

ENOCH WALKED WITH GOD -- AND GOD TOOK HIM!

GENESIS 5:20 *So all the days of Jared were nine hundred and sixty-two years; and he died.* [21] *Enoch lived sixty-five years, and begot Methuselah.* [22] *After he begot Methuselah, Enoch walked with God three hundred years, and had sons and daughters.* [23] *So all the days of Enoch were three hundred and sixty-five years.* [24] **And Enoch walked with God; and he was not, for God took him.** *And he died.*

- Gen. 5:5-31 Eight times we see the end of each man – “and he died” But now in this account there is found one exception to the “and he died” ; one man of whom it is not said, “and he died.” This is evidently the highlight of this chapter, the reason why all this is given to us:

[21] Enoch lived sixty-five years, and begot Methuselah. [22] After he begot Methuselah, Enoch walked with God three hundred years, and had sons and daughters.

- When Enoch had lived sixty-five years, he became the father of Methuselah. Enoch walked with God after the birth of Methuselah three hundred years, and had other sons and daughters.
- Evidently this is designed to focus our interest. Instead of saying, “and he died,” it says, “and he was not, for God took him.”
- Heb 11:5 *By faith Enoch was taken away so that he did not see death, “AND WAS NOT FOUND, BECAUSE GOD HAD TAKEN HIM”; for before he was taken he had this testimony, that he pleased God. – Is your life, my life characterized by “he pleased God”????*
- What does it mean to walk with God? Here is a man who, in the midst of a brilliant but godless generation, walked with God. What does it mean? It is exactly the same today as it was then.
- **First, it means he went in the same direction God went.** He was moving the way God was going. The man who walks with God is the man who knows which way God is going and goes the same way. Now what is that?
- What direction is God moving? God moves always in unswerving hostility toward sin. He is opposed to that which destroys and wrecks human life. No matter how good it looks, no matter how attractive it seems, how luridly it is painted, God is against it.
- And the man who walks with God is the man who walks in unswerving hostility toward sin in his own life and refuses to make up with it or permit it to rule or to reign. That is the first thing in a walk with God. --- Are you, am I, going in the same direction as God?
- **Second, it means to keep in step.** You cannot walk with somebody if you do not keep in step with him. There is a tendency to want to sit down after I have taken a step and rest awhile. Do you ever feel like God pressuring you to do something -- take a new step, stop this, start that, or venture out in a new direction?
- And after God pushes us awhile, we do it. Perhaps we have been resisting for quite awhile before, but then we take the step and we feel good. We have accomplished something. Then God comes along and says, “Now I want you to take another step.” And we say, “Oh, no, Lord. I had a hard enough time taking this one. Just leave me alone now for awhile. You walk on for a bit and then come back.” But the worst thing that can happen to us is for God to do exactly that. That is what he did with the children of Israel when they came to the edge of the Promised Land and ended up in unbelief. He said, “I want you to walk with Me into the land.” But they said, “No, not us. You go by Yourself but we’re not going.” If we want it badly enough He will let us have it, and it will be the worst thing that ever happened to us. But Enoch was a man who had learned to move as God moved, and to walk in step with him. – Are you, am I, keeping step with God?
- **The third thing is that there was no controversy between them.** They were in agreement. “Can two walk together unless they are agreed?” (Amos 3:3). They must be in agreement.

And this is how we must be. There must be no controversy between us if we are going to walk with God, but we must agree with things as He sees them.

- If you want to walk with God you must see things as He sees them. Do you? Do I?
- Enoch did. For three hundred years he walked with God, and this is what we are called to. –
- We are to walk "as children of light," (Ephesians 5:8).
- We are to walk "in the Spirit," (Galatians 5:16, 5:25).
- We are to walk "worthy of God" (1 Thessalonians 2:12), through the midst of a godless generation, exactly as Enoch did.
- But notice that Enoch did not always walk with God. The first 65 years of his life were quite another story. Evidently, he reflected for 65 years the same godless attitude as those around him. "Well, what started him walking with God then?" And the answer is given to us here. It was the birth of a son, a boy whom he named Methuselah.
- Surely there is more to this than simply the fact that he became a father. It is revealed by the name that Enoch gave to his son. Methuselah is a very interesting name. It means, literally, "His death shall bring it," or loosely translated, "When he dies, it will come." What will come? The Flood!
- Jude 1:14-15 Now Enoch, the seventh from Adam, prophesied about these men also, saying, "Behold, the Lord comes with ten thousands of His saints, [15] to execute judgment on all, to convict all who are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds which they have committed in an ungodly way, and of all the harsh things which ungodly sinners have spoken against Him." Enoch was given a revelation from God. He saw the direction of the divine movement, looked on to the end of the culture, the comforts, and the mechanical marvels of his own day, to the fact there must come an inevitable judgment on the principle of evil in human life. When he saw it his baby was born, so, in obedience, evidently to God's word, he named the baby, "When he dies, it will come."
- But the grace of God is revealed here in the fact that Methuselah lived longer than any man ever lived, nine hundred and sixty-nine years! That is how long God waited before he fulfilled the threat implied in the boy's name.
- This genealogical table in chapter 5, is given to warn us of the day when evil shall ultimately be stopped, pointing us to our Savior! God cannot allow human evil to increase endlessly. He restrains it, but when it reaches a certain limit, He judges it. There is some difference among authorities as to the meaning of these names, depending upon the root from which they are judged to be taken. But one authority gives a most interesting sequence of meanings:
- The list begins with *Seth* (v.4), which means "Appointed." *Enosh* (v.6), his son, means "Mortal;" and His son, *Cainan* (v. 10), means "Sorrow." His son *Mahalalel* (13), means "The Blessed God." He named his boy *Jared* (v. 15) which means "Came Down," and His boy, *Enoch* (v.18), means "Teaching." *Methuselah* (v. 21), as we saw, means "His death shall bring;" *Lamech* (v.25) means "Strength," and *Noah* (v. 30), "Comfort." Now put that all together: God has Appointed that Mortal man shall Sorrow; but The Blessed God, Came Down, Teaching, that His Death Shall Bring, Strength and Comfort.

[23] So all the days of Enoch were three hundred and sixty-five years. [24] And Enoch walked with God; and he was not, for God took him.

- We are so foolish how we try to escape the inevitability of the end. Yet everything hangs on that. It will be for us the end of Adam's Book, when all that Adam is in us is at an end, there is nothing more to be recorded in it. Then only what Christ has written in us will survive. You have heard the little motto, Only one life, 'twill soon be past. Only what's done for Christ will last.
- In Revelation when John saw the dead standing before God, the books also were opened ... What books? Possibly Adam's book, and Jesus' book. The book of the generations of Adam and the book of the generations of Jesus Christ.
- Now one question lingers: What are you doing today in this godless generation? Are you walking with God? Have you learned to keep step with the Almighty? Have you learned to trust what He says and walk in His direction and to keep step with Him, in agreement with Him, showing and telling others of His great love for them?