

# Exodus 3:14

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And God said unto Moses, I AM THAT I AM: and he said, Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, I AM hath sent me unto you.

## Analysis

**And God said unto Moses, I AM THAT I AM: and he said, Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, I AM hath sent me unto you** (וַיֹּאמֶר אֱלֹהִים אֶל־מֹשֶׁה (מֹשֶׁה אָמַר אֶל־יְהוָה וַיֹּאמֶר כֹּה תֹאמַר לְבְנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל אֶהְיֶה שְׁלַחְנִי אֵלֵיכֶם (אֶהְיֶה אֲשֶׁר אֶהְיֶה, ehyeh asher ehyeh)—God's self-revelation as the eternally self-existent One. The verb אֶהְיֶה (ehyeh, "I am/I will be") derives from הָיָה (hayah, "to be"), the root of the divine name YHWH (יהוה). This isn't mere existence but active, dynamic being—"I AM who I AM" or "I WILL BE what I WILL BE." God's identity transcends human categories—He is the uncaused cause, the self-existent eternal One. The LXX rendered this ἐγὼ εἰμι ὁ ὢν (ego eimi ho on, "I am the Being One"), shaping Jesus' "I AM" statements (John 8:58). **I AM hath sent me**—God's name becomes Moses' authority.

## Historical Context

This revelation of the divine name I AM/YHWH became the foundation of Israel's monotheism. Unlike pagan gods with origin stories, YHWH exists eternally, uncreated and self-sufficient. The name connects to the verb 'to be,' emphasizing God's absolute existence independent of creation. Jesus' use of 'I AM' (John 8:58, 'Before Abraham was, I AM') claims this divine name, leading to accusations of blasphemy (John 8:59).

## Related Passages

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**1 Corinthians 13:4** — Characteristics of love

**1 John 4:8** — God is love

**Revelation 20:12** — Judgment according to deeds

**Romans 2:1** — Judging others

## Study Questions

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1. How does the name 'I AM' reveal God's self-existence and independence from all created things, including your circumstances?
2. What does Jesus' use of 'I AM' statements in John's Gospel teach about His divine identity as YHWH incarnate?

## Interlinear Text

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תֹּאמַר	אֵלֶּהִים	אֶל	מֹשֶׁה	אֲנִי ה	אֲשֶׁר
<b>I AM THAT I AM and he said</b>	<b>And God</b>	H413	<b>unto Moses</b>	<b>I AM</b>	H834
H559	H430		H4872	H1961	
אֲנִי ה	תֹּאמַר	כֹּה	תֹּאמַר		
<b>I AM</b>	<b>I AM THAT I AM and he said</b>	H3541	<b>I AM THAT I AM and he said</b>		
H1961	H559		H559		
לְבָנֵי י	יִשְׂרָאֵל ל	אֲנִי ה	שָׁלַח נִי	אֵלֵיכֶם:	
<b>unto the children</b>	<b>of Israel</b>	<b>I AM</b>	<b>hath sent</b>		
H1121	H3478	H1961	H7971	H413	

## Additional Cross-References

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**Hebrews 13:8** (Parallel theme): Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever.

**John 8:58** (Parallel theme): Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Before Abraham was, I am.

**Revelation 1:8** (Parallel theme): I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty.

**Psalms 90:2** (References God): Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever thou hadst formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting, thou art God.

**Isaiah 44:6** (References God): Thus saith the LORD the King of Israel, and his redeemer the LORD of hosts; I am the first, and I am the last; and beside me there is no God.

**Revelation 1:4** (Parallel theme): John to the seven churches which are in Asia: Grace be unto you, and peace, from him which is, and which was, and which is to come; and from the seven Spirits which are before his throne;

**Exodus 6:3** (References God): And I appeared unto Abraham, unto Isaac, and unto Jacob, by the name of God Almighty, but by my name JEHOVAH was I not known to them.

**Revelation 1:17** (Parallel theme): And when I saw him, I fell at his feet as dead. And he laid his right hand upon me, saying unto me, Fear not; I am the first and the last:

**Revelation 4:8** (References God): And the four beasts had each of them six wings about him; and they were full of eyes within: and they rest not day and night, saying, Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, which was, and is, and is to come.

**Psalms 68:4** (References God): Sing unto God, sing praises to his name: extol him that rideth upon the heavens by his name JAH, and rejoice before him.