

Enoch

“Enoch walked with God and he was not; for God took him.”

I don't want to suggest that if we walk with God that God will take us home to heaven on a chariot of fire like he did for Enoch and Elijah. I do want to suggest however that if we walk with God as Enoch learned to do God will take us – to the next level. God does not have a special plan for Enoch that he did not have for the rest of humanity. God wants fellowship with man. That's why he put Adam in the Garden of Eden. **He wants fellowship with you in that way too.**

1. What We Know About Enoch

We don't know much about Enoch. He is mentioned but a few times but in the few glimpses we find a man after God's own heart. Unsatisfied with earth, he was created and born for something more, he sought the Lord. He was a man of God-encounters in a time when God was not near.

Listen to the Testimony of Scripture concerning him.

Genesis 5:22-24

And Enoch **walked with God** after he begat Methuselah three hundred years, and begat sons and daughters ...24 And Enoch **walked with God: and he was not; for God took him.** – (to a higher level, to the next level)

Hebrews 11:5

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.

Jude 1:14-15

14 And Enoch also, the seventh from Adam, **prophesied of these**, saying, Behold, the Lord is coming with ten thousands of his saints, 15 To execute judgment upon all, and to convince all that are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds which they have ungodly committed, and of all their hard *speeches* which ungodly sinners have spoken against him.

Jude hints that the Jews had a deeper knowledge of Enoch than we do.

There was several apocryphal books attributed to his name that never were included in our Scriptural canon, yet Jude quotes from one of them here. Jews have had for millennia many **oral traditions** and stories that were passed on from father to son that were never written down. Moses was the first to write the story of creation. **Where did he get that?** Many say that he put in written form that which was known from the beginning. Jews believe that it was Enoch who had such a close, intimate, and living relationship with God that he, like Paul and the Apostle John, was taken up to heaven and heard unspeakable things, that is inexpressible things. He was given revelation of things to come and final

judgment. To him was entrusted the story of the angels, the fall of Satan from heaven, and the history of fallen angels (Jude 1:6).

He had **visions and dreams, angelic visitations**, and **the still small Voice of God**. God, and all in heaven so enjoyed fellowship with this man the God took him to heaven without passing through death.

Here was a man, without spiritual recourses as we have who knew God, and became a friend of God in a day when God was not near.

Enoch waked with God – so can you!

2. What Can We Learn From Enoch?

Enoch existed during an unparalleled time of evil on the earth. He was just the seventh from Adam and already the earth was filled with evil, violence, sexual perversions, so much so that God testified against mankind saying,

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.

He had none of the advantages that we have today for knowing God: He had no Bible, not one Scripture had yet been written, He had no laws to guide him, for no law was yet established, He had no Holy Spirit to fill him, only the Holy Spirit to influence him, He had no church or fellowship with other saints to surround him, YET “Enoch walked with God.”

He had perhaps the least advantages of anyone who wanted to know God. No Scripture. No laws or Ten Commandments. No Holy Spirit. No church. No Fellowship. No books. No worship music. No preaching or teaching.
He lived in a world more wicked than our own, yet he walked with God.

- When everyone did what was right in his own eyes
- When men first began to call upon the Lord
- When no Scripture existed to guide the soul.
- When no laws were laid down to live by.
- When sin was all around as black as black could be.

Lesson: “God loves to be loved and sought after.”

Enoch waked with God – so can you!

3. How Can We Be Like Enoch

Holy Hunger - He was God-Hungry – Heaven Hungry

After writing his book “Desiring God” John Piper asks the question in a new book, “When I Don’t Desire God.” The answer is simple really. When you don’t desire God, you don’t find him, you don’t enjoy him, you don’t frequently talk with him, you don’t care to be alone with him. James hits the nail on the head. “*Draw near to God and He will draw near to you.*” (James 4:8)

Enoch waked with God – so can you!

Holy Hush – He sought the Lord in the wilderness of solitude

Every man of God in Scripture was first invited by God to meet him in the wilderness. God invites, man must RSVP, with an answer, Yes or No. Psalm 46:10 says, “*Be still and know that I am God.*” Isaiah 30:15 says, “*in quietness and in confidence shall be your strength: and ye would not.*” It is the WOULD NOT that is the indictment against our walk with God. We will not. Therefore we don’t walk with God as Enoch walked with God.

Enoch walked with God – You can too!

Bill and Gloria Gaither's song about little boys listening to God while they are fishing really seems to be an appropriate way of training children that prayer is not just asking and getting.

*God loves to talk to little boys while they're fishin',
That seems to be the time boys listen best.
That's the only quiet time there is for wishin'
It's the only time when God and boys can rest.*

Holy Scripture – He had no Scripture

Enoch had no Scripture. He had the story of Adam and Eve and Cain and Able. That wasn’t much to go on but enough for a God-hungry man to know that God created him with more in mind than just plowing fields or shearing sheep. You and I have no such excuse. We have all the advantages God has provided for us over the centuries. We have the Old Testament and New Testament. We have the testimony of all the saints of all the ages. We have the commands of God. We have the promises of God. We have Jesus the Son of God. We have the Holy Spirit. We have the Word of God, the way of salvation and the plan of God for our lives.

Enoch walked with God – You can too!

Holy Fellowship – He had no other Saints

The disciples on the Road to Emmaus, “did not our hearts burn within us as he shared with us while we walked with him?” A recent article in Biblical Archeology states that the Road to Emmaus has been lost for all time. Jewish antiquities failed to see its importance since it is not a Jewish site from the Old Testament, but a New Testament story. A cemetery has encroached on it filling the valley and eradicating forever the Road to Emmaus. Many believers have lost their road to Emmaus. **They have no intimate walk with the Savior.** Other things have encroached – necessary things, earthly things, urgent things. They no longer walk with God.

Enoch walked with God – You can too!

Conclusion

There are no excuses, only weak reasons.

Draw near to God and He will draw near to you – no ifs, ands or buts.

I want to challenge you to use this summer as a time to develop a deeper walk with God.

Spend time with God on a retreat – one day, overnight, 3-day, 2 night

A day away with God – in a park, Moraine State Park, Lake Wilhelm

Ride a bike – Listen to scripture as your ride

Take a hike – memorize a promise every mile (backpack)

Camp out with God – noon, overnight through noon next day

Fish with God - Gaither song, cook it outdoors

Float your boat – kayak, canoe, Johnboat, pontoon boat

Study creation – stars at night, bees, flowers, leaves, and insects.

Meditate, contemplate, read, journal, draw, paint, whittle, take pictures

Near to the Heart of God

There is a place of quiet rest

Near to the heart of God

A place where sin cannot molest

Near to the heart of God

O Jesus blest Redeemer

Sent from the heart of God

Hold us who wait before thee

Near to the heart of God

Easton's Bible Dictionary

The son of Jared, and father of Methuselah (**Gen. 5:21; Luke 3:37**). His father was one hundred and sixty-two years old when he was born. After the birth of Methuselah, Enoch "walked with God three hundred years" (**Gen. 5:22-24**), when he was translated without tasting death. His whole life on earth was three hundred and sixty-five years. He was the "seventh from Adam" (Jude 14), as distinguished from the son of Cain, the third from Adam. He is spoken of in the catalogue of Old Testament worthies in the Epistle to the **Hebrews (11:5)**. When he was translated, only Adam, so far as recorded, had as yet died a natural death, and Noah was not yet born. Mention is made of Enoch's prophesying only in **Jude 14**.

Biblical occurrences

The [Bible](#) has several occurrences of that name:

- [Enoch](#), the son of [Jared](#), a great-grandfather of [Noah](#), and father of [Methuselah](#) (Genesis 5:1-18). It is stated in numerous Jewish, early Christian, and mediaeval Muslim sources, that he was taken away by God because he was a good man, thus avoiding death at the age of 365, and according to a few [Kabbalistic](#) sources, became known as the angel [Metatron](#). He is also identified as the apostle [Idris](#) (Arabic: إسريردإ). Because he never died he is older than [Methuselah](#) who died at 969 years and Enoch is over 5,000 years old. According to Muslim scholars he earned his livelihood as a tailor and is also considered to be the inventor of the eyed metal needle used in sewing. He is the protagonist of the several [apocryphal](#) books of the Old Testament:
 - [1st Book of Enoch](#), an apocryphal book in the [Ethiopic](#) Bible.
 - [2nd Book of Enoch](#), an apocryphal book in the Old Slavonic Bible.
 - [3rd Book of Enoch](#), a Kabbalistic Rabbinic text in Hebrew, attributed to Kohen Gadol Yishmael (90-135 AD).

Book of Enoch

http://wesley.nnu.edu/biblical_studies/noncanon/ot/pseudo/enoch.htm

Jude 14 quotes the book of Enoch. Is it scripture? Jude 14

"And about these also Enoch, in the seventh generation from Adam, prophesied, saying, "Behold, the Lord came with many thousands of His holy ones" (Jude 14).

There is debate whether or not Jude was actually quoting the apocryphal [book of Enoch](#) or something else. This debate aside, if this is a quote from the book of Enoch, it does not affect the doctrine of inspiration nor does it mean that the early church removed the book of Enoch because of its internal inconsistencies. First of all, the book of Enoch was not considered scripture by the Christian Church. There was some discussion on its canonicity by a few people, but the Christian Church did not include it in the Bible. Second, Jude only quoted something that was true in Enoch and it does not mean that Enoch was inspired. In fact, Paul quotes Epimenides in Titus 1:12 but that does not mean that Epimenides was inspired.

The Book of Enoch

Genesis 5:18-24 [18] Jared lived one hundred and sixty-two years, and begot Enoch. [19] After he begot Enoch, Jared lived eight hundred years, and had sons and daughters. [20] So all the days of Jared were nine hundred and sixty-two years; and he died. [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. [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.

Hebrews 11:5 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.

Jude 1:14-15 [14] Now Enoch, the seventh from Adam, prophesied about these men also, saying, "Behold, the Lord comes with ten thousands of His saints, [15] to 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."

We first learn of Enoch in Genesis 5 but it leaves us with questions. Hebrews 11 has the answers and Jude quotes Enoch! How did Jude come to know the words of Enoch? They are not in the Bible. The answer of course, is The Book of Enoch. A book which is actually quoted by Jude in the New Testament. What is the Book of Enoch and where did it come from?

Enoch was the great-grandfather of Noah. The Book of Enoch chapter 68:1 "And after that my great-grandfather Enoch gave me all the secrets in the book and in the parables which had been given to him, and he put them together for me in the words of the book of the parables."

The Book of Enoch was extant centuries before the birth of Christ and yet is considered by many to be more Christian in its theology than Jewish. It was considered scripture by many early Christians. The earliest literature of the so-called "Church Fathers" is filled with references to this mysterious book. The early second century "Epistle of Barnabus" makes much use of the Book of Enoch. Second and Third Century "Church Fathers" like Justin Martyr, Irenaeus, Origen and Clement of Alexandria all make use of the Book of Enoch. Tertullian (160-230 C.E) even called the Book of Enoch "Holy Scripture". The Ethiopic Church even added the Book of Enoch to its official canon. It was widely known and read the first three centuries after Christ. This and many other books became discredited after the Council of Laodicea. And being under ban of the authorities, afterwards it gradually passed out of circulation.

At about the time of the Protestant Reformation, there came to be a renewed interest in the Book of Enoch which had long since been lost to the modern world. By the late 1400's rumors began to spread that somewhere a copy of the long lost Book of Enoch might still exist. During this time many books arose

claiming to be the long lost book and were later found to be forgeries.

The return of the long lost Book of Enoch to the modern western world is credited to the famous explorer James Bruce, who in 1773 returned from six years in Abyssinia with three Ethiopic copies of the lost book. In 1821 Richard Laurence published the first English translation. The famous R.H. Charles edition was published in 1912. In the following years several portions of the Greek text surfaced. Then with the discovery of cave 4 of the Dead Sea Scrolls, seven fragmentary copies of the Aramaic text were discovered.

There are scholars who believe the Book of Enoch was published before the Christian era by some great unknown of Semetic race, who believing himself to be inspired in a post-prophetic age, borrowed the name of an antediluvian patriarch to authenticate his own enthusiastic forecast of the coming Messiah. The Book of Enoch is divided into five basic parts, but it is the The Book of Parables (37-71) which gives scholars the most trouble for it is primarily concerned with a figure called "the messiah"; "the righteous one"; "the chosen one" and "the son of man."

The Book of Enoch Chapter 46:1-2 [1] There I beheld the Ancient of days whose head was like white wool, and with him another, whose countenance resembled that of a man. His countenance was full of grace, like that of one of the holy angels. Then I inquired of one of the angels, who went with me, and who showed me every secret thing, concerning this Son of man; who he was; whence he was; and why he accompanied the Ancient of days. [2] He answered and said to me, This is the Son of man, to whom righteousness belongs; with whom righteousness has dwelt; and who will reveal all the treasures of that which is concealed: for the Lord of spirits has chosen him; and his portion has surpassed all before the Lord of spirits in everlasting uprightness."