

ヨハネの福音書 17 章 3 節の「永遠のいのち」の解釈

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Abstract Masanobu ENDO, “Interpretation of John 17:3.” This research examines whether the $\acute{\iota}\nu\alpha$ clause (Subject clause) in John 17:3, which mentions the knowing the Father and the Son (3b), should be taken as a definition of the “eternal life (Predicate Noun) (3a).” In that case, “eternal life” is often related to the concept of “an intimate relationship of the believers with the Father and the Son,” though it is not seen in the rest of the Gospel. Therefore, scholars often considered v. 3 as an insertion or footnote to the prayer (or the text), because of this rareness. However, it can be seen that v. 3 does not necessarily deviate from the context, if one pays attention to the thematic flow of vv. 1-8. Rather, it functions as “an hinge” that connects two events: “the futuristic event,” that the Son will give eternal life to His people in v. 2, and “the present (or past) event,” that the Son gives (or has given) them the knowledge of the Father, the idea being developed in vv. 4-8. Because of this hinge, two distinct events are linked together inseparably and seen to be regarded as “coincident events” in prayer’s (the Son’s) view. This eschatological view is common to John (e.g. 4:23; 5:25; 14:9). Namely, “the knowing the Father and the Son,” stated in the $\acute{\iota}\nu\alpha$ clause (3b), should not be taken as a conceptual definition of “eternal life (3a).”