

## GRAMMATICAL CONSTRUCTION OF JOHN 17:3

### Parts of speech:

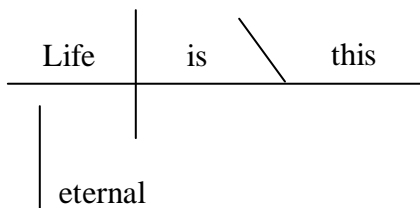
And—coordinating conjunction, linking two or more equal elements (links two sentences)  
This—pronoun, used as an expletive to demonstrate that the subject follows the verb  
is—present tense linking verb, used alone in declaration statements  
life—noun, subject  
eternal—adjective, describing “life”  
that—relative pronoun used to link the noun clause to the expletive  
they—personal pronoun used as subject of the noun clause  
might—subjunctive form of the verb “may”, the past form “might” is used to treat a future event as if it is already granted  
know—main verb of the noun clause  
thee—personal pronoun, first of two direct objects (joined by and) for the verb “might know”  
the—article meaning particular: “the God”  
only—can be adjective when used alone, primarily adverbial when followed by an adjective  
true—adjective modifying God  
God—the noun, used as an appositive renaming “thee”  
and—coordinating conjunction joining the two direct objects of the noun clause: thee and Jesus  
Jesus—proper noun, second of two direct objects joined by and  
Christ—proper noun, part of the title Jesus Christ  
whom—relative pronoun, introducing the adjective clause describing Jesus Christ  
thou—personal pronoun used as subject of the adjective clause  
hast—present tense helping verb, making sent present perfect or complete in action  
sent—main verb of the adjective clause

**Note:** *whom* is not only the introductory link to the adjective clause, but can also serve as the direct object of the adjective clause.

### Sentence Diagram of John 17:3

John 17:3 And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent.

The word *this* is an expletive, showing that the subject comes after the present tense, declarative verb is

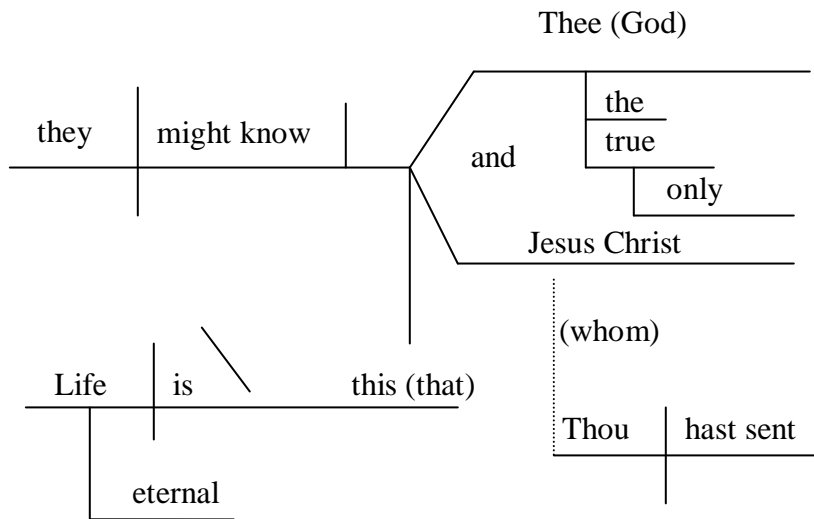


The word *eternal* is an adjective, describing the type of life mentioned.

John 17:3 And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent.

The word *this* has no meaning in itself. As a pronoun it must refer to some form of a noun. To say that life is this and that this is life is to repeat a non-descriptive statement. Therefore, the pronoun *this* does not refer to the single word noun (life); rather, it refers to the noun clause that remains in the sentence.

“that they might know thee the only true God and Jesus Christ”



The adjective clause (“whom thou hast sent”) is used to identify Jesus Christ.