



The Enoch Generation

Genesis 5:21-24

²¹Enoch lived sixty-five years, and begot Methuselah. ²²After he begot Methuselah, Enoch walked with God three hundred years, and had sons and daughters. ²³So all the days of Enoch were three hundred and sixty-five years. ²⁴And **Enoch walked with God**; and he *was not*, for God took him.

Hebrews 6:1

¹Therefore, leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us go on unto perfection.

Other scriptures

Hebrews 11:5 ⁵By 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. ⁶But 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."

Jude 14 ¹⁴Now Enoch, the seventh from Adam, prophesied about these men also, saying, "Behold, the Lord comes with ten thousands of His saints, ¹⁵to 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."

The writer of Hebrews encourages us to "go on" (Heb. 6:1), but progress in one's spiritual life demands that we admit that there is more than what we presently possess. It requires that we leave present comforts and securities, and venture into the unknown. Often it calls us to walk in opposition to social norms and cultural standards.

Enoch, whose name means "*dedicated*" was born during the 622nd year of Adam's 930 year lifespan. He was 65 and Adam was 687 when Methuselah was born. **It is then that Enoch's life takes on tremendous significance.** According to Genesis 5:22, Enoch began to walk with God after the birth of his son, Methuselah.

What was responsible for this change in Enoch's life?

What caused him to begin walking with God?

Was it the result of Adam's influence?

Had his grandfather, Mahalaleel, whose name means *praising God*, stirred Enoch with his praise? Again, what motivated Enoch to walk with God for 300 years?

THE ENVIRONMENT

Just one chapter later God looked and "*saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually*" (Gen. 6:5). How does a society come to such a condition? How does a person fall so low?

The first step toward hideous idolatry is the forsaking of God. A society must dethrone God before it can enthrone itself. While man takes the first step, evil takes the second. Morality, like nature, abhors a vacuum. When any belief is expelled, one is not left with neutrality. To the contrary, any time a world-view is evicted, another will replace it.

In the days of Manasseh, when Israel abandoned God, she made way for Moloch, the god of the Ammonites. The silence of the Jerusalem night was broken by the screams of Jewish children who were being bound to altars, or rolled

into the sacrificial fires from the brazen arms of Moloch. The valley where these sordid rituals were held was called Gehenna, or hell. We cannot abandon God without creating a living hell. Our current social scene presses this terrifying reality home with its unprecedented violence, ravaging drug addiction, and the flagrant moralizing of what God calls immorality.

THE ENCOUNTER

Jude tells us that Enoch was a *prophet* or *seer* and even quotes from a then known record of Enoch's prophecies. While we do not have a valid record of Enoch's utterances, Enoch did embed one of his prophecies in Methuselah's name: "*when he dies, it shall come*" or "*when he dies, it shall be sent.*" While we do not give canonical authority to the Book of Enoch, most scholars agree that Methuselah's name points toward the great flood that occurred in the days of Noah and at the death of Methuselah. In essence, when Methuselah died, the flood came.

Enoch's foreknowledge of the coming flood was the thing that precipitated his 300-year walk with God. The writer of Hebrews tells us, "*before he was taken he had this testimony, that he pleased God. But without faith it is impossible to please Him*" (Heb. 5, 6). The apostle Paul tells us "faith come by hearing and hearing by the word of God." In view of the fact that Enoch did not have a Bible, we must conclude that he had an encounter with God. It was this encounter that changed the direction of his life.

THE ONLY WAY THIS GENERATION CAN HAVE A TRUE TESTIMONY IS TO HAVE AN ENCOUNTER WITH GOD!!

THE ENDURANCE

Enoch's faith or **Word-persuaded heart** produced a 300-year walk with God. Every day for 300 years, Enoch walked with God. While the world around him slid deeper and deeper into wickedness, Enoch walked with God. Though friends and family ridiculed him, Enoch walked with God.

I'm not impressed with flash-in-the-pan loud mouths who don't know what the word commitment means. I'm not putting my money on super-spiritual idiots who think everybody else believes the lies they've told themselves. These two-faced hypocrites fail to realize that we don't need their flattery, so we don't buy their lies. I'm not impressed with men who can slam dunk a basketball from mid-court and yet have the morals of an alley cat. My apologies to the cat. I'm not impressed with people who can sing the glory down on Sunday night, but cuss a blue streak on Monday. I am impressed with people who have faithfully served God for the past fifty years. They've prayed when no one else showed up for the prayer meeting. They've washed the saints feet. They've prayed new believers through to the Baptism in the Holy Ghost. They've taken the enemies best shots and yet they're still standing.

Enoch's encounter with God lasted past Monday night. What he experienced and what he believed was so real that it kept him walking right for 300 years.

WE NEED A GENERATION THAT IS GOING TO ENDURE EVEN IN THE ONSLAUGHT OF HELL.

Enoch's walk lasted 300 years and that in a hostile environment.

ENDING - THE RAPTURE GENERATION

Of Adam, scripture says, "all the days that Adam lived were 930 years; and he died" (Gen. 5:5). Concerning Seth, we are told "all the days of seth were 912 years; and he died" (Gen. 5:8). Scripture tells us that Enosh, Cainan, Mahalalel, and Jared, Enoch's father all died. However, when we come to Enoch we are told, "So all the days of Enoch were 365 years. And Enoch walked with God; and he was not, for God took him" (Gen. 5:23-24). Everyone else in Enoch's tree died, but Enoch's life on earth and his walk with God ended in what we might term *a mini-rapture*—"he was not, for God took him."

I may be wrong and I'm certainly not attaching divine inspiration to this statement, but could Enoch be an OT picture of the generation that will see *HARPAZO* or the *rapture* of the Church? If so, then that generation will consist of people who have had a life changing encounter with God and who are consistently walking with Him in the midst of a hostile environment.

CONCLUSION

ENOC'S WALK

IT'S COMMENCEMENT – It began with an encounter.

IT'S CONSISTENCY – It lasted 300 years.

IT'S CONSUMMATION – "he was not, for God took him."

How's your walk coming? Have you started? Have you stopped to rest? Does the encounter you had need refreshing? Do you have enough heart persuasion to last 300 years? Has a decadent world influenced you? If we are to go on we need a fresh encounter with Almighty God.