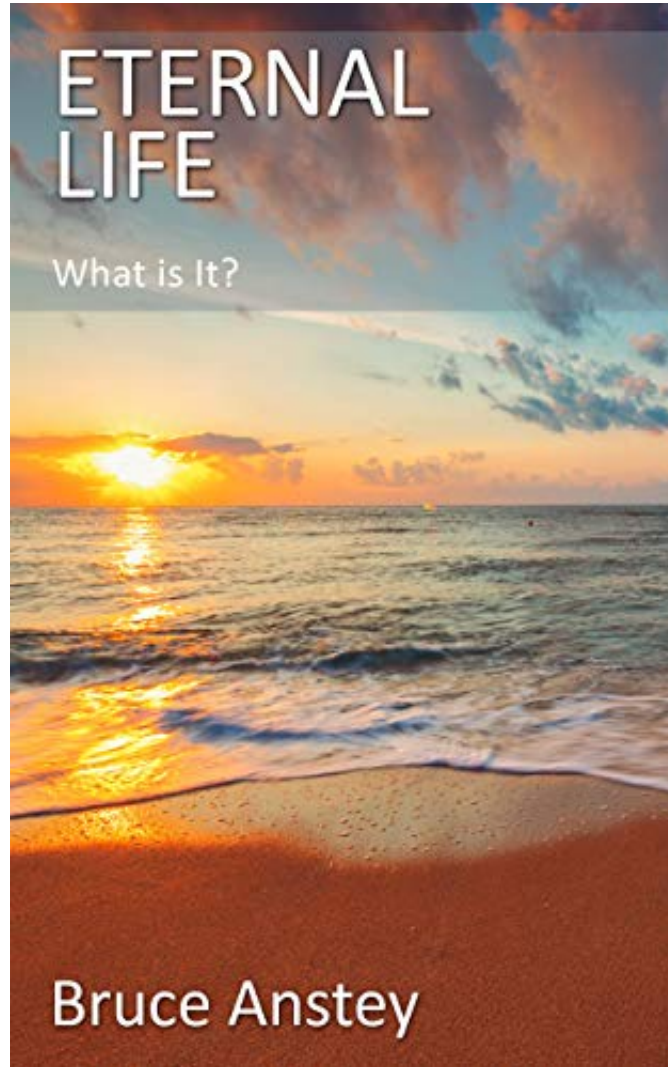


Eternal Life - What is it?



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Synopsis

“Eternal life,” as found in John’s Gospel and the Epistles, is a Christian blessing which believers on the Lord Jesus Christ have as a “gift” from God (Rom. 6:23). It is the highest character of divine life that there is, and it is what the Father and the Son enjoyed in fellowship together from all eternity. For believers, eternal life is having: Divine life in fellowship with the Father and the Son (John 17:3), On the ground of accomplished redemption (John 3:14-15), In the power of the indwelling Holy Spirit (John 4:14). In order for believers to have this more abundant life (John 10:10), Christ had to come into the world to reveal the Father and the eternal relationship He has with His Son (John 1:18; 14:9). Prior to eternal life being manifested in this world in the Person of Christ, it was “with the Father” and unknown by men (1 John 1:2). Furthermore, this relationship with the Father could not be had by believers until they were resting in faith on Christ’s finished work on the cross, by which their consciences are purged (Heb. 9:14; 10:12-17) and they are indwelt with the Spirit (John 4:14). Thus, eternal life is a distinctly Christian blessing which we possess “in Christ Jesus”—the risen, ascended, and glorified Man at God’s right hand (2 Tim. 1:1). The possession of this life enables us to have fellowship with the Father and the Son (John 17:3; 1 John 1:3).

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