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The First Man To Escape Death, Enoch
Gen. 5:18-24

Men have dreamed of escaping death from the beginning of time as they attempt to rob the grave, even as Ponce de Leon searched out for the fountain of youth and today's multi-attempts to stop the process.

Chapter five of Genesis is the record of God's divine judgment on sin and guilt resulting in death, even as He told Adam, "Of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall **surely die**." " , literally dying you shall die." Gen. 2:17

We read the genealogy of Adam through Seth, the godly line, and the various descendants of Adam with the record of the duration of their lives.

Though each individual's life-span differs and the longest living individual was Methuselah, living 969 years. the one commonality they all possess is the phrase "he died".

* It is recorded eight times. Gen. 5:5, 8, 11, 14, 17, 20, 27, 31

There is only one exception to the record of death, the man Enoch, he robbed the grave from physical

death, so we want to examine three truths that are recorded about Enoch.

- I. The man Enoch walked with God: The revelation. Gen. 5:18-24
- II. The ministry of Enoch was that of a prophet: The interpretation. Jude 1:14-16
- III. The message of Enoch was that he lived a life of faith: The application. Heb. 11:5-6

I. The man Enoch walked with God: The revelation. Gen. 5:18-24

- A. Enoch was the son of Jared. Gen. 5:18-20
 1. Jared means "descent".
 2. Jared was one-hundred and sixty-two years old when he begot Enoch. Gen. 5:18
 3. Jared lived eight-hundred more years and then begot other sons and daughters. Gen. 5:19
* That is what you call an age gap!
 4. Jared is the sixth from Adam.
 5. Jared lived nine-hundred and sixty-two year, and he died. Gen. 5:20
 6. Jared's son Enoch should not be confused with Enoch, the son of Cain. whose name was given to a city. Gen. 4:17

- B.** Enoch lived sixty-five years and begot Methuselah. Gen. 5:21
1. The name Methuselah means “man of the dart”, but many have interpret it to mean, “When he dies judgment will come.”
Morris P:160
 2. The man Methuselah was a sign to the people about God’s judgment to come.
 3. The man Methuselah was the grandfather of Noah.
 4. The man Methuselah is the longest living man as opposed to his father, Enoch the man who never died.
- C.** Enoch repented and got saved after Methuselah’s birth. Gen. 5:22-23
1. Enoch walked with God for three-hundred years after he begot Methuselah. Vs. 22a-b
 - a. The word walk “halak” means to traverse or move.
* It speaks of having direction in life and moving towards a destination!
 - b. The word speaks of a life of godliness.
* Noah was a just man, perfect in his generations. Noah walked with God.” Gen. 6:9
 - c. There was an ongoing fellowship with Enoch and God.

2. Enoch begot sons and daughter’s during those three-hundred years. Vs. 22c
 - a. The number of sons is not given.
 - b. The number of daughters is not given.
 - c. The number of people would be multiplying very rapidly.
 3. Enoch lived a total of three-hundred and sixty-five years. Vs. 23
 - a. A relatively short span in comparison to the catalogue of chapter five.
 - b. A full life with God.
 - c. A life with purpose.
- D.** Enoch was removed from the earth. Gen. 5:24
1. The process of his life is declared for the second time, he walked with God, giving emphasis to the practice.
 - a. His name Enoch “Chanowk” means dedicated which he lived up to.
 - b. He chose to walk away from the course of the world and to turn to God.
 - c. He chose to believe God rather than to be ensnared by the worlds deceptions.
 - d. He chose to believe that a full life with God was better than a long life without God.
 - e. He chose to believe that after this life there is a judgment.

- f. He chose to give a consistent example of a godly life by the power of God, rather than to give a bad example for people to mock God.
2. The privilege of his life was that he was not found on the earth one day.
 - a. Enoch was on the earth walking with God, one day at a time.
 - b. Enoch one day was walking with God as usual and he kept on walking into the presence of God.
 - c. Enoch is the first man to escape death due to being in fellowship with God, while Abel was the first man to taste death for being in fellowship with God.
 3. The proclamation of God was that God took him.
 - a. God created Enoch in His image after His likeness but with the fallen nature of Adam. Gen. 1:26, 5:3
 - b. God made the provisions for fallen man to repent and walk with God. Gen. 3:21, 4:7
 - c. God was the redeemer of his spirit, soul and body, having acknowledge his sin nature and sinfulness in the likeness of Adam and in need of repentance, “He walked with God”.

Illustration

In a sermon on “Enoch walked with God,” Dr. Campbell Morgan gave the following illustration:

A little child gave a most exquisite explanation of walking with God. She went home from Sunday School, and the mother said, “Tell me what you learned at school.” And she said: “Don’t you know, mother, one day they went for an extra long walk, and they walked on and on, until God said to Enoch, ‘You are a long way from home; you had better come in and stay.’ And he went.” #7141

Application

* To walk with God means and implies several things.

1. To walk with God at its most basic understanding is to be one with God in a reconciled relationship.

* Can two walk together, except they be agreed?
Amos 3:3

2. To walk with God is to be in fellowship with God, having access to the benefits of God.

* If we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin. 1Jn. 1:7

3. To walk with God is to be in a process of a growing relationship with God.

* See that you walk circumspectly, not as fools but as wise, redeeming the time, because the days are evil. Eph. 5:15-16

4. To walk with God is to live in a life of obedience to God, as a manner of life.

* Walk as children of the light. Eph. 5:8b

5. To walk with God is to have direction and a destination regarding His kingdom.

* Seek you first the Kingdom of God...Matt. 6:33

The revelation about the man Enoch was that he walked with God!

II. The ministry of Enoch was a prophet: The interpretation. Jude 14-16

A. Enoch was a prophet of God.

* Now Enoch, the seventh from Adam, prophesied". Vs. 14a-c

1. The seventh from Adam distinguishes him from Cain's son Enoch. Gen. 4:17

2. The prophet of God was the mouthpiece of God.

a. To reveal the mind and will of God.

b. To rebuke and call to repentance sinners.

* "I have not sent you prophets, yet they ran. I have not spoken to them, yet they prophesied." Jer. 23:21

3. The prophet of God was not popular in a sinful world, as in all ages.

4. The world was only 787 years in existence if there are no gaps in Genesis five, when Enoch began to walk with God, at the birth of Methuselah.

5. The flood came in the six-hundred year of Noah's life, in the second month, on the seventeenth day, 1,656 years after creation, if there are no gaps. Gen. 7:11

6. The godly line is evident, Seth, Enoch, Lamech and Noah, who also walked with God. Gen. 6:9, 17:1

7. The general condition of the world in those ten generations, from Adam to Noah, just 1, 656 years of man's existence was that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually or all the day. Gen. 6:5

8. But the man Noah found grace in the eyes of the Lord. Gen. 6:8

B. Enoch prophesied about the Lord's second coming for judgment, being the seventh from Adam. Vs. 14d-15

* "Prophesied about these men also, saying, "Behold, the Lord comes with ten thousands of His saints 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.” Vs. 14c-15

1. If Jude had not qualified his judgment about the second coming of Christ, we would of interpreted it to mean the antediluvian judgment that destroyed the entire world, except for Noah, his sons and their wives.
2. But Jude tells us that Jesus comes with ten-thousands of His saints, His bride, at the second coming with a purpose.
 - a. To execute judgment on all, all those who are on the earth at His return, at the end of the Great-tribulation.
 - b. To convict “exelegcho” all who are ungodly, which means to convince and prove to be wrong.
 - 1) There are many today as will be in that day who do not believe they are wrong.
 - 2) The number of people who will be proven wrong by Jesus, will be all!
 - 3) The individuals will be convinced of their ungodliness, ungodly deeds committed in an ungodly way and of all the harsh things ungodly sinners have spoken.

* There is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are open and naked to the eyes of Him to whom we must give account, Jesus! Heb. 4:13

- C. Enoch describes the individuals who fall under God’s judgment. Jude 16
- * “These are grumblers, complainers, walking according to their own lusts; and they mouth great swelling words, flattering people to gain advantage” vs. 16
1. Those who grumble “goggustes” meaning a murmurer, one who discontentedly complains, against God.
 2. Those who complain “mempsimoiros” meaning complaining of one’s lot, querulous, discontented.
 3. Those who walk according to their own lusts “epithumia” which means self willed desires, cravings, longings, for what is forbidden.
 4. Those whose words are great swelling “huperogkos” extravagant to deceive and allure.
 5. Those who flatter “prosopon” people in order to gain advantage of them.
 - a. They are opportunists.
 - b. They are liars.
 - c. They are hypocrites.

- d. They are deceivers.
* They sound like politicians!

Illustration

One day Ahab gathered to himself 400 hundred false prophets that told him to go up to Gilead and God would deliver it to him. But King Jehosephat who had no business allying himself with him had enough good sense to ask if there was another prophet and he declared, Macaiah, but I hate him because he never prophesies good concerning me. So Macaiah was warn and pleaded to speak good and promised to speak whatever God said. So Macaiah proceeded to go along with the false prophets in a sarcastic way and the king told him to speak the truth and so he spoke how God had sent an evil spirit in the mouth of the prophets for his destruction. Then the king of Israel said, "Take Maciah, and return him to Amon the governor of the city and to Joash the king's son; and say, `Thus says the king: "Put this fellow in prison, and feed him with bread of affliction and water of affliction until I return in peace." Then Micaiah said, "If you ever return in peace, the LORD has not spoken by me." And he said, "Take heed, all you people!"`
2Chron. 18

Application

1. You and I as believers are the Lord's witnesses to this lost world.

* "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age. Amen." Matt. 28:19-20

2. You and I as believers are the only one's who know the absolute truth of the Coming of the Lord in judgment.

* "But concerning the times and the seasons, brethren, you have no need that I should write to you. For you yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so comes as a thief in the night. For when they say, "Peace and safety!" then sudden destruction comes upon them, as labor pains upon a pregnant woman. And they shall not escape. But you, brethren, are not in darkness, so that this Day should overtake you as a thief."

1Thess. 5:1-4

3. You and I as believers are the only ones who know that the only way to avert judgment is to repent from sin.

* "As it is written: "There is none righteous, no, not one; There is none who understands; There is none who seeks after God. They have all turned aside; They have together become unprofitable; There is none who does good, no, not one.... for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God."

Rom. 3:10-12, 23

4. You and I as believers are the only ones who can speak forth the truth of the word of God, being the mouthpiece of God, like the prophets of old.
* “Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, to which you were also called and have confessed the good confession in the presence of many witnesses.” 1Tim. 6:12

The interpretation about the ministry of Enoch was that he was a prophet!

III. The message of Enoch was the he lived a life of faith: The application. Heb. 11:5-6

A. Enoch was a man of faith. Vs. 5a

1. Faith is always based on what God has revealed to man.
 - a. The acknowledgment that there is a God.
 - b. The submission to the will of God.
 - c. The dependency on the strength of God.
2. Faith is not one's own ability to believe hard enough.
 - a. Biblical faith is not natural.
 - b. Biblical faith is imparted by God.
 - c. Biblical faith is embraced by man.
3. Faith is not just saying you believe in God.
 - a. Devils believe but they won't be in heaven.

- b. Devils at least tremble do you?
- c. Devil doctrines always reason or rationalize away compromise and judgment.

B. Enoch was translated due to his faith. Vs. 5a

1. Enoch was taken from the earthly scene and removed to the place of comfort, Hades or Sheol. Lk. 16:19-31
2. Enoch was the seventh from Adam, the number of completeness and perfection.
3. Enoch which means dedicated is a constant reminder that each of us is to be dedicated to walking with God on a daily basis.
4. Enoch is a picture to each of us, of eternal fellowship with God.
5. Enoch is a clear reminder that we are strangers and pilgrims on this earth. 1Pet. 2:11

C. Enoch did not see death by faith. Vs. 5a

1. Enoch is the only one who escaped death out of the ten generations listed in chapter five of Genesis.
2. Enoch is the first of two in the whole of Scripture who have not died physically but were translated, the other being Elijah. 2Kings 2
 - a. Some believe that they are the two witnesses in Revelation, since they

are the only two who have not died and it is stated that it is appointed unto man to die once and after that the judgment. Rev. 11, Heb. 9:27

- b. Physical death is the separation of the spirit from the body and to be clothed with our new bodies. 2Cor. 5:1-8
- c. Spiritual death is the separation of man from the presence of God for all eternity in utter darkness in Gehenna or the Lake of Fire, this is the second death. Rev. 20:14-15

D. Enoch was translated by God by faith. Vs. 5b

- 1. This is the promise of Jesus to His disciples the very night before His betrayal that He would come again to receive them to Himself. Jn. 14:1-3
- 2. This is the blessed hope of the church, the glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ. Tit. 2:13
- 3. This is the meeting of our love ones in the clouds who have died physically before us as we are caught up at the trump of God together with them in the air, in order to always be with the Lord. 1Thess. 4:15-17
 - a. The word for caught up “harpazo” means to snatch up violently or

suddenly and consistently out of the thirteen times it appears in Scripture.

- b. The word also demonstrates a geographical relocation of persons or things from one place to another six out of the thirteen times used.
 - 1) The seed in the parable of the Sower was “harpazo” to the air by the birds. Matt. 13:19
 - 2) Philip was “harpazo” from the baptism of the Ethiopian Eunuch to Azotos. Acts 8:39
 - 3) Paul was “harpazo” to the third heaven or Paradise when he was stoned at Lystra. 2Cor. 12:2, 4
 - 4) Jesus the man child was ‘harpazo’ up to God. Rev. 12:5

E. Enoch had a testimony of faith that was pleasing God before he was translated. Vs. 5c-d

- 1. He walked with God.
- 2. He willed to do the will of God.
- 3. He worked the works of God.
- 4. He worshipped God.
- 5. He was welcomed into the presence of God.

F. Enoch left us the principle of life with God. Vs. 6

1. It is impossible to please God apart from faith, trusting God's revelation of Himself and man. Heb. 11:6a
2. For he who comes to God must believe that He is, that He is the Creator and Redeemer of mankind, the Eternal God. Heb. 11:6b
3. And that He is the rewarder of those who diligently seek Him, according to faith in His revelation and obedience, for He sees the heart and rewards accordingly. Heb. 11:6c

Illustration

Sometimes I'm sad, I know not why
 My heart is sore distressed;
 It seems the burdens of this world
 Have settled on my heart.
 And yet I know...I know that God
 Who doeth all things right
 Will lead me thus to understand
 To walk by FAITH....not SIGHT.
 And though I may not see the way
 He's planned for me to go,..
 The way seems dark to me just
 But oh, I'm sure He knows!
 Today He guides my feeble step
 Tomorrow's in His right...
 He has asked me to never fear...
 But walk by FAITH...not SIGHT.
 Some day the mists will roll away,

The sun will shine again.
 I'll see the beauty in the flowers,
 I'll hear the birds refrain,
 And then I'll know my Father's hand
 Has led the way to light
 Because I placed my hand in His
 And walked by FAITH...not SIGHT.
 Ruth A. Morgan #1497

Application

1. Faith is believing whole heartedly with all trust and confidence on what God has revealed in His word, it is the substance of things hoped for the evidence of things not seen. Heb. 11:1
 - a. God's revelation was at times understood and at other times is wasn't. 1Pet. 1:10-12
 - b. God's revelation does not have to be understood by man at all times nor is it possible to. Rom. 11:33-36
2. Enoch is a type of the church that will be raptured prior to the judgment that is coming to this world known as the tribulation and Great Tribulation. 1Thess. 4:13-18
3. The life of faith is ready to remain or to go and be with Christ.
 * "For to me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain. But if I live on in the flesh, this will mean fruit from my labor; yet what I shall choose I cannot tell. For I am hard pressed between the two, having a desire to depart and be with Christ, which is far

better. Nevertheless to remain in the flesh is more needful for you.” Phil. 1:21-24

4. The believer is called to live a life of faith.

* “I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.” Gal. 2:20

The application of the message of Enoch was that he lived a life of faith!

Conclusion

Enoch has yielded to us great truths as we have studied him from a three-fold lens.

- I.** The revelation about the man Enoch was that he walked with God!
- II.** The interpretation about the ministry of Enoch was that he was a prophet!
- III.** The application of the message of Enoch was that he lived a life of faith!