Introduction

Tonight we look at a preacher from a long time ago. In fact, this preacher was from before the flood in Noah's day! He preached what was a **timely** message in his day, but at the same time it was a **timeless** message!

We're not told how long that he preached nor the number of messages that he preached during his life! In fact, we are only told about this one message— It is the one message that he is know by! The name of this preacher is Enoch! (Read *Jude 14-15*) What do we know of Enoch the man and the preacher?

I. WE KNOW THAT ENOCH LIVED IN A TIME OF AN INCREASINGLY UNGODLY WORLD!

Enoch was Noah's great grandfather! Scripture paints for us a picture of what it was like in the days of Noah: *Genesis 6:5 – "And GOD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually."*

But we need to understand that it didn't get that way overnight! From the time of Adam's sin to Noah, things were in a steady decline because of SIN! It began with the sin of Adam and Eve! It continued with the sins of their children! (Especially Cain!)

Enoch was born when his great, great, great, great grandfather, Adam was still alive. Adam would have been 622 years old when Enoch was born to his father Jared. However, Enoch did not get to see the birth of his great-grandson, Noah because he lived on the earth just 365 years. He missed seeing Noah's birth by just 69 years!

If we want to know how evil it was getting, Jesus gave us a commentary on how things were in Noah's day: *Matthew 24:37-39* – "But as the days of Noe were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be. For as in the days that were before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noe entered into the ark, And knew not until the flood came, and took them all away; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be."

EPISTLE OF JUDE ENOCH'S LIFE JUDE 14-15; GENESIS 5:21-24; HEBREWS 11:5

The society that Enoch lived in was fast becoming a pleasure oriented, pleasure seeking, and self-gratifying generation that had no desire for the spiritual and no thought of the judgment to come!

Those who were suppose to be godly (i.e. The ones called *"the Sons of God"* in *Genesis 6:2*, referring to the godly line of Seth) were marrying *"the daughters of men"* referring to the ungodly line of Cain!

The result was tragic—the destruction of the home as well as society! In fact, it sounds very much like the generation we live in! Which is yet another reason we should be looking for the LORD to come back!

WE KNOW THAT ENOCH LIVED IN A TIME OF AN INCREASINGLY UNGODLY WORLD...

II.

WE KNOW THAT THE BIRTH OF METHUSELAH TRIGGERED A CHANGE IN ENOCH'S LIFE! (*Genesis 5:21-22*) We are not told that Enoch was walking with God in the 65 years leading up to this important life-changing event! The incredible life-changing event was the birth of his son—Methuselah!

Do you think that Enoch looked around him and longed for something better for his son?

We are not told, but what I can tell you is that when my children were born, I longed for a better world for them than what was around them! It is one of the reasons we chose to home-school our children! It one of the reasons that we've stayed faithful in our marriage and ministry!

Today I still long for a better life, not only for my children, but for my grandchildren and, Lord willing, any and all that may come after them!

Enoch knew that if he wanted better for his son, he needed the LORD to be an integral part of his life! There is nothing more important! Amen!

He needed to *"walk with God!"* Listen, if we want better for our families we need to leave them a lasting legacy of godliness and faith! We need to walk with God!

And so Enoch did! He walked with God for the next 300 years! For the first 65 years of his life he did not walk with God, but God got his attention with the birth of his son! And by faith he walked with God!

WE KNOW THAT ENOCH LIVED IN A TIME OF AN INCREASINGLY UNGODLY WORLD...THE BIRTH OF METHUSELAH TRIGGERED A CHANGE IN ENOCH'S LIFE!

WE KNOW THAT WHILE THE WORLD WALKED IN WICKEDNESS, ENOCH WALKED WITH GOD! (Genesis 5:22, 24) Get this now, walking with God is a CHOICE one makes!

Enoch lived in what was a very wicked, very ungodly world, yet he CHOSE to walk with God!

Listen, the Bible doesn't say that it was easy for Enoch to walk with God! It has NEVER been easy to walk with God!

It is especially hard when one is surrounded by so much wickedness and ungodliness as he most surely was and as we are!

Nevertheless, Enoch CHOSE to walk with God! Walking with God is a CHOICE!

We live in an ungodly world, but we too can **CHOOSE** to walk with God even in the midst of this wicked and perverse world that we live in!

We need to understand that **God has provided every one of us who** are His children with exactly what we need to walk with Him!

EPISTLE OF JUDE ENOCH'S LIFE JUDE 14-15; GENESIS 5:21-24; HEBREWS 11:5

2 Peter 1:3 – "According as his divine power hath given unto us <u>all</u> <u>things</u> that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue:"

Philippians 2:13-15 – "13 For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure. 14 Do all things without murmurings and disputings: 15 That ye may be blameless and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, among whom ye shine as lights in the world;"

So, what does it mean for someone to "Walk With God"?

 A. Walking With God Means Walking In God's Direction! (*Genesis 5:22*) Now we've got to realize, that God's direction is diametrically opposed to our natural being! (Isaiah 55:6-9)

> So, in order to walk in God's direction we've got to turn from our direction in life and walk in God's direction for our lives. That is called repentance!

Walking in God's direction means a conversion experience!

Enoch was born into sin as we all are! (Romans 3:23)

From all indications he most likely lived a sinful, wicked, ungodly life like everybody around him in the first 65 years of his life!

However, when Methuselah was born God got his attention! He repented, he turned from the direction he was headed and he allowed the LORD to change his life and he began walking in God's direction!

So, for the next 300 years Enoch walked in God's direction!

Walking With God Means Walking In God's Direction!

B. Walking With God Means Walking By Faith! (*Heb. 11:5-6*) In *Hebrews 11:5* it says this about Enoch, "for before his translation he had this testimony, that he pleased God" How was he able to please God? Because he had walked by faith!

Hebrews 11:6–"But without faith it is impossible to please God."

What does it mean to walk by faith?

1. Walking By Faith Means We Are Not Walking By Sight!

In fact 2 Corinthians 5:7 says, "For we walk by faith and not by sight."

Hebrews 11:1 says, "Faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen."

Do we have any evidence of some things we cannot

see? (God, The Lord Jesus, The Holy Spirit)We have the Testimony of The Word of God!We have the Testimony of The Witnesses!We have the Testimony of History!We have the Testimony of The Holy Spirit!We have the Testimony of Creation!We have the Testimony of Conscience!

We who are saved are NOT to walk by sight, but rather we are to walk by faith! Enoch walked by faith not by sight!

How would God describe your walk?

The world may say, *"How do you do that?"* The world may even call it *blind faith*!

EPISTLE OF JUDE ENOCH'S LIFE JUDE 14-15; GENESIS 5:21-24; HEBREWS 11:5

However, we see the evidence of things not seen and walk in God's direction, and continue walking in His direction by faith.

Walking By Faith Means We Are Not Walking By Sight!

2. Walking By Faith Means We Are Walking In Trust! Basically it is having a confidence that someone or something is reliable!

> In our case, we walk in the confidence that the <u>Word</u> of <u>God</u> is reliable and the <u>God of the Word</u> is reliable and trustworthy!

> Walking by faith means we walk forward in God's direction as outlined in His Word, with total trust i.e. a dependence and confidence in Him!

We don't have to see what's down the road or around the bends in the road, because we know that God does!

Walking By Faith Means We Are Not Walking By Sight! Walking By Faith Means We Are Walking In Trust!

3. Walking By Faith Means Taking God At His Word! (i.e. Believing God!) Hebrews 11:7 – "By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house; by the which he condemned the world, and became heir of the righteousness which is by faith.

Walking With God Means Walking In God's Direction! Walking With God Means Walking By Faith!

C. Walking With God Means Sharing His Companionship! (Genesis 5: 21, 24)

"Walk" is the Biblical expression for fellowship with the LORD by obedience to the Lord! Walking with God means unbroken communion and fellowship with God!

Note the text in *vs. 21–"Enoch lived..."* before his life change and then *vs.24–"Enoch walked with God"* afterward!

The moment we start walking with God is the moment when we really begin to live!

Enoch was a walker and talker with God!

When you walk with someone there is usually 2 way communication! (Depending of course upon who you are walking with!) Walking with God implies this 2-way communication!

God would talk with Enoch and Enoch would talk with

God! We are to walk with God—That includes both listening to Him and talking with Him!

This One that we walk with is our guide. God has given us His Holy Spirit to be our Guide.

The Bible is our map as well as the light that lights our path!

Psalm 119:105–"The Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path"

Are you walking with God? Some may say, "I'm just too busy. There is just not enough time!"

Enoch was a busy man too–He had a family to take care of, a job to go to, He was a preacher too, but he took time to walk with God!

EPISTLE OF JUDE ENOCH'S LIFE JUDE 14-15; GENESIS 5:21-24; HEBREWS 11:5

In our day we have more labor saving devices than any generation, yet we seem to have less time!

When we don't have time we must make time and take time!

The closer we walk with God, the less room there is for anything to come between us and Him!

Conclusion

WE KNOW THAT ENOCH LIVED IN A TIME OF AN INCREASINGLY UNGODLY WORLD... WE KNOW THAT THE BIRTH OF METHUSELAH TRIGGERED A CHANGE IN ENOCH'S LIFE... WE KNOW THAT WHILE THE WORLD WALKED IN WICKEDNESS, ENOCH WALKED WITH GOD!

> Walking With God Means Walking In God's Direction! Walking With God Means Walking By Faith! Walking With God Means Sharing His Companionship!

Next Week, Lord Willing: Walking With God Means To Bear A Strong Witness! We've taken a look at Enoch's Life...Next we will take a look at Enoch's Preaching!