"What is Eternal Life?!" - John 17:3

- What does it mean to "have eternal life?"
- How does a person "get to Heaven?"
- How can a person "live forever with God?"

In John 17:3, Jesus gave us numerous answers to these questions:

- His <u>RELATION</u> the Criteria
 - o "And this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent."
 - 1. <u>Eternal Life comes by having a special relationship</u>.
 - "..know.."
 - This is the Greek word "ginosko" meaning "to experience something or someone; to know someone thru personal interaction"
 - Biblically, real eternal life is thru having a personal **RELATIONSHIP** with the Father and Son; not be having **RELIGION** or **RITUALS**.
 - Genesis 1-3 In the beginning, there was LOVING RELATIONSHIP.
 - Gen 3:8 NKJV " they heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day.."
 - Revelation 21-22 In the end, there will again be LOVING RELATIONSHIP...
 - Rev 21:3-4 NKJV "...I heard a loud voice from heaven saying, "Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people. God Himself will be with them and be their God. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain.."
 - My **new relationship** with my wife...
 - My **new relationship** with my sons...
 - My new relationship with my King...
 - 2. <u>Eternal Life comes by having a special relationship with a special Person God, the Father.</u>
 - "..You, the only true God.."
 - Scripture is very clear that there are a multitude of false/imposter spiritual beings, that pose as "gods" to the pagans, and deceive them into worshipping them:
 - **Psalm 82:1–7 (NKJV):** "God stands in the congregation of the mighty; He judges among the gods. How long will you judge unjustly, And show partiality to the wicked? I said, "You are gods, And all of you are children of the Most High. But you shall die like men, And fall like one of the princes."
 - **Psalm 95:3 (NKJV):** "..the Lord is the great God, And the great King above all <u>gods</u>."

- **Psalm 96:4–5 (NKJV):** "For the Lord is great and greatly to be praised; He is to be feared above all <u>gods</u>. For all the <u>gods</u> of the peoples are idols, But the Lord made the heavens."
- 1 Corinthians 10:20–21 (NKJV): "..the things which the Gentiles sacrifice they sacrifice to demons and not to God, and I do not want you to have fellowship with demons. You cannot drink the cup of the Lord and the cup of demons; you cannot partake of the Lord's table and of the table of demons."
- Colossians 1:16–17 (NKJV): "For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him. And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist."
- Important to know the true/genuine article: US Secret Service...
- Thousands of different types of counterfeits... spiritually too!
- Only one that is **true & genuine**... spiritually too!
- 3. Eternal Life comes by having a special relationship with God, the Father & also God, the Son!
- "..and Jesus Christ.."
 - Acts 4:12 (NKJV): "Nor is there salvation in <u>any other</u>, for there is <u>no other name</u> under heaven given among men by which we <u>must be saved</u>."
 - **John 14:6 (NKJV):** "<u>I AM</u> the Way, the Truth, and the Life. No man comes to the Father unless they <u>come through Me</u>."
 - Why??- (-> John 5:22-28 Father has given Jesus all <u>authority</u>; power of <u>judgement</u>; power of to give <u>eternal life</u>; the power & authority to save men from damnation, and to pass from <u>death</u> <u>to life</u> for all eternity! (" the One You have sent forth with power/authority, Jesus Christ.")
- **John 3:16 (NKJV):** "God so loved the world that He gave His <u>only</u> <u>begotten Son</u>, that whoever <u>believes in Him</u> should not perish but have everlasting life."
 - Imagine a world with a deadly disease, with only ONE cure...
 - Only JESUS is the Cure for the world's infection with sin!!
 - **John 8:24** "Unless you believe that I AM you will die in your sins."