

<u>The Book of GENESIS</u> <u>Chapter 5</u> "From Adam To Noah—Enoch & The Rapture!"

> Key #1 – HISTORY! - (v1-20) The Godly Genealogy of Adam!

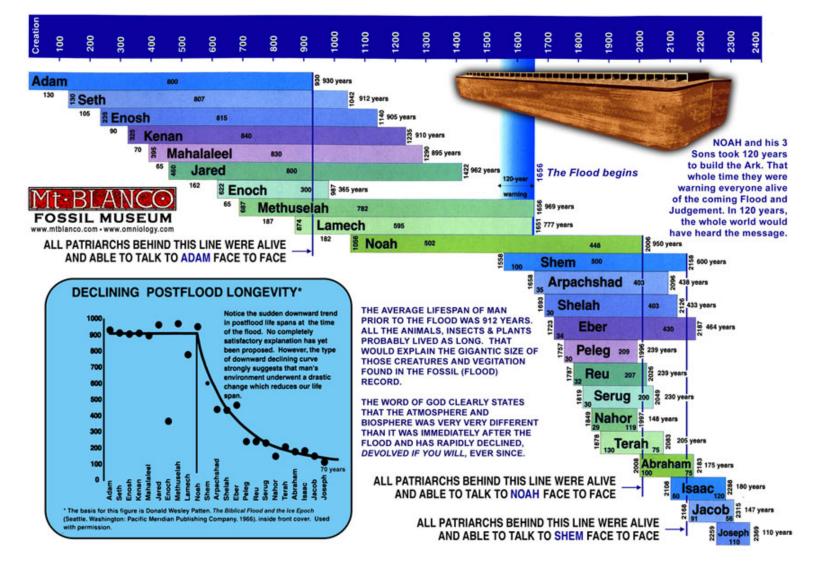
- How did people live so long? Ken Ham from *"Answers in Genesis"* writes, "Genesis 1:6-7 mentions "waters above," a "canopy" of water that surrounded the earth. Such a "water canopy"

would have created a "greenhouse effect" on the entire earth, and would have blocked much of the radiation that now hits the earth. This would have resulted in ideal living conditions on the earth. This seems especially so considering how quickly the lifespans began to shrink after the Flood. Genesis 7:11 likely indicates that, in the Flood, the "water canopy" was poured out on the earth, ending the ideal living conditions. Compare the ages before the Flood (Genesis 5:1-32) with the ages after the Flood (Genesis 11:10-32). Immediately have the Flood, the ages decreased dramatically.

Another factor to consider is that in the first few generations after Creation, the human genetic code had not developed many defects. Adam and Eve were created perfect. They were surely highly resistant to diseases and illnesses. Their descendants would have inherited these advantages, albeit to lesser degrees. Over time, though, as a result of sin, the human genetic code became increasingly corrupted, and human beings became more and more susceptible to death and disease. This would have resulted in a drastically reduced lifespan."

- Easily this HISTORY OF MANKIND can be REMEMBERED, PASSED ON AND MEMORIALIZED!

Listen to Dr. Henry Morris, "Taking the recorded ages at face value, it is interesting to note that <u>Adam lived until</u> <u>Lamech, the father of Noah</u>, was fifty-six years old, and <u>Noah was born only fourteen years after the death of</u> <u>Seth</u>. Most likely, the oldest of the living patriarchs maintained the primary responsibility for preserving and promulgating God's Word to his contemporaries." (Take a look at the chart.)



> Key #2 – MYSTERY! - (v21-24) Enoch – A Type of the Church in the RAPTURE!

~ IMPORTANT DOCTRINE – "THE LAW OF FIRST MENTION": The first "RAPTURE" is found in the Old Testament with Enoch, before God's WRATH was poured out on a fully corrupted world at the time of the flood with Noah (this judgment comes in Genesis Ch. 6 – 7). God always removes His people before His wrath is poured out; another example is Lot being removed from Sodom and Gomorrah.

- OBSERVATION in verse 23:

~ "he was not," meaning he no longer existed, that is on earth!

~ "for God took him," which means "to take away." (Notice after each person's life we find it says, "<u>and he</u> <u>died</u>," <u>but not so with Enoch</u>, "he was not, for God took him.")

- The New Testament confirms this RAPTURE in Hebrews 11:5-6 - <u>By faith Enoch was taken away so</u> 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. But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.

> <u>CONFIRMATION of the Rapture of the Church in 1 Thessalonians 4:13-5:11:</u>

- <u>The Comfort of Christ's Coming (the Rapture)</u>: (4:13-18) But I do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning those who have fallen asleep, lest you sorrow as others who have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who sleep in Jesus. For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord will by no means precede those who are asleep. For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. <u>Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up</u> together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord. <u>Therefore comfort one another with these words</u>.

- <u>The Day of the Lord (the Tribulation)</u>: (5:1-11) 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. You are all sons of light and sons of the day. We are not of the night nor of darkness. Therefore let us not sleep, as others do, but let us watch and be sober. For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk are drunk at night. But let us who are of the day be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love, and as a helmet the hope of salvation. For God did not appoint us to wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, that whether we wake or sleep, we should live together with Him. Therefore comfort each other and edify one another, just as you also are doing.

- Jesus gave hope and comfort to the faithful Church of Philadelphia in Revelation 3:7-13 - "And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write, 'These things says He who is holy, He who is true, "He who has the key of David, He who opens and no one shuts, and shuts and no one opens": "I know your works. See, I have set before you an open door, and no one can shut it; for you have a little strength, have kept My word, and have not denied My name. Indeed I will make those of the synagogue of Satan, who say they are Jews and are not, but lie — indeed I will make them come and worship before your feet, and to know that I have loved you. Because you have kept My command to persevere, I also will keep you from the hour of trial which shall come upon the whole world, to test those who dwell on the earth. Behold, I am coming quickly! Hold fast what you have, that no one may take your crown. He who overcomes, I will make him a pillar in the temple of My God, and he shall go out no more. I will write on him My new name. "He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.""

- In verse 10 Jesus said He will not allow His church to go through the "<u>HOUR OF TRIAL</u>" - Also known as the "*The Great Tribulation*" (Mt. 24:21); & "*The Time of Jacob's Trouble*" (Jer. 30:7); "*Daniel's Seventieth Week*" (Dan. 9:25-27). True Christians will not go through this event, but will be *raptured* to heaven! (Matt. 24:36-51; Matt. 25:1-13; John 14:1-4; 1 Cor. 15:51-54; 1 Thess. 4:13-17) In the Old Testament during the time of *Noah* (Genesis Ch. 5 & 6) we see a preview of the "rapture" when *Enoch* was taken off the earth before <u>God's judgment</u> came through the flood.

- In verse 11 Jesus said, "<u>BEHOLD I COME QUICKLY</u>!" – The Greek word for "<u>QUICKLY</u>" is tachu (takhoo'); meaning shortly, i.e. without delay, soon, or (by surprise) suddenly, or (by implication, of ease) readily. Our Lord's statement continues to confirm the <u>doctrine of imminence</u>, that is, <u>Christ coming for His church at any</u> <u>moment</u>.

> <u>FOUR STEPS TO WALKING WITH GOD</u>:

#1 – We like ENOCH HAVE <u>FAITH!</u> - Rom 10:8-13 - But what does it say? "The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart" (that is, the word of faith which we preach): that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, <u>you will be saved</u>. For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. For the Scripture says, "Whoever believes on Him will not be put to shame." For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek, for the same Lord over all is rich to all who call upon Him. For "whoever calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved." (cp. Genesis 4:26 - And as for Seth, to him also a son was born; and he named him Enosh. <u>Then men began to call on the name of the LORD.</u>) Romans 10:17 - So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

#2 – We like ENOCH ARE TO <u>PLEASE GOD</u>! – How do we please God? We <u>continue</u> to live by faith in God! - 1 John 5:4-5 - For whatever is born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world — our faith. <u>Who is he who overcomes the world, but he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God</u>?

#3 – We like ENOCH <u>WALK WITH GOD!</u> (Gen. 5:22,23). > Let's walk with God: Romans 6:4 – Walk in the <u>NEWNESS</u> OF LIFE! Romans 13:13 – Walk <u>PROPERLY</u>! Galatians 5:16-25 – Walk in the <u>SPIRIT</u>! Ephesians 5:2 – Walk in <u>LOVE</u>! 1 John 1:5-7 – Walk in the LIGHT!

#4 – We like ENOCH must be <u>PROPHETS OF GOD!</u> Jude 14-15 - Now Enoch, the seventh from Adam, prophesied about these men also, saying, "<u>Behold, the Lord comes with ten thousands of His saints</u> (cp. Rev. 19:11-20), to <u>execute judgment on all</u>, to <u>convict all who are ungodly</u> among them of <u>all their ungodly deeds</u> which they have committed in <u>an ungodly way</u>, and of all the harsh things which <u>ungodly sinners have spoken</u> against Him."

- The church, all believers walking with God will also be raptured (Mt. 24:36-42; 25:1-13; 1 Thess. 4:13-18; 1 Cor. 15:51-57; Rev. 3:7-13), like Enoch before the wrath of God is poured out during the Great Tribulation (Mt. 24:21).

<u>> Key #3 – SIMPLICTY! - (v1-32)</u> Salvation From Adam to Noah! <u>- WHAT'S IN A NAME? The names of this genealogy from Adam to Noah unveils God's SALVATION:</u>

~ The first name, <u>Adam</u>, comes from *adomah*, and means "man." As the first man, that seems straightforward enough. Adam's son was named <u>Seth</u>, which means "appointed." When he was born Eve said, "For God hath appointed me another seed instead of Abel, whom Cain slew."

~ Seth's son was called <u>Enosh</u>, which means "mortal," "frail," or "miserable." It is from the root anash: to be incurable; used of a wound, grief, woe, sickness, or wickedness. (It was in the days of Enosh that men began to defile the name of the Living God.)

~ Enosh's son was named Kenan, from which can mean "sorrow," dirge," or "elegy."

~ *Kenan's* son was *Mahalalel*, from *mahalal*, which means *"blessed" or "praise"*; and *El*, the name for God. Thus, Mahalalel means *"the Blessed God."* Often Hebrew names included *El*, the name of God, as Dani-el, *"God is my Judge,"* Nathani-el, *"Gift of God,"* etc.

~ *Mahalalel's* son was named <u>Jared</u>, from the verb *yaradh*, meaning "shall come down." Some authorities suggest that this might have been an allusion to the "Sons of God" who "came down" to corrupt the daughters of men, resulting in the Nephilim ("Fallen Ones") of Genesis 6.

~ Jared's son was named <u>Enoch</u>, which means "teaching," or "commencement." Enoch was the first of four generations of preachers. The Flood of Noah did not come as a surprise. It had been preached on for four generations. But something strange happened when Enoch was 65, from which time "he walked with God." Enoch was given a prophecy that as long as his son was alive, the judgment of the flood would be withheld; but as soon as he died, the flood would be sent forth. Enoch named his son to reflect this prophecy. The name <u>Methuselah</u> comes from two roots: muth, a root that means "death"; and from <u>shalach</u>, which means "to bring," or "to send forth." Thus, the name Methuselah signifies, "his death shall bring." And, indeed, in the year that Methuselah died, the flood came.

~ Methuselah was 187 when he had Lamech, and lived 782 years more.

 \sim *Lamech* had *Noah* when he was 182. The Flood came in Noah's 600th year. 187 + 182 + 600 = 969, <u>Methuselah's age when he died</u>. It is interesting that Methuselah's life was, in effect, a symbol of God's mercy in forestalling the coming judgment of the flood. It is therefore fitting that his lifetime is the oldest in the Bible, symbolizing the extreme extensiveness of God's mercy. Methuselah's son was named <u>*Lamech*</u>, a root still evident today in our own English word, "lament" or "lamentation." *Lamech* suggests "*despairing.*"

~ *Lamech*, of course, is the father of <u>Noah</u>, which is derived from *nacham*, "to bring relief" or "comfort," as Lamech himself explains (Genesis 5:29-30 - "This one will comfort us concerning our work and the toil of our hands, because of the ground which the LORD has cursed.").

> The Composite List (let's put it all together):

Hebrew	English
Adam	Man
Seth	Appointed
Enosh	Mortal
Kenan	Sorrow
Mahalalel	The Blessed God
Jared	Shall come down
Enoch	Teaching
Methuselah	His death shall bring
Lamech	The despairing
Noah	Rest, or comfort

> Could the gospel message of salvation be prophetically found in these ten names up to the judgment of the flood? Let's put it together,

"Man appointed mortal sorrow, the blessed God shall come down teaching, and His death shall bring the despairing rest and comfort."