

The Inscrutable Question: James Bradley's "Flags of Our Fathers"; Summary of Time: Witnesses for the Prosecution in Satan's Appeal Trial

10. At the fall of our original parents, Satan became the ruler of this world. Since that time, Lucifer's objective has been to establish control over his earthly kingdom and seek to reestablish the perfect environment lost at the Fall of Adam.
11. His efforts to accomplish this objective must be carried out by the manipulation of the minds of men. He believes that when he succeeds he will have proven to the Supreme Court of Heaven that he is like the Most High God.
12. Countering his efforts are the offspring of Adam and Eve. Collectively they form the human race, each one granted an option before the appeal trial: (1) to follow Satan in the whitewashing and restoration of the earth's fallen environment, ecologically, socially, and morally, or (2) to follow God through faith in Christ and begin developing a heavenly community made up of those who can live forever in the eternal state.
13. The effort to restore the earth and its inhabitants to the pristine perfection of Eden is doomed to defeat and a similar effort to legislate a man-made Millennial Kingdom is destined for failure.
14. The objective of those who follow God is to save from this doomed planet a few who will, through faith alone in Christ alone, de-emphasize human life in time in favor of eternal life in heaven.
15. He who believes in the Son has eternal life; he who does not believe the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God abides on him. (John 3:18)
16. And the wrath of God will assign all unbelievers to a hereafter in the lake of fire where they will possess forever life eternally separated from God and all who possess eternal life.
17. Consequently, we are all born physically into time and space. The escape from these boundaries is only possible through the possession of eternal life.
18. The question of how one may come to possess this eternal life was posed to our Lord Jesus Christ by one of the preeminent theologians of the first century, the Pharisee Nicodemus. His interview with our Lord not only reveals the answer but also reads us back into the verse we are examining: John 3:16 and the contrast between time and eternity.