ENoch: The Man Who Walked With God
Genesis 5:21-24; Hebrews 11:5,6; Jude 14,15

The Old Testament provides us with many accounts of men who had great faith in God; men such as Noah.....Abraham...Moses.... Joseph....Elijah.....and Daniel.

In tonight's message we are going to be looking at the life of one of the lesser known men of great faith in the Old Testament. His name is Enoch.

Over the course of this message we are going to look at the three passages in the Bible that tell us about the life Enoch; one in the Old Testament and two passages in the New Testament.

Let's begin with the Old Testament passage. Please turn with me in your Bibles to Genesis chapter 5. And let's read verses 21-24.

Genesis 5:21-24 (NKJV)

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.
**INTRODUCTION**

*Genesis 5* is one of the truly remarkable passages in all the Bible. It is remarkable in the sense it covers a period of *1,500 years of history* in the span of just 32 short verses.

One by one as if a bell were tolling off each generation we read:

- **ADAM** lived 930 years........he fathered children......and he died.
- **SETH** lived 912 years...........he fathered children......and he died.
- **ENOSH** lived 905 years........he fathered children......and he died.
- **CAINAN** lived 910 years.......he fathered children......and he died.
- **MAHALELEL** lived 895 years.....he fathered children...and he died.
- **JARED** lived 962 years..........he fathered children......and he died.

And then all of the sudden the life and death cycle is broken and the toll of the death bell is silent.

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

Enoch lived, but he never died. He is one of only two men in all of history to never experience death; the prophet Elijah being the other. I'll say more about this later.

There are three things about Enoch's life I would like to highlight in this message.
First of all........

I. Enoch WALKED With GOD (vs.22, 24a)

v. 22 After he begot Methuselah, Enoch walked with God three hundred years, and had sons and daughters.

v. 24a And Enoch walked with God.

1. We aren't given a whole lot of information about Enoch's background like where he was born and raised or what he did for a living. But there are a couple of things about Enoch's family that are especially noteworthy.

   For one thing, Enoch fathered Methuselah. Now if you are a student of the Old Testament you know Methuselah lived to be 969 years old, making him the oldest man who ever lived.

   The second thing to note is if you follow Enoch's bloodline here in Genesis 5 you will discover in verse 29 that Enoch was the great-grandfather of NOAH.

2. Now notice in verse 21 Enoch was 65 years old when Methuselah was born, and verse 22 tells us after Methuselah's birth, Enoch walked with God three hundred years.

3. The implication is that Enoch did not walk with God the first 65 years of his life. What was it about the birth of Methuselah that caused Enoch to turn to God in faith?

   It may actually have something to do with the name Enoch gave his son. The name Methuselah means, “When he is gone, it will come.”
4. Sounds mysterious doesn't it? “When he is gone, IT will come.” What does that mean?

Well, if you do the math you will discover that Methuselah died the very same year of the Great Flood.

Apparently God gave Enoch the understanding that the death of his son Methuselah would signal the destruction of the world. “When he is gone, it will come.”

5. Any way, Enoch's life completely changed after Methuselah was born. Enoch walked with God the remaining three hundred years of his life.

6. Now what does it mean when it says “Enoch walked with God?”

   (A) To “walk with God” means to live a life that is PLEASING to GOD.

   The apostle Paul wrote this about Enoch in Hebrews 11:5b (NKJV) “......he had this testimony, that he pleased GOD.”

   God will not walk with someone in whom He finds no pleasure, for what fellowship can righteousness have with unrighteousness? What fellowship can light have with darkness?

   Enoch “walked with God” in a time when no else was walking with God. Genesis 6 tells us that in the days Enoch lived leading up to the Great Flood, “that everything man thought or imagined was consistently and totally evil.” In fact, man was so displeasing to GOD He was sorry He ever created man. (Genesis 6:6)
But ENOCH was different. ENOCH pleased God. Enoch was friends with God. Enoch was intimately close to God.

-While every other human being was walking in unrighteousness, Enoch walked in righteousness.

-While every other man was walking in disobedience, Enoch walked in obedience.

AND GOD WAS PLEASED TO WALK WITH ENOCH!

I believe each of us needs to ask ourselves this soul-searching question: “Does God find pleasure in walking with me?” Am I living a life of righteousness and obedience that pleases God?

(B) To “walk with God” also means to live a life of FAITH.

Going back to Hebrews 11, right after Paul said “Enoch had this testimony, that he pleased God”......Paul goes on to say in the very next verse......VERSE 6 “But without FAITH it is impossible to PLEASE HIM, for he who comes to GOD must believe that He is, and He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.”

Imagine how much FAITH and COURAGE Enoch must have had to “walk with God” in a time when no one else believed in God.
There were NO BIBLES in those days. There were NO FELLOW BELIEVERS to fellowship with. There were NO PROPHETS or preachers proclaiming the word of GOD. And yet Enoch WALKED BY FAITH IN GOD.

Like Enoch, we are living in a day and time when fewer and fewer people are truly walking with GOD. Jesus says in Luke 18:8, “When the Son of Man comes, will He really find faith on the earth?”

We must live each moment of each day with a constant awareness of the presence of GOD with us and in us in the form of His Holy Spirit. WE MUST WALK BY FAITH IN GOD.

(C) To “walk with God” also means to have a close RELATIONSHIP with GOD.

Imagine taking a walk down a country lane with the love of your life. You are talking, and smiling, and laughing. You listen to one another and share your hearts with one another. Your attention is totally focused on the one you love and their attention is totally focused on you. The two of you are in complete harmony as you walk together.

That is how we should “walk with God.” Our hearts should long for those daily walks with God when we listen to His voice as we read His word, and as we talk with Him in prayer.

And we should love those daily walks with God so much that the thought of even missing a day without Him breaks our hearts.

ENOCHE WALKED WITH GOD!
Secondly, I would have you to consider....

II. **Enoch WENT TO BE With GOD (v.24 and Hebrews 11:5,6)**

Genesis 5:24 (NKJV)  And Enoch walked with God; and he was not, for God took him.

Hebrews 11:5 (NKJV)  says it this way: “By faith ENOCH was taken away so that he did not see death, “and was not found, because GOD had taken him.”

1. Enoch lived **365 years** in this world. Now that seems like a really long time to us; but when you compare Enoch’s lifespan to all those who went before him who lived 800-900 years or more, Enoch was here a relatively short time.

2. But how long he was in this world is not nearly as important as how he left this world: “Enoch walked with God; and he was not for God took him.”

   I like the way Eugene Peterson says it in The Message:

   “Enoch walked steadily with God. And then one day he was simply gone: God took him.”

3. Normally the transference of the believer from the earth to heaven takes place in DEATH. “To be absent from the body is to be present with the Lord.” (II. Cor. 5:8)

   ENOCH was spared death. God simply “plucked” him out of the world and brought him into His presence. **NO DEATH......NO GOODBYES....NO FUNERAL SERVICE......NO GRAVE.** He simply “vanished” from the face of the earth.
4. That phrase “God took him” or “Enoch was taken away” means to “change places” or “translated.”

   It is the same as the Latin word “rapture” which means to be “caught up.”

5. What happened to Enoch is what is going to happen to all true believers who are alive when Christ comes back to get His Church.

   I Thessalonians 4:16,17 (NKJV) 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. (NOW LISTEN CAREFULLY) Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord.

6. Did anyone miss Enoch when he vanished? Absolutely! Hebrews 11:5 says, “and he was not found.” That implies there were those who looked for him but they couldn’t find him.

   If you and I are alive when Christ returns, people will miss us too. People will look for us, but they will not find us, because the LORD took us away from the earth.

   Enoch walked with God.
   Enoch went to be with God.

   And thirdly……
III. Enoch **WARNED** of The Coming Judgment of **GOD** (Jude vs. 14,15)

Please turn with me to the **Book of Jude**, the second to last book in the Bible.

Let's read **verses 14,15**.....

14 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.”

1. Remember earlier I told you Enoch lived in the days just prior to the flood. In fact he died just 70 years before the birth of Noah.

2. But the warning of Enoch recorded here in the Book of Jude has nothing to do with God's first world-wide judgment of the flood. Instead it points to the future judgment of the world at the time of Christ's second coming.

3. Notice in **verse 14** Enoch prophesies: “**Behold, the Lord comes with ten thousands of His saints.**” You and I will be in that great multitude on that day. We will accompany the LORD when He comes to execute His judgment upon all the ungodly who scoffed at Him and rejected Him.

4. These are the prophetic words of **The Man Who Walked with God, and was no more, because God took him.**
ILLUSTRATION

One day a little girl came home from Church and her mother asked her what she had learned in Sunday School that morning.

The little girl said, “Our teacher told us about a man named Enoch and how he walked with God.” The mother said, “Well tell me about this Enoch.”

The little girl told the story something like this: “It seems every day God would come by and say to Enoch, 'Enoch, would you like to walk with Me today?’” And Enoch would come out of his house and he would go take a walk with God. He got to the place he enjoyed walking with God so much that he would be waiting at the gate of his house every day, and God would come by and say, “Enoch, let’s go take a walk.

Then one day God came and said, “Enoch, let’s go for a long walk. So they walked and they walked, on and on, until it was late afternoon. Enoch told God, “It’s getting late, I better go home.” And God said to Enoch, Enoch, you are closer to My home than you are to yours', why don't you just come on home with Me?” AND SO ENOCH WENT HOME WITH GOD THAT DAY.

I don’t know that you can put it any better than that: ENOCH WENT HOME WITH GOD THAT DAY!

One day you and I will GO HOME WITH GOD. We may go home with him at the time of our death or we may go home with Him alive when Christ comes to get His Church.

Until that day, LET US WALK WITH GOD.