

The Secret of Walking with God

Opening Scripture: Genesis 5:22-24

*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.***

Genesis 5 is an interesting chapter because it is a chapter of biographies. There are 10 biographies in that one chapter, covering about 900 years. Interestingly however, not a great deal is said about most of those 10 people. No great volumes were written about them - except that they lived, beget children and then they died. The first 6 biographies all end with these words “*and he died*”.

Nothing is mentioned about great personal achievements, possessions they might have had, remarkable acts, or something they were to be remembered for. Nothing.

However, the 7th biography is different. It is the biography of Enoch, and it doesn't end with the words, “*and he died*” but rather that “*he was not, for God took him*”. Hebrews 11:5 explains that *Enoch did not see death*.

Enoch was a unique man because he didn't die. His biography was also unique because unlike the others, it does mention something powerful about him: *Enoch walked with God*. Now that is something worth recording!

So many of the things we find important in life, so many of the things we attach value even, have little or no eternal weight. To walk with God, however, is a powerful thing!

1. One of the earliest revelations that God gives us of Himself in the Bible, is of a God who desires to walk with us!

Right from the beginning God came to walk with man. That is the earliest picture He gives us of Himself, after He created the earth:

- **Genesis 3:8** says that Adam walked with God in the cool of the day.
- 7 generations later, in **Genesis 5**, Enoch walked with God.
- Noah, his descendent, also walked with God (**Genesis 6:9**).
- A few generations later, God told Abraham “*Walk before Me*” (**Genesis 17:1**). In **chapter 24** Abraham said, “*The Lord before whom I walk*” ...
- Many hundreds of years later, at a time when many of God's people weren't following Him, the prophet Hosea declares:

“Judah still walks with God, even with the One Who is faithful” (**Hosea 11:12**)

I don't know if you know what God wants to do with you but to put it very simply, He wants to walk with you.

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

God wants to walk with you. It is that simple. His requirements are brief and simple.

2. The simplicity of walking with God

Verse **24a:** *And Enoch walked with God*

I love the simplicity of that expression. It shows us the **uncomplicated picture of a man walking with his God**, journeying through life - not alone but enjoying companionship, dialogue, and intimacy with his Maker.

We need to recapture that simplicity. 2 Corinthians 11:3 mentions "*the simplicity that is in Christ.*" Maybe for some of us it is time to go back to the basics and recapture the beauty of that simplicity and walk with Him, hand in hand again.

3. The power of walking with God

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

That is such an unusual statement. Let me talk a little bit about the power of walking with God.

- a) I believe that when you walk with God you can expect the unusual to happen. You won't be confined to the mundane. (Elijah was someone who had a similar experience and was taken up to the presence of God without the experience of physical death).
- b) When you walk with God you can expect His favour and protection. The enemy will not prevail against you. There is a power of walking with God. One of the reasons God may have taken Enoch out of the earth was because Chapter 6 says that wickedness multiplied across the earth. God preserved Enoch from that wickedness and the impending judgement that was to come.
- c) There is a fire that God ignites within you as you walk with Him. The disciples of Jesus on the road to Emmaus experienced that:

Luke 24:32 Living Bible - *They began telling each other how their hearts had felt strangely warm as He talked with them and explained the Scriptures during the walk down the road.*

4. The secret of walking with God

Enoch could have been just one name among the 9 other names in Genesis 5. He could have lived in an unremarkable way like most of the others did. However, because he

walked with God, he came to be mentioned in the book of Jude as a prophet and in the great gallery of the heroes of faith in Hebrews 11.

Hebrews 11:5-6 - *5 By faith Enoch was taken away so 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. 6 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.*

a) *“before he was taken away, he had this testimony”*

A footnote of the Passion Translation in Hebrews 11 says that this passage could be translated as follows: **“he had the reputation of pleasing God”**

Enoch gained himself **a reputation with God**. That is the power of walking with God!

b) *for before he was taken, he had this testimony, that he pleased God*

Before God took Him, Enoch had this testimony, this reputation, this thing he was known for: he pleased God.

- God was pleased because he walked in uninterrupted fellowship with Him.
- God was pleased because it takes obedience to walk with Him. Deuteronomy 10:12 says that to walk with Him is to walk in His ways. Enoch lived in alignment with God.
Amos 3:3 - *“How can two walk together unless they agree?”*
- God was pleased because the walk with God is a walk of faith.

“6. 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”.

Conclusion

Who have you got walking with you in the journey of life? Do you sometimes feel lonely and find yourself fighting battles in your own strength with no one to help? Have you walked and fallen without a hand to lift you up? Have you ever felt lost and without direction? In the journey of life we don't need to walk alone. There is a God who longs to walk with us.

2 Corinthians 6:16b: *As God has said: “I will dwell in them and walk among them. I will be their God, and they shall be My people.”*