**JOHN 17:3**

**10-23-19**

**Introduction –**

**John 17 Has Been Called “The Lords Prayer.” It Has Been Called Jesus’ “High Priestly Prayer.”**

**Each Of These Is True. It Is Indeed Christ’ Prayer That All Things- For Which He Has Come – All Things For Which Is Going To Die – All Things That Make Up God’s Plan Of Salvation From The Foundation Of The World – *Now Be Realized*!**

**Last Week, We Enjoyed A Powerful Lesson, As We Studied Verse 2. Tonight’s Lesson Is No Less Powerful; And No Less Full Of Heavenly Truth.**

**As Is Usually The Case, In Order To Grasp The Point Of Verse 3, We Must Not Disconnect It From The Prior Verse – Verse 2.**

***Will Someone Read Verse 2 For Us?***

**1. In Verse 2, Jesus Declared That He Is The Source Of Eternal Life. We All Know This Fundamental Truth. It Is A Truth That We Have Also Seen Repeated In The Book Of John.**

**This Is Just One Of The Many Verses That Declare Jesus As The Source Of Eternal Life.**

**(Slide 2)**

John 5:24
Verily, Verily, I Say Unto You, He That Heareth My Word, And Believeth On Him That Sent Me, Hath Everlasting Life, And Shall Not Come Into Condemnation; But Is Passed From Death Unto Life.

**2. V. 3a – To Some Degree, John 3 Begins By *Repeating* This Truth, But I Believe We Will See, This Verse Also *Expands* On This Truth. What Are The Four Words, With Which, Verse 3 Begins? (Kjv)**

**(Slide 3)**

“And This Is Eternal Life”

**3. V. 3b – What Does Jesus Say Next In The Verse?**

**4. As We Examine This Statement, The Question We Must Ask Concerning The Structure Of This Sentence Is This: Is Jesus Describing The Means/Way To Eternal Life, Or His Is Describing The Essence – Nature – Substance Of Eternal Life?**

**(Slide 4)**

John 17:3

Niv:

Now This Is Eternal Life: That They Know You, The Only True God, And Jesus Christ, Whom You Have Sent.

**(Slide 5)**

NLT:
And This Is The Way To Have Eternal Life—To Know You, The Only True God, And Jesus Christ, The One You Sent To Earth.

**5. Tonight, We Are Going To View This Verse From Both Perspectives.**

**6. If You Were To Ask The Average Person What It Means To Have Eternal Life, What Might Be Some Of The Answers, *Other Than What We Find In Verse 3*?**

**(Slide 6)**

To Live Forever

To Go To Heaven

To Be With God Forever

To “Get My Crown”

**7. Again, What Does Jesus Say It Means To Have Eternal Life?**

**(Slide 7)**

“That They Might Know Thee (The Father)”

**8. As Described In This Verse, The True Essence Of Eternal Life Is Not Tied To A *Place*, Or A *Reward*, Or Even Being *Set Free From The Shackles Of Time*. Instead, The True Essence Of Eternal Life Is A Relationship With God (To *Know* Him)!**

**9. What Does It Mean To “Know” God?**

**10. Knowing God Is Not Simply Knowing *About* God, Or Even Believing In The *Existence* Of God.**

***Let’s Look At Two Verses:***

**(Slide 8)**

James 2:19

John 8:19

**11. Do Demons Believe In God? Did The Ultra-Religious Jews Believer In God? *Yet, Neither Has Eternal Life!***

**12. (Slide 9)**

To “Know” God Is To Enter Into A Relationship Of Deep, Intimate, Communion With Him, Characterized By Love, Obedience, Faith, And The Highest Honor.

**13. Another Aspect Of “Knowing” God, Is The Process Of *Learning* Him – The Continual Pursuit Of Knowing More *About* Him.**

**How Long Will It Take Us To Learn All There Is To Know About God?**

**14. One Of The Greatest Joys Of Our Salvation Is The Pursuit Of More Of The Knowledge Of God. This Joy Will Continue For All Eternity!**

**15. V. 3c – Jesus Also *Describes* God. How Does He Describe The Father?**

**16. There Is Only One God – And You Cannot Gain Eternal Life Through Any Other God!**

**17. V. 3d – Jesus Not Only Declares That Eternal Life Is Attained Only Through Knowing The Father, But Who Else? (The Son)**

**18. This Is Another Truth Repeated Throughout The Book Of John. To Know Christ, Is To Know God – They Are Both Part Of The Inseparable Trinity!**

**19. This Is Where We Separate Christians And Non-Christians, And From The Christian Cults (*Jehovah’s Witnesses – Mormons, Etc.*)**

**20. (Slide 10)**

John 14:9
Jesus Saith Unto Him, Have I Been So Long Time With You, And Yet Hast Thou Not Known Me, Philip? He That Hath Seen Me Hath Seen The Father; And How Sayest Thou *Then,* Shew Us The Father?

**(Slide 11)**

John 10:30
I And *My* Father Are One.

(*Three Tiers Of Belief*)