

**Context (Ex 3:13-15)**

- 1] Moses, a prince of Egypt, fled Egypt after defending a fellow Hebrew and killing an Egyptian
- 2] In exile, he married a daughter of Jethro, a priest of Midian and was tending his flocks (3:1ff)
- 3] God sent him to Egypt to release the people of Israel from Egypt (3:10)
- 4] Moses asks how will he persuade the Israelites that The Lord God has sent him to release them-

**Reading****Context (Jn 8:47-59)**

- 1] Jesus teaching in the Temple courts (8:2,20)
- 2] He told the Jews that
  - a) they (all people) are slaves to sin and only He can free them (31-38)
  - b) they are of the devil for they disbelieve Him and want to kill him (39-47)

**Reading****Intro**

Puppies to be born – signs of them – bumps in the tummy. The day comes when they break cover – they are born. Cf this incident?

*“You are not yet 50 years old and you have seen Abraham?” (57)*

*Jesus said to them, “Truly, truly I say to you before Abraham was born I AM” (58)  
So they picked up stones to throw at him, but Jesus hid Himself and went out of the Temple (59)*

**You are not yet 50 years old and you have seen Abraham? (57)**

- 1] 50 years old was retirement age  
*Nb workers in the Temple (Nu 4:3,23,30,35,39,43,47)*

- 2] “(Abraham) saw (my day) and rejoiced” (56b)

?“How could Abraham 1500 years ago, have seen Jesus”?

## **Jesus said to them, “Truly, truly I say to you before Abraham was born I AM” (58)**

### **1] Truly, truly, I say to you**

- a) A phrase John records in his Gospel, that Jesus used 25x
- b) Truly, truly – an emphasis on the truth i.e. the Word of God  
*cf the word of God (47). My word (52) His (His Father's) word*
- c) I say to you

*NB the Word of God (Jn 1:1) to those who were hearing Him*

### **2] Before Abraham was**

- a) God identifies himself first as God of Abraham (Ex 3:15)
- b) The prospects are a people descended from Abraham (Gen 15:5)
- c) The uniting characteristic - ‘faith in the Lord God Almighty’ (Rmns 4:1-11)  
*nb Abraham believed God and it was counted to him as righteousness (Rom15:6)*

### **3] I AM**

- a) the Revelation of God - ‘I AM WHO I AM’ (Ex 3:14)
- b) YHWH the Name of God  
*nb too holy for the Jew to say – a word only God could speak*

## **So they picked up stones to throw at him, but Jesus hid Himself and went out of the Temple (59)**

### **1] Stoning was the punishment for blasphemy**

*Cf “we are not stoning you for any good work” they replied, “but for blasphemy, because you a mere man, claim to be God”. (Jn 10:33)*

### **2] Jesus hid himself**

*Nb not His time (Jn 7:6; 8:20)*

*Cf they sought to ‘throw Him off the cliff. But passing though their midst, he went away’ (Lk 4:29,30)*

*\*God was in complete control of the death of Jesus – He was the sacrifice and he was the High priest and he was God Almighty the receiver of the offering\**

## **Conclusion**

### **1] How do you see Jesus?**

### **2] Do you see him as**

- a) Evil – liar (God stuff) causing countless wars
- b) Mad – ‘poached egg’ CS Lewis
- c) The eternal almighty God

### **3] If you see Him as the latter, bow in submission to Him and put your trust in Him. You are one of His – a Christian!**