

## Behind the Hymn: Our Lord I AM

I was listening to an audio recording of C. S. Lewis' thought-provoking book, *Miracles*. It prompted me to realize that in weakness and fear, people insist on a god as small as they are, a human deity comfortably within their puny understandings. They want a god without power, holiness, transcendence, fire, anger, zeal, or sovereignty; a god as ignorant, bland, spineless, and apathetic as they. People prefer a god who is no god.

But for the true and living Creator, even our grandest images--the thunder of His power, the oceans of His love--are childish understatements. His love boils over into universes, races, and epochs, bounded only by His own wisdom. His self-giving cannot be stopped any more than a sandcastle can hold back the ocean.

We have many hymns on the immanence of God, hymns that express His personal nearness and His constant presence with us. Yes, He is closer and more intimate than we can imagine. Knowing Him and realizing His immanence have transformed my entire life.

But in the rushing stream of our daily struggle and in the crises that inevitably come, I desperately need to see the transcendent God. I need to be reminded of the God who is God indeed, the One who is bigger than my shriveled perspective; the God who overflows all names and all descriptions; the God whose self-given name, "I AM," suggests that He is being itself, beyond all time and all categories.

My prayer is that "Our Lord I AM" helps you toward a vision of this magnificent God, and that worshiping Him, you find the peace of a right relationship with your Creator.

*--Ken Bible*

Hymn: [Our Lord I AM](#)