

SERMON: THE MAN WHO WENT BACKWARD TO THE FUTURE

Genesis 5:24

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

Hebrews 11:5-6

(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. (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.

Introduction

Enoch towered above the men of his day and his life story impresses multitudes even today. This remarkable man's biography is contained in just a few verses in God's Holy Word: namely the two passages we have just read and in Jude 14-15. He is also mentioned in a genealogy in 1st Chronicles 1:3. Please don't forget that chapter five of Genesis is an important genealogy. It reveals a lot of spiritual and historical truth, but it is a genealogy.

Enoch was a man who went backward to the future.

We see versions of this paradoxical trend even today. Cd sales are decreasing rapidly while digital downloads and old-fashioned vinyl LPs are increasing exponentially in sales. Tower Records, the former entertainment power house, is back in business, after going belly-up years ago. They are again selling old fashioned records and traditional turntables. Now the younger generations will understand the figure of speech: "You sound like a broken record." Movie stars and entertainers arrive at award shows in horse-drawn carriages as they communicate with the latest version of the iPhone. It's amazing! In the recording industry, the old classic ribbon microphones are being used again with the latest versions of digital interfaces. They claim the old fashioned ribbon microphones have a "warmer" sound. So, like the actions of Enoch, there are related trends, going backward and forward, at the same time.

Enoch was a man who went back to the "Edenic" relationship with God while he became a type or foreshadow for things to come. Let's take a deeper look at Enoch.

Exposition

1. Enoch Was Surrounded By Gloom and Doom.

(There Was Sin and Corruption Everywhere.)

(The Results Of The Fall Were Vividly Apparent.)

(Adam Was Still Alive To See Firsthand The Mess He Had Made.)

(Universal Death Was Captured In Every Genealogy.)
(The Repetition Phrase: “And He Died.”)

2. Enoch Displayed Simple Goodness.

(He Did The Right Thing Without Fanfare.)
 (“It’s Just Right to Do Right.”)
 (He Tried To Get Others To See The Light.)

3. Enoch Walked With God.

(Enoch Experienced the Most Intimate Fellowship with God.)
 (Enoch Went Backward and Re-Discovered What Was Lost in Adam.)
 (Adam Walked With God in the Garden Before He Sinned.)

4. Enoch Displayed Exceptional Faith.

(Enoch Is Listed In The Faith Hall Of Fame.)
 (Enoch’s Faith Pleased God.)

5. Enoch’s Translation to Eternity Foreshadowed Our Rapture.

(Enoch Did Not See Death.)
 (Instead of a Grave He Saw Sudden Glory.)
 (Instead Of A Tomb There Was A Translation.)
 (Enoch Stopped The Cycle: “And He Died.”)
 (Under Grace the Righteous Shall Not See Death-John 8:51.)
 (Enoch Was the First Astronaut.)
 (He Did Not Land on the Moon-He Landed In Heaven.)
 (Elijah Was the Second Astronaut.)
 (During The Rapture All Christians Will Become Astronauts.)

Closing Thoughts

Every Christian can do just what Enoch did-walk with God and please Him. Let us walk with God; for there is no greater joy than knowing we have pleased our Great God. Give God Glory! Give God All the Glory!

Related Scriptures

Genesis 3:8; Amos 3:3

End Notes

1. The literal Hebrew says Enoch walked “side-by-side” with God.
 God is still leading but He will allow us to walk side-by-side with Him.
 So a literal translation for verse 24 goes like this: “And Enoch walked side-by-side with God and he disappeared and could not be found; for God took him away.”

2. Enoch lived at the beginning of the events that led to the flood. Enoch was born when Adam was 622 years old. Adam lived to reach the age of 930. If you draw a time line, you will see that Enoch lived concurrent with Adam for 308 years. I suspect Adam was the saddest man around when he saw the mess he had created with his disobedience.

3. I cannot help but think about the spiritual, *I Want Jesus To Walk With Me*.

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