

# THAT THEY MIGHT KNOW THEE

## JOHN 17

Text: John 17:3

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<sup>3</sup>And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent.

Introduction:

In a world that is changing and deteriorating at a very rapid rate, we need to set our hearts on the One Who never changes. Perhaps it will help if we understand His heart for us so we can respond in like manner. The Bible gives us a glimpse today of how much God loves us and what He desires for us.

In John 17, we come to the longest prayer of Jesus in the Bible, and it can be broken down into several sections. In the first few verses Christ prays to the Father on His own behalf. He then prays specifically for His disciples whom He will leave on the earth. Later Christ prays for those who have not yet come into the fold, which would include those who were still lost as He prayed.

When someone takes time to pray about something, it's generally because it is a serious matter to him. If

someone takes time from a busy schedule, gets up a little earlier, or stays up a little later to pray and talk to God about something, his request normally involves a deep concern in his heart.

We will see clearly from this prayer God heart for us.

Notice

## **1. THE LORD'S HEART IS FOR OUR SALVATION**

(John 17:2-3) "As thou hast given him power over all flesh, that he should give eternal life to as many as thou hast given him. {3} And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent."

A. Eternal life is through Jesus Christ. (vss 3) he should give eternal life

1. Eternal life is not in baptism, a certain church, religion, works, or communion.
2. Eternal life is through Christ and Christ alone.

(John 14:6) "Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me."

B. Salvation is eternal for all believers.

(John 17:11) "And now I am no more in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to thee. Holy Father, keep through thine own name those whom thou hast given me, that they may be one, as we are."

## **2. THE LORD'S HEART IS THAT WE WOULD POSSESS THE SCRIPTURE.**

(John 17:8) "For I have given unto them the words which thou gavest me; and they have received them, and have known surely that I came out from thee, and they have believed that thou didst send me."

(John 17:14) "I have given them thy word; and the world hath hated them, because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world."

(Matthew 4:4) "But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God."

(2 Timothy 3:16) "All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:"

(Romans 10:17) "So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God."

## A. We need to preach the Word

(2 Timothy 4:2) "Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine."

1. Some don't like preaching churches.

## B. We need to study the Word

1. Brings growth

(1 Peter 2:2) "As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby:"

2. Equips us to work

(2 Timothy 2:15) "Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth."

## C. We need to obey the Word

The Word is to be preached, studied, and obeyed

(James 1:22) "But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves."

## D. We need to memorize the Word

(Psalms 119:11) "Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee."

1. Keeps us aware of sin

### **3. HIS HEART IS FOR OUR SANCTIFICATION (VSS 15)**

(John 17:15) "I pray not that thou shouldest take them out of the world, but that thou shouldest keep them from the evil."

(John 17:16-17) "They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. {17} Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth."

Close:

That is what God's heart is for you. Get saved, get into the scriptures, and be sanctified.