

JESUS HAS POWER TO GIVE ETERNAL LIFE

John 17:1-3

Introduction: Jesus had great difficulty in getting people to believe who He really was for those who knew Him from childhood could just not accept the truth/fact that He was sent from God and especially that He and the Father were "one." Even though Jesus performed countless miracles and had a great following because of the miracles, few believed that He was really the Son of God. Jesus declared that He was the only way to the Father and that believing in Him (Jesus), one could have everlasting life. Jesus claimed to be able to give a person eternal life.

I. JESUS WAS GIVEN ALL POWER

1. Jesus not only had power over the material world, which He had created, but power over people as well. *"...power was given Him over all flesh..."*
 - Jesus' enemies were entirely under His control and He restrained their violence (*Psalm 75:10*), defeats their plots (*Job 5:12*), over rules their efforts in order to accomplish His own eternal plans (*Psalm 2:4*).
 - Jesus give special care to His "friends" and watches over them for good (*Psalm 36:15*), supports them when they are tempted (*Hebrews 2:18*), strengthens them when they are weak (*2 Corinthians 12:9*), and accomplishes in them all that out of His goodness He desires (*2 Thessalonians 1:11*).
2. There is nothing beyond Jesus' power.
 - If He chose to do away with the entire human race, He could do it in a moment, by a simple act.
 - If He chose to change every human being into His own divine image, He could just as easily create every person all anew as He did with the first man, out of nothing but dirt.

II. JESUS WAS GIVEN ALL POWER FOR A SPECIFIC REASON

1. God, the Father has given to Jesus a very special, elect people.
 - Jesus spoke more than once of those who were *"...given Him..."* by the heavenly Father.
 - If a special, certain people had not been given to Jesus, then there would be no reason for anybody to give him/herself to Jesus nor have any reason to do so.
 - *"...For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of His good pleasure..."*
 - Those who do yield themselves to Jesus are *"...made willing in the day of God's power..."* (*Psalm 60:3*)
 - Those who do yield themselves to Jesus have been *"...predestinated unto the adoption of children from before the foundation of the world..."* (*Ephesians 1:4-5*)
 - Those who do yield themselves to Jesus are given eternal life.
2. The life of grace which is given to those who yield themselves to Jesus is the gift of Jesus Christ.
 - *John 4:14; 6:51*
 - It is bestowed by Jesus upon the believer in Him without any merit or motive of that person but as a concern for His own and the Father's glory. *"...That whatsoever ye shall ask in My name, that will I do that the Father may be glorified in the Son..."* (*John 14:13*).
 - The life of grace in this world and the next is entirely Jesus' free gift.

3. It was for those who would yield themselves to Jesus that He received and exerts His power.
 - It would have been to little purpose to have been given a special people by God, the Father if Jesus had not also been given the power to secure and keep them.
 - God knew that there would be many obstacles to the salvation offered and therefore He committed all power to Jesus, His Son that nothing might prevent His will from being carried out.
 - At times it may seem that God's plans for His special people are blocked or averted but God's plans will ultimately come to pass. (*Romans 8:28*)

CONCLUSION:

1. What insanity it is to ignore, to neglect, to turn away from God's Son, Jesus Christ.
 - It is human nature to want the best of any and everything.
 - Jesus Christ offers eternal life to those who will yield and believe in Him.
 - What can possible be better for a person than what Jesus Christ offers?
2. How secure are those who have accepted God's offer of eternal life through His Son, Jesus Christ.
 - Jesus has all power and exerts that power on behalf of those who yield to Him in belief.
 - What is there to fear? "*...If He be for them, who could be against them?...*"
3. Those special people God has given to His Son, Jesus, those who yield to Jesus, believe in Jesus are under the obligation to love and to serve the Lord Jesus Christ.
 - If Jesus wants US as One of His, and did so much for US to be able to belong to Him, should not all of US who have yielded and believed in Him use our lives and abilities for Him?