

The Faith of Enoch

Gen 5:21-24; Heb 11:5; Jude 14-15

Introduction:

1. There were giants in the land in those days (Gen 6:4)
 - a. They appeared in the godless line of Cain
 - b. They were giants of knowledge, strength and wickedness
2. But there were other giants as well
 - a. Unheralded, and unsung, mighty men of God
 - b. Giants of the faith like Noah and Enoch
3. Enoch
 - a. Enoch is only mentioned 5x in Scripture and
 - b. Two of those are just listings in genealogies
 - c. Interestingly, more is said of Enoch in the NT than in the OT
 - d. Jude 14 says that Enoch was the seventh from Adam
 1. Adam → Seth → Enos → Cainan → Mahalaleel → Jared → Enoch
 2. Enoch was born approx 600 yrs after Adam was created
 - He was born about 1000 yrs before the flood
 - He was born about 1400 yrs before Abraham
 - He was the great-grandfather of Noah
 3. Everyone else in Gen 5 died -- “and he died”, but not Enoch
 - e. His name means dedicated, initiator and teacher
 1. He totally dedicated his life to God
 2. He initiated or began a deeper kind of walk with God
 3. He taught others of the life and walk that pleases God
 - f. Enoch gave his life so completely to God – so that he had a very special relationship with God

I. Enoch's Times – Gen 5:21-23 ←

A. Times of Great Mental Activity

1. Enoch's days overlapped with Noah's and displayed the same features
2. Cain, the vagabond, conceived the idea of gathering people together into cities
3. Many left their rural lifestyles to live in the cities
4. Great cities attract talent and breed crime
5. All fields of human endeavor experienced tremendous innovations and growth
6. Science, engineering and technology took gigantic strides and produced the skills that would be needed to build the ark
7. God allowed man to grow and fill their houses with good things, but the people told God to be gone

B. Times of Great Material Prosperity

1. They were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage - legitimate things that were blighted by their unbelief
2. They were living life

C. Times of Moral Depravity

1. Gen 6:11 - the earth ... was corrupt.
2. Many employed their imaginative powers to devise wicked pleasures and pastimes
3. Their every thought was evil

D. Times of Monumental Apostasy

1. The godly line dwindled to the sum of one man's family
2. The Cainites abandoned all pretense of religion
3. Of the dozen names in the line of Cain listed in the record, only two had any reference to God - Mehujael and Methusael
4. Those listed in the godly line help us see how godliness was kept alive on earth despite the increasing wickedness of the Cainites and the dwindling number of Sethites

E. This is a Picture of Our Day

1. We live in a day of great mental activity
2. We live in a day of great material prosperity
3. We live in a day of moral depravity
4. We live in times of monumental apostasy

II. Enoch's Testimony

A. His Testimony Godward

1. He Pleas'd God – Heb 11:5
5 By faith Enoch was translated that he should not see death; and was not found, because God had translated him: for before his translation he had this testimony, that he pleased God.
 - a) *Something happened at the birth of Methuselah that caused him to turn to God*
 - b) *Henry Brant told of a Christian lawyer who once had no interest in the things of God. He was not an evil person but an indifferent one. Then something happened that changed his life. His eight year old daughter drowned in their pool and he said, "I turned to God because, for the first time in my life, I faced something I could not handle."*
 - c) *Methuselah – "When he dies, it shall come"*
 - d) *From that time Enoch began pleasing God*

- e) *Could it be that God gave Enoch a special revelation of coming judgment unless he and his fellow citizens repented*
- f) *It was Enoch's faith that pleased God*

Heb 11:6 *But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.*

- (1) His faith was demonstrated in his walking with God
- (2) Real faith is more than talk – it shows up in your walk
- (3) Real faith is interested in fellowship with God

2. **He Walked with God – Gen 5:24**

24 *And Enoch walked with God: and he was not; for God took him.*

- a) *Walking with God implies friendship*
- b) *Walking with God implies trust*
- c) *Walking with God implies intimacy*
- d) *Walking with God implies love*

B. His Testimony Manward – Jude 14-15

14 *And Enoch also, the seventh from Adam, prophesied of these, saying, Behold, the Lord cometh with ten thousands of his saints, 15 To execute judgment upon all, and to convince all that are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds which they have ungodly committed, and of all their hard speeches which ungodly sinners have spoken against him.*

1. **The Lord is Coming with His Saints – Jude 14b**

- a) *As apostasy increased, so Enoch preached more boldly*
- b) *This prophecy of the coming of the Lord and His judgment on the wicked was given early in the history of man*
- c) *The ungodly will someday face their ungodly deeds*

2. **The Lord is Coming to Execute Judgment – vs 15**

- a) *God gives ample warning of judgment*
- b) *He puts up the warning signs early*
- c) *When judgment comes no one can complain that God did not warn them*
- d) *If man perishes it is his own fault – he ignored the warning of God*
- e) *By naming his son Methuselah he set a date for the coming doom*
- f) *Not even the preaching of Enoch could stem the tide*
- g) *Wickedness was in the saddle, riding high and nothing could stop it but judgment*

C. Our Testimonies

- 1. Your testimony is important
- 2. Are you pleasing God?
- 3. Are you walking with God?
- 4. Does your life tell others that you are a believer?

III. Enoch's Translation – Gen 5:24; Heb 11:5

5 By faith Enoch was translated that he should not see death; and was not found, because God had translated him: for before his translation he had this testimony, that he pleased God.

24 And Enoch walked with God: and he was not; for God took him.

A. The Rapture of One Man

1. He was caught up in the twinkling of an eye, from family and friends
2. A voice for God was suddenly stilled on earth
3. The ungodly were doubtless glad that he was gone
4. It would save them from having to kill him
5. An ominous silence fell on the land until the voice of Noah rang out and the judgment finally fell
6. Only Elijah and Enoch left earth without tasting of death

B. The Rapture of a Multitude

1. The translation of Enoch is a picture of the rapture of believers that we expect someday
2. The next big thing on God's timetable is the rapture of believers
1Thess 4:13 But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope. 14 For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him. 15 For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep. 16 For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: 17 Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. 18 Wherefore comfort one another with these words.

Conclusion:

1. We live in dark days spiritually
2. More than ever, we need to walk with the Lord
3. Maintain your testimony

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21 And Enoch lived sixty and five years, and begat Methuselah: 22 And Enoch walked with God after he begat Methuselah three hundred years, and begat sons and daughters: 23 And all the days of Enoch were three hundred sixty and five years: