

THE NIGERIAN BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

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**AN EXEGETICAL STUDY OF JESUS' "I AM" SAYINGS IN
JOHN 10:7- 18 AND THEIR IMPLICATIONS FOR THE
FULFILLMENT OF MESSIANIC ROLE**

**A THESIS SUBMITTED TO
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ABSTRACT

“An Exegetical study of Jesus’ ‘I Am’ sayings in John 10: 7 – 18 and their implications for the fulfillment of Messianic Role” is an effort to discover how Jesus uses the “I am” sayings to reveal the deep truth about His Person and Mission. Each of Jesus’ “I am” sayings in John 10: 7 – 18 calls one into a closer salvation experience in Jesus, as He uses them both to show that in Him is the embodiment of God’s expected eschatological figure, the Messiah and in Him is the fulfillment of God’s ultimate salvation.

Hence, the “I am” sayings of Jesus in John 10: 7 – 18 is of great significance in everyday reality. Through the “I am” sayings of John 10: 7 – 18, Jesus called His hearers, the religious leaders, the Jews, the Twelve Disciples, and all classes of people among his audience unto the most richest and blessed experiences. Experiences which are not found in anyone else except in Him and which also are not available through anybody else but through Him alone. These experiences include eternal salvation, freedom, security and sustenance, experiences which only God can offer.

Jesus’ offer of these spiritual experiences is without doubt very relevant for the contemporary African Christians. It is only through Jesus that life can be eternal, meaningful and blessed for the Africans. Thus, without accepting these unique spiritual experiences which Jesus alone can offer, the Africans will not be saved, no matter any other spiritual experiences, through whatever means.