



## Enoch Walked with God

**Genesis 5:22-24** -- Then Enoch walked with God three hundred years after he became the father of Methuselah, and he had other sons and daughters. So all the days of Enoch were three hundred and sixty-five years. And Enoch walked with God; and he was not, for God took him.

### Introduction

1. The story of the life of Enoch seems almost too short for such an extraordinary individual. We are introduced to a very special man, made even more so in the unusual termination of his life, but we are seemingly told little about him.
2. He is a true example of what men ought to be in whatever time they live. He appeared to hold the secret of true living, yet that secret is not passed on.
3. Or is it? Looking more closely at just what little is used to describe his life it speaks volumes in the summation of what is true living.

### A. Enoch's Walk

1. Although we might attribute greater qualities to Enoch than to us, there is nothing to indicate that he was different from us other than in the choices he made and the course he followed.
2. He had a time of growing up to do. Note that it was said that he walked with God AFTER "he became the father of Methuselah."
3. His walk was also not literal in the sense that he walked the garden as did his ancestor Adam, but rather figuratively as we must also do today.
4. Nor was it a life of "austerity or contemplation, removed from interests or cares of the world." Rather in spite of. He lived in the same world as Noah, where evil was escalating to the point of the thoughts of each man's heart was only evil continually. His son Methuselah would die in the time of the flood.
5. In many other ways Enoch's life would parallel Noah's. Since it is said that Noah also walked with God, Enoch too must have been righteous and blameless, and did all God commanded him.

**Genesis 6:9** -- ... Noah was a righteous man, blameless in his time; Noah walked with God.

**Genesis 7:5** -- And Noah did according to all that the Lord had commanded him.

6. In this, Enoch and Noah then are no different than we are supposed to be:

**Titus 2:11-12** -- For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all men, instructing us to deny ungodliness and worldly desires and to live sensibly, righteously and godly in the present age.

**Philippians 2:15** -- That you may prove yourselves to be blameless and innocent, children of God above reproach in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you appear as lights in the world.

**Matthew 28:20** -- Teaching them to observe all that I commanded you...

7. The term "to walk with God" is also found among the prophets. Note what Micah writes adding the word "humble" as part of this walk.

**Micah 6:8** -- He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

8. The Hebrew writer also adds something else about Enoch's walk. It was pleasing to God. This is something expected as the main focus also of our living.

**Hebrews 11:5** -- By faith Enoch was taken up so that he should not see death; and he was not found because God took him up; for he obtained the witness that before his being taken up he was pleasing to God.

*Ephesians 5:8,10 -- ...But now you are light in the Lord; walk as children of light... trying to learn what is pleasing to the Lord.*

9. Nor was Enoch's walk merely a reflexive one, letting the world do its thing while he stood idly by. If his walk was as Noah's then he engaged the world head on. And for sure, this is what Jude explains about Enoch's life work. From Jude we learn that he was one of, if not the first, of the prophets.

*2 Peter 2:5 -- ... Noah, a preacher of righteousness...*

*Jude 14-15 -- And about these [Those who indulge in gross immorality (v.7); who defile the flesh, reject authority, and revile angelic majesties (v.8); and have gone the way of Cain, erred like Balaam, rebelled like Korah (v.11)] also Enoch, in the seventh generation from Adam, prophesied, saying, "Behold, the Lord came with many thousands of His holy ones, to execute judgment upon all, and to convict all the ungodly of all their ungodly way, and of all the harsh things which ungodly sinners have spoken against Him."*

10. One last thing to note about Enoch's walk is that it was to the end. It was consistent for it lasted for 300 years. Far longer than required of us. This consistency to the end is what is expected of us. Note John's comments to the church at Smyrna.

*Revelation 2:10 -- ... But be faithful unto death!*

11. So then we see that Enoch's life is truly no different than our own should be. But what about the reward... his being taken up? Is it something to be expected, or more special than dying? Noah died even though he walked with God.

## **B. Enoch's Passing**

1. Although the manner of Enoch's end of life is different, it is not too different. The same words used to mark his passing are those that also describe the going of Elijah. Elijah "was taken" as Enoch "was taken." So the experience is not unique.

*2 Kings 2:3,5,9-10 -- ...No it came about when they had crossed over, that Elijah said to Elisha, "Ask what I shall do for you before I am taken from you." And Elisha said, "Please, let a double portion of your spirit be upon me." And he said, "You have asked a hard thing. Nevertheless, if you see me when I am taken from you, it shall be so for you; but if not, it shall not be so."*

2. And though Enoch's passing is distinguished, it does not imply that he was flawless. Elijah was a man of passions and problems like we are.

*James 5:17 -- Elijah was a man with a nature like ours, and he prayed earnestly...*

3. Enoch's passing is referred to in some versions of the Bible and by some commentators as a "translation." He did not die physically. In a long list of people whose lives are terminated with the expression "and he died", Enoch's life is refreshingly different. His name means "initiated, dedicated." His life dedicated to God initiated a whole different type of living in which the spirit does not die, but like all God's children, merely is translated into glory, to go on living to please God. In this way Noah, Abraham, Moses and other Old and New Testament worthies are "taken" by God.
4. And we can be too, if we are righteous, blameless, obedient unto death to God's commands, humble, confrontational to evil, praying earnestly and seeking to please the Lord in everything.