

Eternal Life Revealed

John 1:35-51

This passage gives us a simple account of Jesus' initial calling of His first followers and their introduction to the concept of eternal life which is John's primary term for salvation.

Three ways that eternal life is revealed are prominent in this passage: a Savior shines, Sowers are sent, and Seekers see. The order in which these appear varies.

Eternal life is revealed when:

1. Sowers are sent (v.35-37)

John the Baptist, a man sent from God, reveals to Andrew and John that Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world and offers the hope of eternal life. In response, they follow Jesus and experience for themselves the reality of who He is.

2. Seekers see (v.38-42)

After a careful investigation and interaction with Jesus, they conclude that He is the Messiah (Hebrew) or Christ (Greek). They begin to follow Him and become Sowers themselves.

Andrew finds Peter, his brother, and brings him to Jesus. Jesus demonstrates His omniscience through His knowledge of who Peter was and who he would become after receiving eternal life.

Andrew would be overshadowed by his brother's dynamic leadership and preaching, but Andrew's role as a Sower cannot be underestimated.

3. Savior shines (v.43-51)

Jesus then takes the initiative and finds Philip. He reveals to him how He is the One promised in Scripture.

After seeing the light of the Savior in Scripture, Philip finds Nathanael and leads him to Jesus. Though Nathanael is skeptical, he is soon overwhelmed by the omniscience that Jesus shines into his life and declares that Jesus is the Son of God and the King of Israel.

Jesus assures Nathaniel that as he follows Him, he will see even greater things because He is the connection between heaven and earth and the only source of eternal life.

As Seekers who have seen, Jesus has Sent us to be Sowers and to Shine the light of the Savior so that other Seekers may See and believe, and that believing they may have eternal life.