

# John 8:24

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

I said therefore unto you, that ye shall die in your sins: for if ye believe not that I am he, ye shall die in your sins.

## Analysis

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Jesus states the consequence plainly: unless they believe 'that I am he,' they will die in their sins. The phrase 'I am' (ego eimi) is the divine name from Exodus 3:14, claiming deity. Belief in Christ's divine identity is not optional but necessary for salvation. This exclusivity offends modern pluralism but remains Christ's clear teaching - faith in Him alone saves.

## Historical Context

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The use of ego eimi echoes the Septuagint's rendering of God's name to Moses, an unmistakable claim to deity that His Jewish audience would have recognized as either truth or blasphemy.

## Related Passages

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**Psalm 19:1** — Heavens declare God's glory

**Genesis 1:1** — Creation of heavens and earth

## Study Questions

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1. Why is belief in Jesus' identity essential for salvation?
2. How do you respond to Christ's exclusive claims in a pluralistic culture?
3. What does it mean to believe 'that I am'?

## Interlinear Text

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εἰπον οὖν ὑμῖν ὅτι ἀποθανεῖσθε ἐν ταῖς ἀμαρτίαις  
I said therefore unto you that he ye shall die in G3588 sins  
G2036 G3767 G5213 G3754 G599 G1722 G3588 G266

ὑμῶν ἐὰν γὰρ μὴ πιστεύσητε ὅτι ἐγώ εἰμι  
your for G3361 ye believe that I am  
G5216 G1063 G4100 G3754 G1473 G1510

ἀποθανεῖσθε ἐν ταῖς ἀμαρτίαις ὑμῶν  
he ye shall die in G3588 sins your  
G599 G1722 G266 G5216

## Additional Cross-References

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**John 3:36** (Faith): He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him.

**John 3:18** (Faith): He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.

**Mark 16:16** (Faith): He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.

**Hebrews 12:25** (Parallel theme): See that ye refuse not him that speaketh. For if they escaped not who refused him that spake on earth, much more shall not we escape, if we turn away from him that speaketh from heaven:

**John 4:26** (Parallel theme): Jesus saith unto her, I that speak unto thee am he.

**Proverbs 8:36** (Sin): But he that sinneth against me wrongeth his own soul: all they that hate me love death.

**John 13:19** (Faith): Now I tell you before it come, that, when it is come to pass, ye may believe that I am he.

**Hebrews 2:3** (Parallel theme): How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation; which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed unto us by them that heard him;

**Mark 13:6** (Parallel theme): For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many.

**John 8:21** (Sin): Then said Jesus again unto them, I go my way, and ye shall seek me, and shall die in your sins: whither I go, ye cannot come.

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