

This Is Eternal Life

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[0 : 0 0] The 5th of April. This is eternal life. John 17 verse 3. And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent.

The words eternal and everlasting both mean the same thing, but for us to understand them can be quite difficult. We think of something that is everlasting as going on and on forever. In a sense that is quite true, but in Psalm 90 we read that God is described as being from everlasting to everlasting. That means that there never was a time when God didn't exist. He is the eternal God, the creator who brought all things into being, including time itself.

So God isn't affected by time. He's always present. Eternal or everlasting is a word that uniquely belongs to God.

When Jesus Christ said, This is life eternal, that they, those believing in him as Saviour, may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent, the eternal life he referred to was a special kind of life.

[1 : 2 0] Not only does this special life last forever and ever, it starts here and now, when a person comes to trust in Jesus as his or her Saviour. And not only so, but it has a special quality. It has something of the very life of God himself in it, so that when a believer in Jesus dies, he or she will immediately go into the very presence of God to enjoy this eternal life in a fuller way that will be pure joy, holiness, and perfect praising, fitted for the presence of God himself.

And a prayer. Dear Lord Jesus, I thank you for the gift of everlasting life. Amen.