

January 14, 2022

The Lord wants you to experience real and abundant life:

John 17:3 *Now this is eternal life: that they know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, Whom You have sent.* (NIV)

As Jesus was praying before He offered Himself up for the sacrifice of our sins, He show us through His prayer, what real and eternal life is. It is not based on length of time because there will be no more time. It is not based on what we have accumulated or the works that we have done. It is solely based upon knowing the LORD. The Greek word used for *know* is **ginoskosin** which means *to be made aware, to comprehend, to understand and to experience*. Again, knowing the LORD is not knowing about Him. It is not knowing that He is real. It is knowing Him in a personal experience. This can only happen through the giving of ourselves to His lordship. I like what **David Guzik** says in his commentary on this verse: *Eternal life means that we are alive and active to God's environment. If God and His spiritual environment does not affect (and even dominate) our life, then it can be said that we do not have or experience eternal life. If this is true, then we live life in the same dimension that animals live, and we exist as if we are dead to God and His environment.* (**Enduring Word Commentary**)

Now the very next verse is also profound and gives us even more understanding about this full, abundant and eternal life that He gives. **John 17: 4** *I have brought You glory on earth by finishing the work You gave Me to do.* (NIV) Someone once brought attention to me by asking a question. What was the work that Jesus was given to do? He had not been offered up yet for the sacrifice of sin. Or, had He? **Rev. 13:8** gives us some insight to this statement. *All inhabitants of the earth will worship the beast - all whose names have not been written in the Lamb's book of life, the Lamb who was slain from the creation of the world.* (NIV) The work of Christ was already accomplished before the world was made! In God's foreknowledge, He allowed the death of Jesus to accomplish all that we needed to have real, full and eternal life in Him. This is not based on any timetable. It is based on the word of the LORD that will last forever!

Dear LORD, thank You for the Lamb that was slain from the creation of the world. You have always had a plan for our salvation and for us to experience life in You. You are the only need we have. In Jesus Name, Amen