that you have is in Him and outside of Him there is no life. So even while you have been on the back side of the desert, He has been using you to accomplish His will and purpose. Remember Moses? Before he went to the back side of the desert, he saw the condition of the people. Now this is similar to the body of Christ in this age. The next time you go out, take the time to actually look at the people out there. When you do, you will see the fear in their eyes and the worries and concerns that they have. Some of them don't even know where they are going to live, they don't even know what the future holds for them. But you aren't like these people, not after God has made you one of His forerunners. God has told you what your future holds. You have security because your security is in Him.

Now as a forerunner, God might give you one of His sheep that He wants you to take care of. He might give you one sheep that you are to call every now and then, to check on and see if they are doing okay. This is because God wants to see just how faithful you are to that one little sheep that He puts in your path. If you are faithful in the little things, then He will respond by giving you much. God's goal is to line up what we are with what He has called us to be and what He is going to be doing through us. This is so we, like Moses, can

minister to His people and release them out of bondage through Christ.

The time is coming when the whole body of Christ will be crying out to be released from the bondage of religion. God has seen this and He is already moving. There are many, many forerunners who are drawing closer to the Lord now, because God has been interceding through a people for years to minister to the body of Christ. The Lord is preparing a people for what is about to happen in the world today. He hears the groaning of His creation and has decided that it is time to deliver His people out of bondage and bring them out of the world. Unfortunately, a lot in the body of Christ today is still in the world. They repeat the cycle of going to church on Sunday then going back into the world on Monday. But this isn't the case for the forerunners. God is pulling us out of the world and, through our experiences, allowing us to minister to others. We are *in* the world but not *of* the world.

Now when God told Moses that it was time for him to go back to Egypt to release His people, I know Moses was shaking in his sandals a little bit because he had killed an Egyptian. But you know, his brethren were still on his heart and this outweighed his fear. Just like Moses, for many of you the body of Christ has been on your heart. Your family has been on your heart. How many times have you prayed that people around you receive the joy and the peace that can only come from experiencing the presence of

God? You want everyone to have it. But you also know that there is a price that you have to pay for it. You know this and so did Moses. So when God told Moses to go back, Moses said, "God, who am I going to say sent me? They are not going to believe me. I've been on the back side of the desert here for 40 years. They are not going to believe anything I say."

Now there are going to be a lot of people who aren't going to believe a word you say when you begin talking to them either. But you are not to look for respect from them. You know that your respect comes from the Father. That's who you look to.

Let's return to Exodus now. In **Exodus 2:23-24**, God heard the groaning of the Israelites. This can be compared to Romans Chapter 8 which describes how the whole creation is groaning for the manifestation of the sons of God. Creation is groaning that Christ will be fully manifested in you and me because they know that their deliverer will also come and release them from their bondage. **And the Lord responds to this groaning by saying in Exodus 3:7-9 that, "...I have surely seen the affliction of my people who are in Egypt and heard their cry by reason of their taskmasters; for I know their sorrows; <sup>8</sup> And I am come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians, and to bring them out unto a good land and a large, unto a land flowing with milk and honey;...Now therefore, behold, the cry of the children of Israel is come unto me: and I have also seen the oppression wherewith the Egyptians oppress them."** Then,

as now, God saw oppression and He had a solution.

So when Moses asked, "What shall I tell them is the name of Him who sent Me?" And God responded, **"I AM THAT I AM: and He said, Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, I AM hath sent Me unto you."** So once again God is the solution. He is saying that He will be rising up in His sons and that He is the same yesterday, today and tomorrow because He does not change. So get hold of this: there is no recession in the Kingdom of God; there is no lack of money in the Kingdom of God; there is no lack of anything good in the Kingdom of God. This is because God is all-sufficient and everything that He is summed up in His many names.

Everyone remembers that Jesus said, "I am the way, I am the truth, I am the life." By this He means He is full of grace and full of truth, and the more you become one with Him, the more you become like Him. You have to understand that the throne of God is in you. This is so you can come boldly to the throne of God to find grace and mercy in time of need. God wants you to be ready to be merciful and to be graceful. In fact, the Bible says that every word that comes out of your mouth should be full of grace. Have you been full of grace when you have been talking about your enemies or when you have been talking to your enemies? Remember you are supposed to speak this way at all times. Why? Because you have the kingdom of God within you! Instead of allowing your circumstances to influence you, you should be

influencing your circumstances. Everyone needs this.

Now if everyone in our country had this grace and mercy, we would be living differently. Instead the United States is in bondage. But God had to let this to happen because when He moves to resolve things, it will impact the whole world based on the U.S. position in the world. His moves will be a sign to the entire world, and it will bring a change to the entire world as well.

God used Moses as He moved against Egypt. He gave Moses a rod, which was used to issue in His judgments. The Israelites were not delivered quickly though. God's judgments started out small, and then increased. The final judgment was the one that released the Israelites, and it was the hardest blow to the Egyptians. This demonstrates that in order to bring about His deliverance, God's change comes through His correction. This is God's way and this is a part of His love, as painful as it is sometimes. Now a lot of people just can't believe that God is this way. But you know what? If He isn't correcting you, then you are not His son. The Bible clearly states that He chastens those whom He loves. Now God gave the United States a responsibility, one that it didn't honor, so unfortunately now is the time for His correction. **Heb. 12:11**

Now during one of Moses' talks with God, God told Moses to put his hand where his heart was. Moses did this and it came out as leprosy, unclean. Notice how God gave Moses an anointing and authority - even

though his heart hadn't changed yet? And you better believe God has done the same for you - without considering how good or how great you were. Now Moses' hand in this passage represents the works of God. When God decides to change your heart, He does so because you are willing to allow Christ to change your mind and your thinking so that He can use you for His glory.

Moments later, God told Moses, "Put your hand back in again." And when Moses took his hand out, it was clean. Next God told Moses, "Now, pick up the rod." And the rod had turned into a snake. This illustrates that when you and I walk in the flesh; when we live using our carnal minds; when we listen to other people and don't do what the Father wants us to; when we keep pleasing our souls and our flesh and our carnality, the consequences are that the rod and the authority become a serpent.

I learned this a long time ago through life lessons. God told me, "Joyce, nobody is more important than the anointing and the authority that I place upon them. So give up pleasing yourself, let it go." What God is saying is that He wants us to be as effective as possible. And in order for us to be as effective as possible, we have to allow Him to work through us. Now every time you disobey God, your heart hardens. Did you know that? Your heart hardens when you disobey God and another result is that it becomes harder to hear His voice. So the more you please yourself, the harder it is for Him to be effective. At one point in my past I said, "Lord, I am a yo-yo Christian. I will never make it. I

am up and down all the time." And He spoke to me with a ringing in my ears and He said, "You know what? It is going to be My grace and My mercy that is going to complete you. I am the author and the finisher of your faith." I responded, "Okay, thank you, Jesus."

Remember, we learn through the knots and twists in life and we overcome these things with His grace and mercy. You know, I would rather suffer doing what's right than suffer doing what's wrong. Today, there are a lot of people out there suffering because they have disobeyed God. They live in the flesh and they can't understand why nothing is going right for them. But there are also people who are undergoing trials because they are obeying God and because they are coming out of the world. Now when you begin to come out of the world, expect to be tested. Expect people to complain about you and to not want to have anything to do with you. And, even though this is painful to realize, expect some of these people to be those closest to you, some of your own family members. I remember as I began coming out of the world, the Lord tested me with my family, beginning with my mother. He also tested me with my father. But after these tests, I always got blessed. And guess what? Those that God used to test me, they got blessed, too! This is just one of the benefits of coming out of the world and allowing the Father to work through you.

In the Old Testament, you had to really be in obedience to God in order to get a blessing. This is considered operating

under the law of the letter. Now the law of the letter is contrasted by the law of life, which means you obey God because you want to, not because you have to. That is the difference between the law of the letter and the law of life. Nowadays, you see a lot of people attempting to obey God because they want to get a blessing. But this isn't and shouldn't be your focus. You are obeying God because you love Him; it's not about getting a blessing. It's about who He is, which is the great I Am, and your relationship with Him.

When you start walking in His way, then you become the way for others. You see, that's what Moses had to become. He had to become the way for others before he went back to get them out of bondage. Now becoming the way is not the final step. Jesus also said, "I am the truth," and the more truth that you know, then the more truth that you become. There are people who go around acting like they are so righteous, that they actually look down on others. I am here to tell you that you can't pretend the truth, you can't make believe the truth, you can't masquerade the truth. The truth is real, it is genuine, and it is pure. Now you can know all the scriptures and all the right words to say, but this isn't the whole truth. Knowing the truth and living the truth for the sake of the Kingdom is existing in the whole truth. And as you become the whole truth, God demonstrates, His name, I AM, will be a memorial to all generations. **Chapter 9 of Exodus** demonstrates how God works when He wants to deliver His people and how important it

is for His people to worship Him in spirit and in truth. **Verse 13** begins with, **"And the Lord said unto Moses, rise up early in the morning..."** Now I need to say here, as an example of His consistency, that this is exactly what God told us 20 years ago. He told us to rise up, separate ourselves and help Him free His people so that they may serve Him. He told us, just like He told Moses beginning in **verse 13**, to tell the Pharaoh of this age (which is religion), **"...Thus saith the Lord God of the Hebrews, Let my people go that they may serve me. 14 For I will at this time send all my plagues upon thine heart, and upon thy servants, and upon thy people; that thou mayest know that there is none like me in all the earth. 15 For now I will stretch out my hand, that I may smite thee and thy people with pestilence; and thou shalt be cut off from the earth. 16 And in very deed for this cause have I raised thee up, for to show in thee my power; and that my name may be declared throughout all the earth."** Notice that the end result is that God receives the glory, not anyone or anything else. One of the reasons that He raised up Pharaoh to his position was so that eventually the I Am would be declared throughout all the earth.

Just as it was with Pharaoh, the same will be true of Osama Bin Laden and everyone else like him: man won't be able to move against them until it is God's time. You need to know that sometimes the I Am raises people up, like Pharaoh and Judas, in order to push His anointed in the right direction. Remember everything was created by God

and for God, so even Pharaoh and Judas were suitable for His purposes.

Moses also serves as an excellent example of how consistent God is and this example is important to everyone who hears this message. The great I Am is preparing His sons to be used by Him. To further illustrate this, look at how Goshen was important to God's plans in the Bible. Goshen means drawing near to God, being set apart for God. And each of you has been invited to this place. Many months ago the Lord woke us up and said, "Speak to the people, tell them to draw near to Me." So this is the hour to draw near to God and to come out of Babylon, out of the systems of the world.

His voice is paving the way for deliverance of those in the bondage of religion. He is doing a work in the spirit for that right now. In this very body, God brought us out of holidays years ago. Now as a country, we celebrate Thanksgiving once a year, but as forerunners, we celebrate thanksgiving every day. In fact, the Father revealed to me a long time ago that when you allow the Feast of the Tabernacle to be established in your life then the fullness of God will take you over. So the Father is bringing a people to a place where they are allowing Christ to establish the Feast of the Tabernacle in them.

God has an appointed time for everything. He is doing a work in you just like He did for Noah. During the flood, the same waters that were causing Noah's ark to rise were also destroying the flesh man and the imagination that was in his heart,

which is unbelief. Notice that Noah, one of God's forerunners, was safely in the ark while all this was going on. Today, God has been pouring out His waters of understanding upon you and me. The more you understand about God and the more truth you have, the more you ascend in Christ - just like Noah's ark rose with the waters. At the same time you are receiving understanding though, you are also being purged. This is to allow your mind to receive more truth in Christ. This purging elevates you above the worries of this world and the circumstances in your life. It is to bring you into a place of rest, which is life's version of Mt. Ararat. Mt. Ararat, for those who might not know, is the resting place of Noah's ark.

Some of you are not in this complete rest yet. The best way to tell if you are in complete rest is to look at the way you respond to difficult circumstances. If you respond badly, then there are still some areas that God needs to purge from you. If you respond well, then take comfort in the fact that you have a solid relationship with God. But don't take too much comfort here, because this doesn't mean that you are perfected. All too often, some of us take the understanding that God has given us, for granted. At this point, the I Am pulls back the waters and the dry earth appears, just like it did in Noah's experience. This is to make us thirsty again, to make us want more of God and His transforming power. So your goal should be to stay in Christ's rest and to allow Him to continue to transform your mind, along with its imaginations.

The mind is always wanting to create images. We counter this by being still and knowing God. Being still means to fully understand I Am That I Am, along with understanding His goals and purposes for our lives. I urge you to come to understand who He is. He will never leave you or forsake you. He is El Shaddai, all truth, all knowing. The more you still yourself and worship Him, the more the imaginations have to bow down to the Christ that is in you. He will be exalted in this day and the whole world will know who He is. The atheist, the enemies of the Kingdom and the nations will know who He is. Buddha and his followers will know who He is. Mohammed and every Muslim will know who He is. Every Catholic will know who He is. God is going to burn up the elements of the earth. One of the elements of the earth is religion and it has to be burned up.

God has to consume it, because it is not like Him. The Day Star is arising in you and me and it is arising in other people as well. He will make known who He is to all generations. There will be a memorial forever and no one will be able to stop it from being formed. All other high and lofty things at this time shall be made low. So make sure you are in the I Am's grace. If not, He knows how to humble His people. So be alert and ready. You've got to be ready.

**"I Am That I Am"**