Enoch: The Heavenly-Minded Messenger

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Key Passages

- •Genesis 5:21-22
- ·Genesis 5:22
- ·Genesis 5:22, 24
- ·Hebrews 11:5-6
- ·Jude 1:14-15

His Godly Heritage

Genesis 5:21-22 (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."

Genesis 5:22, (NKJV) 22 "After he begot Methuselah, Enoch walked with God three hundred years...."

Genesis 5:22, 24 (NKJV)

22 "After he begot Methuselah, Enoch walked with God three hundred years....

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

Jude 1:14-15 (NKJV) 14 "Now Enoch, the seventh from Adam, prophesied...."

He Pleased God

Hebrews 11:5-6 (NKJV) 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."

Key Points

- Godly genealogy
- Conversion
- Walk with God
- Work for God
- Where did he live?

- Sought deeper relationship with God
- He sought solitude
- Became heavenly minded
- He pleased God

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"He was one of the holy line, the preservers of the true faith, the progenitors of the promised seed. From the lips of Adam he had learned the dark story of the Fall, and the cheering one of God's grace as seen in the promise; and he relied upon the Redeemer to come. ...

But after the birth of his first son, Enoch reached a higher experience; he was drawn into a closer relationship with God. ... [A]s he saw the child's love for its father, its simple trust in his protection; as he felt the deep, yearning tenderness of his own heart for that first-born son, ...

he learned a precious lesson of the wonderful love of God to men in the gift of His Son, and the confidence which the children of God may repose in their heavenly Father. ...

The infinite, unfathomable love of God through Christ became the subject of his meditations day and night; and with all the fervor of his soul he sought to reveal that love to the people among whom he dwelt." Patriarchs and Prophets, p. 84.3

Genesis 5:22-24 (NKJV) 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."

"He did not become a hermit, shutting himself entirely from the world; for he had a work to do for God in the world. In the family and in his intercourse with men, as a husband and father, a friend, a citizen, he was the steadfast, unwavering servant of the Lord." Patriarchs and Prophets, p. 85.1

"It was in looking in faith to Jesus, in asking of Him, in believing that every word spoken would be verified, that Enoch walked with God. He kept close by the side of God, obeying His every word. . . . His was a wonderful life of oneness. Christ was his Companion. He was in *intimate* fellowship with God." Manuscript 11, 1898

"Wherever we are, we are to talk with God. This is the way Enoch walked with God. He talked with him. He recognized the Divine Presence." *General Conference Bulletin*, April 4, 1901, Art. A, par. 13

"We read that he walked with God. He studied the character of God to a purpose. He did not mark out his own course, or set up his own will, as if he thought himself fully qualified to manage matters. He strove to conform himself to the divine likeness." Letter 169, 1903

Deuteronomy 13:4 (NKJV) 4 "You shall walk after the Lord your God and fear Him, and keep His commandments and obey His voice; you shall serve Him and hold fast to Him."

Amos 3:3 (NKJV) 3 "Can two walk together, unless they are agreed?"

Jude 1:14-15 (NKJV) 14 "Now Enoch, the seventh from Adam, prophesied...."

"The Lord opened more fully to Enoch the plan of salvation, and by the spirit of prophecy carried him down through the generations which should live after the flood, and showed him the great events connected with the second coming of Christ and the end of the world." Signs of the Times, February 20, 1879, par. 4

"Enoch faithfully rehearsed to the people all that had been revealed to him by the spirit of prophecy. Some believed his words, and turned from their wickedness to fear and worship God. Such often sought Enoch in his places of retreat, and he instructed them, and prayed for them...." ST February 20, 1879, par. 6

Where did Enoch live?

A Separated Place

"Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you." 2 Corinthians 6:17

Away From The Cities

"As God's commandment-keeping people, we must leave the cities. As did Enoch, we must work in the cities but not dwell in them."

Maranatha, p. 184.2

Sought A Retired Place

"The question is asked, How shall we reach the people? As Enoch reached them. He did not live with them in close companionship lest he should become like them by hearing their godless words and their ambitions projects. ...

Sought A Retired Place

He had his retired place to commune with God, to walk with God. And when he came to the cities, he had a message to bear. ... Enoch came to cities, bore his testimony of warning and reproof, and [then] separated from the wicked to preserve his soul in righteousness...." Manuscript 233, 1902.13

Sought The Purest Place Possible

"He did not make his abode with the wicked. ... He placed himself and his family where the atmosphere would be as pure as possible. Then at times he went forth to the inhabitants of the world with his Godgiven message....

Sought The Purest Place Possible

Every visit he made to the world was painful to him. He saw and understood something of the leprosy of sin. After proclaiming his message, he always took back with him to his place of retirement some who had received the warning." Manuscript 42, 1900.10

Sought The Purest Place Possible

"Enoch did not take up his abiding place among them because the sight of the eyes and the hearing of the ears were dangerous to his family. He lived away in country places, retired, and at set times he visited the wicked inhabitants to bear his testimony...." Manuscript 200, 1899.13

He Sought A Deeper Relationship With God

"In the midst of a life of active labor, Enoch steadfastly maintained his communion with God. The greater and more pressing his labors, the more constant and earnest were his prayers. ...

After remaining for a time among the people laboring to benefit them by instruction and example, he would withdraw, to spend a season in solitude, hungering and thirsting for that divine knowledge which God alone can impart." Patriarchs and Prophets, p. 86, 87

"[Believers] often sought Enoch in his places of retreat, and he instructed them, and prayed for them that God would give them a knowledge of his will. He finally chose certain periods for retirement, and would not suffer the people to find him, for they interrupted his holy meditations and communion with God....

He did not exclude himself at all times from the society of those who loved him and listened to his words of wisdom; neither did he separate himself wholly from the corrupt. He met with the righteous and the wicked at stated times. ...

He would remain with them as long as he could benefit them by his godly conversation and holy example, and then would withdraw himself for a season from all society -from the just, the scoffing and idolatrous, ...

to remain in solitude, hungering and thirsting for communion with God, and that divine knowledge which he alone could give him." Signs of the Times, February 20, 1879, par. 6}

Enoch continued to grow more heavenly while communing with God. His face was radiant with a holy light which would remain upon his countenance while instructing those who would hear his words of wisdom. His dignified appearance struck the people with awe.

"He realized the corruptions of the human family, and separated himself from the descendants of Cain, and reproved them for their great wickedness. There were those upon the earth who acknowledged God, who feared and worshiped him.

. . .

Yet righteous Enoch was so distressed with the increasing wickedness of the ungodly that he would not daily associate with them, fearing that he should be affected by their infidelity, and that he might not ever regard God with that holy reverence which was due his exalted character. ...

He chose to be separate from them, and spent much of his time in solitude, giving himself to reflection and prayer. He waited before God, and prayed to know his will more perfectly, that he might perform it. God communed with Enoch through his angels, and gave him divine instruction." Signs of the Times, February 20, 1879

"His feet were always directed in the path of obedience to God's commandments. Constantly his meditations were upon the goodness, the perfection, the loveliness, of the divine character. His conversation was upon heavenly things; ...

he trained his mind to run in this channel. As he looked to Jesus, he became changed into the glorious image of his Lord, and his countenance was lighted up with the glory that shines from the face of Christ." Signs of the Times, October 12, 1904

"He trained his mind to devotion, to love purity. His conversation was upon heavenly and divine things. He educated his mind in this channel, and he bore the impress of the divine. His countenance was lighted up with the light which shineth in the face of Jesus." Manuscript 4, 1868.

"And how did Enoch walk with God? He educated his mind and heart to ever feel that he was in the presence of God, and when in perplexity his prayers would ascend to God to keep him. He refused to take any course that would offend His God.

. . .

Thus he was constantly shaping his way and course in accordance with God's commandments, and he had perfect confidence and trust in his heavenly Father, that He would help him. He had no thought or will of his own; it was all submerged in the will of his Father." Sermon and Talks, Vol. 1, 32

Hebrews 11:5-6 (NKJV) 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."

"The Lord loved Enoch, because he steadfastly followed him, and abhorred iniquity, and earnestly sought a more perfect knowledge of his will, that he might perform it. He yearned to unite himself still more closely to God, whom he feared, reverenced, and adored." Signs of the *Times*, February 20, 1879, par. 7

"I refer you to Enoch. He lived just previous to the world's being washed from its moral pollution, by a flood. He was on the earth at the time when corruption was teeming on every hand; and yet he bore the impress of the divine. ...

and yet he bore the impress of the divine. ... Enoch had the witness that he pleased God. And this witness we can have. *Review and Herald*, April 19, 1870, par. 10}

"The society surrounding him was no more friendly to righteousness than is the society surrounding us at the present time. The atmosphere he breathed was tainted with sin and corruption, the same as ours; ...

So We May Please God

yet he was unsullied [uncontaminated—spotless and without flaw] with the prevailing sins of the age in which he lived. And so may we remain as pure and uncorrupted as did the faithful Enoch." Review and Herald, August 23, 1881, par. 5

We May Have What He Had

"We can have what Enoch had ... Christ as our constant companion. Enoch walked with God, and when assailed by the tempter, he could talk with God about it. He had no "It is written" as we have, but he had a knowledge of his heavenly Companion. He made God his Counsellor, and was closely bound up with Jesus." Manuscript 38, 1897.10

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The Lord would not permit Enoch to die like other men, but sent his angels to take him to Heaven without seeing death. In the presence of the righteous and the wicked, Enoch was removed from them. ...

Those who loved him thought that God might have left him in some of his places of retirement; but after seeking diligently, and being unable to find him, they reported that he was not, for God took him." Signs of the Times, February 20, 1879, par. 7

Now

"The Lord has given me a view of other worlds. Wings were given me, and an angel attended me from the city to a place that was bright and glorious.... Then I was taken to a world which had seven moons. There I saw good old Enoch, who had been translated. ...

Now

On his right arm he bore a glorious palm, and on each leaf was written "Victory." Around his head was a dazzling white wreath, and leaves on the wreath, and in the middle of each leaf was written "Purity," and around the wreath were stones of various colors, that shone brighter than the stars, and cast a reflection upon the letters and magnified them. ...

Now

On the back part of his head was a bow that confined the wreath, and upon the bow was written "Holiness." Above the wreath was a lovely crown that shone brighter than the sun. I asked him if this was the place he was taken to from the earth. He said, "It is not; the city is my home, and I have come to visit this place." Early Writings, 39, 40.

His Life Was An Example

"Enoch represents those who shall remain upon the earth and be translated to Heaven without seeing death. He represents that company that are to live amid the perils of the last days, and withstand all the corruption, vileness, sin, and iniquity, and yet be unsullied by it all. We can stand as did Enoch." Review and Herald, April 19, 1870, par. 11

His Life Was An Example

"Enoch was holy because he walked with God in God's way. In him the world had an example of what those will be who, when Christ comes, are caught up in the clouds to meet Him in the air. As Enoch was, so are we to be." Letter 97, 1902.6

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