

Russell Kelfer

Enoch Walked With God

172-A

Series: Miscellaneous Messages

dtm DISCIPLESHIP TAPE MINISTRIES, INC.
INTO HIS LIKENESS RADIO

10602 Mossbank, San Antonio, TX 78230 • (210) 226-0000 / 1-800-375-7778 • www.dtm.org • dtm@dtm.org

Enoch Walked With God

This morning, for those in the Koinonia class, we will be departing from the regular series for the purpose of continuity. This morning we'd like to have a one Sunday lesson—a character sketch or a character outline—of one man in Scripture. I'd like to begin this morning by asking each one of you, very quickly now, quietly in your own mind, pick out one Bible character, other than Jesus, whose qualities you would like to characterize in your life. Just right quick, think of one. First one that comes to your mind, and then I'd like about three or four volunteers. Leo, do you have one in your mind, just any one? Nehemiah! Okay, Buzz? Paul! I knew you would pick Paul. Anybody else? Joshua! All right! Yes? David, okay! Some others that are often chosen are; Abe, because he was chosen of God, or Mo, because he was meek before God, or Pete because he was bold before God. Some of the ladies often choose the quality of faith in Rahab that was honored by God, the loyalty of Ruth that was blessed by God, the devotion of Mary that was heralded by God, and the submission of Sarah that was used as an example by God. Those are some, plus the ones you've named. But this morning we'd like to examine a life in Scripture that I doubt if any of you would have chosen.

This is a name that has emblazoned upon it the approval of God Himself. I suppose if I could choose what was to be said at the end of my life, I'd hope for a testimony like this man's. The man's name is Enoch, and this morning we're going to take a very quick walk through the life of Enoch. If we were to have a letter from God this morning, and indeed we do, we would have to paraphrase His introduction. He would step up and say something like this, "I'd like you to meet a friend of Mine". Because basically that's what Enoch was. He was one of God's best friends. Indeed, he has one of the shortest biographies in Scripture. We know virtually nothing about his activities, his actions, or his reactions. We know nothing of his works, his worries, or his world; but we do know one thing about Enoch, and what we know is enough to cause us to fall to our knees and desire of God the qualities

Enoch Walked With God

found in him.

We only find in Scripture three references to Enoch: one in the Old Testament and two in the New Testament, and that's all. There is a fourth reference which is somewhat oblique and will require a little bit of study. We're going to take those four passages this morning, and I'll give you an outline if you like, for those of you who are outline oriented. Very quickly,

I- Enoch pleased God. (Hebrews 11:1-6)

II- Enoch walked with God. (Genesis 5:21-24)

III- Enoch knew God's heart. (Jude 14-15)

IV- Enoch will share God's testimony. (Revelation 11:2-11)

That's the outline. We'll begin now with part one.

I- ENOCH PLEASED GOD. (Hebrews 11:1-6)

Turn, if you will, to Hebrews chapter eleven, God's hall of faith. In Hebrews chapter eleven beginning with verse one the passage begins with God Himself defining faith as the only acceptable means of coming into His presence. If we were to boil down a definition of faith, we could do it this way: *Confidence without proof*. Now verse one tells us that

Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence
of things not seen. (Hebrews 11:1 NKJV)

In other words it's resting the weight of your life upon something you cannot feel, touch, or prove in advance with your senses. It's believing God because of what He said. And it's believing what He said because of the veracity, or truth, of what He has said in the past.

If you come to me and ask me something and I twist the truth and tell you only part of it, a week later you may need another answer, but you will come to me with very little faith. You say, "I want to ask you such and such," but you don't fully believe what I'm going to tell you, because your faith is predicated on the truth of what I said in the past. Now, if I were to go to Buzz, for instance, on five occasions and ask him to tell me something, and on every one of those occasions he's told me the total absolute truth, every time he tells me the truth and it proves itself to be the truth, I have that much more faith in Buzz. When I want to know the truth the first thing I'll do is go to him. That's the way it is with people.

Enoch Walked With God

People say, “Why don’t you trust me?” The reason we don’t trust people is often because they have not been *trustworthy* or have not been totally truthful. But you see the reason we can have faith is that every time you hear the Word of God it proves itself, when you stand on it, to be true. And having proved itself to be true, then the next time we hear it, our faith increases because

So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of
God. (Romans 10:17 NKJV)

And because God’s Word is always true, and because when we stand on it, it never lets us down, therefore our faith can abound and get greater and greater and greater, if we stay in the Word of God.

Now verse four tells us,

By faith Abel offered to God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain, through which he obtained witness that he was righteous, God testifying of his gifts...

(Hebrews 11:4 NKJV)

The first illustration, what God is saying in this passage, is, “I’d like to introduce you to some of My best friends.” These are people, through generations, who have proved themselves to be *faith-filled*. And He begins with Cain and Abel. He gives a plus and a minus. He shows us in verse four that faith is literally a partner in obedience. The reason that Abel obeyed God was because he *believed God*. It says here, *because of his faith he pleased God*. Not because of his obedience, but his obedience was the result of his faith. Sometimes we say, “Well, I just can’t be obedient, I just can’t be faithful.” Sometimes what we need to realize we are not faithful because we don’t really believe that God is Who He says He is, and that He is a Rewarder of them that diligently seek Him. We don’t believe it! If we believed it in full we would do everything He commands of us without answering back. *Everything*. That’s the key to obedience; it’s faith. You believe God; you obey God.

A little child, growing up, usually will be quick to obey their parents. Why? Because they trust them, they believe them. Many of you have gone to parenting seminars where you were given examples of how children rebel when parents promise them something and don’t fulfill it. The children lose their faith and then cease to be obedient because they no longer have faith in the source of their instruction. You see the difference? And so in the case of Cain and Abel we get a plus and a minus, a contrast in obedience.

Enoch Walked With God

But then we go to verse five, and God gives us another illustration. He says,

By faith Enoch was taken away so that he did not see death,
“and was not found, (Hebrews 11:5a NKJV)

That is, his body was not found because God translated him. What was the reason God translated him? The reason was before his translation he had a testimony. What was his testimony?

...that he pleased God. (Hebrews 11:5d NKJV)

Let’s explain in what way he pleased God. We know it was his faith because

...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.

(Hebrews 11:6 NKJV)

Now what does it mean to be translated? Well, I was going to use a Spanish-English illustration, but I don’t know any Spanish. The only Spanish I know is the little bit related to what I do, but I’ll have to use it anyhow. The word “llanta” (pronounced Yanta) means tire. That’s the only word I know. Now, it is moved from one realm to another, from English to Spanish. If you don’t believe it you go down to a place where no one speaks Spanish and ask them for a llanta, and they won’t know what you are talking about. They may send you to the pancake house, they may send you up the street to the motel, you don’t know where they’ll send you. Or you go to Mexico and when you get into Monterrey and you walk into a tire store and you ask them for a tire, they may not know what it is. They may scratch their head and look at you and say, “No habla Inglés”. The problem is you have transferred from one realm to another, the language has changed, but there will be absolutely no change in the product. The word means the same in both languages; it is an absolutely equal product. In other words, it has gone from one realm to another, one state to another, without change. That’s what it means to be translated, and that’s what happened to Enoch. He was taken from one realm, earth, to another realm, heaven, without being changed, without going through the process of death. This is a perfect preview for our benefit of the Rapture. God wanted to show us, among other things, what the Rapture would be like. Because at the Rapture there will be some remaining who are still alive; they will not pass through the avenue of death. Consider I Thessalonians 4:16—all

Enoch Walked With God

of you probably know it by memory; you might want to repeat it with me.

For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first.

Then we [or you, or whoever] who are alive and remain shall [what?] be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord. (I Thessalonians 4:16,17 NKJV)

Be translated, raptured, caught up together. In other words, taken from one realm to another without passing through the process of death. Shall be translated. The word means to be taken from one realm to the other without passing through the process of change. Now up until this point in time, (make note of this if you will) so far only two people have ever been translated. Only two that we know of, and I think God would let us know. Even Jesus had to pass through death to get to life. Hebrews 9:27, something we need to nail this lesson on, says,

And as it is appointed for men [every man] to die once, but after this the judgment, (Hebrews 9:27 NKJV)

What that verse says is that every man must die once. Everyone *can* die but once. But there are two men in Scripture who *haven't* died. One is Enoch. God loved him; God was pleased with him. He walked with him.

And the other is Elijah. These two men have not yet died.

Now verse five says that Enoch pleased God—not by virtue of his accomplishments, but rather by virtue of the level of his trust, his faith. Without faith, He says, it is impossible to please God, because he that comes to God, *if we reverse the order*, must seek Him diligently and expectantly, believing, number two, that He is all that He claims to be. What does He claim to be? God! Without faith you cannot please God. If you want to please God you must be willing to come to God diligently, expectantly, continually, believing that He is all that He claims to be. That is what the verse says.

Now I've divided some passages into two concepts. Very quickly, because we won't have time to go into them in detail, the first says,

1- We continually communicate with God, seeking diligently.

Enoch Walked With God

That's the second half of Hebrews 11:6. He is a rewarder of them that seek Him, diligently, believing. I'm going to ask you this morning, "Is there any of you here, who can make a case out of the Scriptures, for the fact that God delights in answering prayer that has *not* been asked?" Maybe you can. I haven't been able to. Because every promise that deals with answered prayer that I have found, has tucked in its context either by specific wording or else by implication that answers will come in relationship to our *asking*. Now I know the passage that says,

For your Father knows the things you have need of before you ask Him. (Matthew 6:8b NKJV)

Therefore, He *tells us to ask*,

"Call to Me, and I will answer you, and show you great and mighty things, which you do not know."

(Jeremiah 33:3 NKJV)

"Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you." (Matthew 7:7 NKJV)

"Again I say to you that if two of you agree on earth concerning anything that they ask,

(Matthew 18:19a NKJV)

And whatever we ask we receive from Him,

(1 John 3:22a NKJV)

We are to ask for laborers because

"The harvest truly is plentiful, but the laborers are few.

Therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest. (Matthew 9:37b,38 NKJV)

We are invited to come and ask,

Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

(Hebrews 4:16 NKJV)

Remembering, ultimately,

Yet you do not have because you do not ask.

(James 4:2d NKJV)

So we can't really make a case this morning, at least I can't, for God's continually answering prayers we have not asked. It is not because He is unable; it is because He honors faith. Faith gives Him the glory, and that is why He has us ask. But asking is not all of it.

Enoch Walked With God

2- We must believe that He is all that He claims to be. Otherwise our asking will be empty. Now what does He claim to be? First of all,

A- He claims to be able.

“And whatever things you ask in prayer, believing, you will receive.”
(Matthew 21:22 NKJV)

Suppose you were to come up to me this morning, say, “I’d like to talk to you, I want you to show me how to fix my air conditioner”. I would probably look at you with that silly grin that I get on my face and say, “Ah, sure”. And I don’t know any more about air conditioners than this podium or Steve Troxel. Now I didn’t mean to put us in the same category... But now if you were to go up to Jack Siegler and say, “Say, I wonder if you could help me with my air conditioner?” His eyes would light up, and he’d say, “Boy, I’d love to.” Why? He’s *able!* It’s his business; he knows all about it. If you were wanting to know something about your washing machine, I don’t believe I’m the one in this room today you’d ask. I think you’d go to George Christensen, because he’s *able*. You want to know something about hamburgers, other than McDonalds, you wouldn’t come to me, you’d go to Buzz. The whole point is, you’d go to *somebody who is able*. Now God says, “There’s no reason for you to worry about asking, because I’m able.” Secondly,

B- He claims to be willing.

Therefore I say to you, whatever things you ask when you pray, believe that you receive them, and you will have them.
(Mark 11:24 NKJV)

NOTE: God is willing to respond when our asking is in faith.

You may come to me and say, “Would you mind taking me home after church? I live in Bandera.” And I would say, “Ah, I’m able to, and I really wish I could, but I don’t believe I can today.” What I would be saying is, “I’m not willing.” God is *always* willing when you come to Him on His terms. Thirdly,

C- He claims to be available.

If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you.

(John 15:7 NKJV)

(NOTE: In the Living Bible this Scripture says, “If you stay in me and obey my commands, you may ask any request you

Enoch Walked With God

like, and it will be granted.” God is listening as He claims; our part is remaining consistently attached to the vine with a channel kept open through which the nourishing sap can flow freely, thus producing obedience which results in requests which are in line with His will.)

Now at our house we have some complications relative to Southwestern Bell, and the complications are not their fault. The problem is we have one line and two growing young people who communicate a lot. Some of you know what I mean. And their parents communicate a lot, too. So what we have is a line that is often busy. People have come by the business or called me and said, “You know, I really did want to talk to you about something, and I called for three hours, but you never were available. The line was always busy.”

God says that you must believe that He is available. The line’s never busy. Whenever you pick it up, He’s got one more line that plugs in. He’s always available.

D- You must believe that He is answering as He claims.

But let him ask in faith, with no doubting...

(James 1:6 NKJV)

(NOTE: The emphasis here is on asking without doubting that God is answering.)

You might speak to me this morning, but because I can’t talk, or because I can’t hear, or a combination of the two, I might stare at you and not answer. But God always answers. Lastly,

E- You must believe that He is sovereign as He claims to be.

Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us.

And if we know that He hears us, whatever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we have asked of Him.

(I John 5:14,15 NKJV)

(NOTE: Our confidence must be in His sovereign power and ability. Our confidence is to be in HIM.)

So what do we know so far about Enoch? Four things:

1) He believed God implicitly. We know that because it says, “Without faith it is impossible to please God”, and to have faith you must believe that “He is.” I can just see Enoch and God walking together and God turns to Enoch, and Enoch says, “I’d

Enoch Walked With God

like a drink out of that brook over there.” And God saying, “No, Enoch, not that one.” And I could hear Enoch saying, “Yes, Sir.” Because if God said it wasn’t good, it must not be good.

But I can also hear us asking, tugging at God and saying, “Lord, it’s cool, and I’m so thirsty. And Lord there’s not another brook for five miles, You know that Lord. And Lord, one sip isn’t going to hurt anybody, and if I get sick, You’re a God of miracles, You can heal me. Come on God, just one?” Can’t you hear yourself? But Enoch believed God so implicitly, he obeyed.

2) He sought God unreservedly. We know that because the passage says that “He is a Rewarder of them that diligently seek Him.” In other words, every time God called roll and said, “Enoch?” Enoch said, “Yes, Sir.” He was always paying attention; he was in fellowship. Now when God wants to get my attention, He’ll call my name. About two thirds of the time I’m out of fellowship and not listening. So He has to bring a circumstance into my life to get my attention, and then I’ll look up, and He’ll say, “Kelfer, I was trying to talk to you.” You see the difference?

3) Enoch pleased God dramatically. God was the first proud parent, anyhow. You remember when He looked down from heaven, He said,

“This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.”

(Matthew 3:17b NKJV)

I don’t think it’s wrong to be proud of your children if it’s in a proper sense. God was proud of Jesus, and God was, on so many occasions, proud of His saints. You remember His conversation with Satan about Job, and His testimony here in verse 5 about Enoch. He meant, “I’m pleased with him. I love him. I’m proud of him.” And then lastly,

4) He was translated or taken away supernaturally.

By faith Enoch was taken away [translated] so that he did not see death,

(Hebrews 11:5a NKJV)

II- ENOCH WALKED WITH GOD. (Genesis 5:21-24)

The second thing we learn about Enoch is found in Genesis 5:21-24. This is the only Old Testament reference I found about Enoch. The verses in chapter five just prior to this are some of the most boring passages, in the flesh, that I’ve ever read. What they basically do is name about eight people who lived and died. It tells how long they lived and that they died.

Enoch Walked With God

So all the days that Adam lived were nine hundred and thirty years; and he died. (Genesis 5:5 NKJV)

So all the days of Seth were nine hundred and twelve years; and he died. (Genesis 5:8 NKJV)

So all the days of Enosh were nine hundred and five years; and he died. (Genesis 5:11 NKJV)

So all the days of Cainan were nine hundred and ten years; and he died. (Genesis 5:14 NKJV)

So all the days of Mahalalel were eight hundred and ninety-five years; and he died. (Genesis 5:17 NKJV)

So all the days of Jared were nine hundred and sixty- two years; and he died. (Genesis 5:20 NKJV)

Now if it wasn't for verse twenty-one tucked in there for the glory of God, we wouldn't really get much out of this passage, because verse twenty-seven goes on to say,

So all the days of Methuselah were nine hundred and sixty-nine years; and he died. (Genesis 5:27 NKJV)

Methuselah was the third oldest man that ever lived. I think we'll find that out this morning. But if you go back to verse twenty-one, this passage begins to take on a whole new excitement because it says,

Enoch lived sixty-five years, and begot Methuselah. (Genesis 5:21 NKJV)

Now we don't read anything about Enoch walking with God before he had that first child. We don't know whether he did or didn't. All the commentaries have different stories. We do know that crisis experiences often cause us to walk with God, and responsibilities often cause us to walk with God. And we do know that,

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

(In other words, in his last 300 years he had a bunch of other kids.)

So all the days of Enoch were three hundred and sixty- five years.

And Enoch walked with God; and he was not, for God took him. (Genesis 5:23,24 NKJV)

Enoch Walked With God

God took Enoch in the prime of life! He lived less than half, and in some cases little more than a third, of all these other guys. But it isn't the *quantity* of a man's life; it's the *quality*. Jesus lived only thirty-three years on this earth, ministering only three. But He said when He was through,

"It is finished!" (John 19:30b NKJV)

He had done what the Father sent Him to do. Now, for the second time in two verses, we are told

Enoch walked with God; (Genesis 5:24a NKJV)

There is only one other person in Scripture about whom we've ever given that phrase,

Noah walked with God. (Genesis 6:9c NKJV)

He's the only other one. There were many who walked *after* God, and there were many who walked *before* God. But only about Enoch and Noah was it ever said that they walked *with* God. And then it repeats what we read in Hebrews: Enoch didn't die. That's amazing. Look at it. Adam died, Seth died, Enos died, Cainan died, Mahalaleel died, Jared died, Methuselah died, but Enoch...didn't die. So Enoch, basically, is the world's oldest man. Methuselah was nine hundred and sixty nine years old when he died. Enoch today must be a little over six thousand years old. I don't know about you, but that makes me feel a little bit younger, and I need all the help I can get. Enoch hasn't died *yet*. But perhaps, according to the Word, one day he will. But the fact is that he *pleased* God because he *walked with* God, and because he walked with God, we come to the third area:

III- ENOCH KNEW GOD'S HEART. (Jude 14-15)

Turn to Jude. If you have a paraphrase or Living Bible it will be easier to follow. I'm going to run through this fairly quickly. Verse three tells us that we are supposed to stand up for right doctrine. Verse four tells us the reason is, some bad teachers are going to come along in the last days telling us that we can live any way we want to and God will accept it. Basically there'll be no judgment, no hell. Ever heard of that in the twentieth century? Verse five says, I'll give you an illustration, though. Look at God, He saved a whole nation and then He allowed them to be slain when they disobeyed. Verse six, even the angels who sinned have been chained to unrighteous judgment. They'll end up for eternity in hell. Verse seven; look at Sodom and Gomorrah, a perfect

Enoch Walked With God

illustration of God's judgment and hell. Verse eight goes back to those teachers. Three things about them; they scoff at immorality (have you heard of that today?); they scoff at authority; and they scoff at the spirit world. They make light of demonic hosts, the things of the spirit world. But Michael, verse nine, didn't make light of the spirit world; he didn't contend with Satan directly. What did he do? He said, The Lord rebuke you. Verse ten. These people curse, joke, and ridicule spiritual things. And verse eleven cites the evils of Cain and Balaam and Korah. Verse twelve says the false teachers used the agape feasts of the church to stuff themselves, have a good time, and are insensitive. And then verse 13 goes on to say these people are doubly dead.

All they leave behind them is shame and disgrace, like the dirty foam left along the beach by the wild waves. They wander around looking as bright as stars, but ahead of them is the everlasting gloom and darkness that God has prepared for them. (Jude 13 TLB)

But look what strange thought comes in on verse fourteen. Here's our boy again.

And Enoch also, the seventh from Adam, prophesied about these men [people] also, (Jude 14a)

Old Enoch, now, he never said a word to us in the Old Testament, but here in the New Testament we find Enoch speaking. Now you say, maybe it was a different Enoch? No, it says the seventh generation from Adam. That's our boy, Enoch. This is only the third mention in Scripture. He knew all about these men—he prophesied about them. Now how did he know so much about them? Have any ideas? I think I do. He walked with God. He knew three things,

1- He knew the *heart* of God. He knew what pleased Him.

2- He knew the *purity* of God. He knew what brought judgment.

3- He knew the *plan* of God. So he knew what God would do when His plan was not followed.

I think God must have filled him in as they walked together, don't you?

Now why do you think God shared so much with Enoch about the end times? Well, we'll see in just a moment, but verse fourteen goes on and says,

Enoch Walked With God

“Behold, the Lord comes with ten thousands of His saints,”
(Jude 14b NKJV)

You say, “Enoch said that?” That’s what it says! Verse fifteen is what I call the “ungodly” verse in Scripture. It says what Enoch said,

“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.

(Jude 15 NKJV)

It’s an “ungodly” verse. Enoch couldn’t tolerate ungodliness because he walked with God. So we know already three things about Enoch:

- 1- He pleased God. (Hebrews 11)
- 2- He walked with God. (Genesis 5)
- 3- He knew the heart of God. (Jude)

IV- ENOCH WILL SHARE GOD’S TESTIMONY. (Revelation 11:2-11)

It comes to a head now, if we think about it. If you will, turn to Revelation chapter eleven. You may or may not totally agree with the conclusion we come to here, but try to keep an open mind, and I’m going to tell you about this eleventh chapter of Revelation. I’m going to summarize it for you first. The Lord’s telling us about two men. These two men will be sent by God at the latter part of the great tribulation, the last three and one half years, to be His witnesses. Now they’re going to have a hard time. They’re going to come into the world when the world is at its worst. God must have supreme confidence in these two men. He’s going to set them into the midst of Jerusalem, and they’re going to preach the Word. The Scripture goes on to tell us they’re going to be hated, killed, and when they are killed, the whole nation will rejoice. The whole world will rejoice and mock at their death, so much so that there’ll be nobody to bury them. But at the end of three and one half days God is going to put His breath back into them and resurrect them from the dead. Now that’s the background. Very quickly let me give eighteen facts about these two witnesses.

1- They are two actual men. They do not represent the Old Testament and the New or anything like that. They are two actual living men.
(Revelation 11:3-12)

Enoch Walked With God

2- They are Christ's witnesses. They are coming to witness to the Gospel, nothing else. (Revelation 11:3)

3- They will be given supernatural power. (Revelation 11:3)

4- They will be prophets. (Revelation 11:3,10)

5- They will prophesy for the last three and one half years before the second coming. (Revelation 11:2,3 and 12:6)

6- They will be clothed in sackcloth, indicating repentance. (Revelation 11:3)

7- They will be symbolized by two olive trees and two candlesticks. In your leisure read this passage and you'll see a perfect illustration of these two men as they were seen in heaven. (Zechariah 4:11-14)

8- They were already in heaven five hundred years before Christ. (Zechariah 4: 11-14)

9- John saw them in his vision – 96 A. D. (Revelation 11:3)

10- They will be invincible for 3½ years.

11- They will have the power to destroy their enemies, using the same tactics their enemies planned to use to destroy them.

12- Fire will come out of their mouths and consume the enemy. (Revelation 11:5)

13- They will have the power to keep it from raining. (Revelation 11:6)

Sound familiar ?

14- They will have the power to send plagues at will. (Revelation 11:6)

15- The Antichrist will slay them at the end of the three and one half years. (Revelation 11:7)

16- These cannot be men who died before. (Hebrews 9:27 NKJV)

I remind you that "it is appointed for men to die once."

These cannot be men who died after John looked up into heaven and saw them already in heaven.

17- They will be dead 3½ days and resurrected. (Revelation 8-11)

18- They cannot be men who were resurrected before.

19- These two men may well be Elijah and Enoch.

Enoch Walked With God

Elijah was translated into heaven more than five hundred years before Christ, he's a prophet, and he has had the power to stop the rain. Enoch had not yet died. He was a prophet of judgment, as we learn in Jude. He cannot have been translated and have received his resurrection body. You say, "How do you know that?" I Corinthians 15:20-23 says that Jesus will be the first fruits of the resurrection. So Enoch, having lived 4000 years before, could not have been the first fruits of the resurrection. We don't know for certain, but it certainly seems likely that these two men who are spoken of in Revelation 11 may well be Enoch and Elijah.

The point is that Enoch was a man who walked with God, pleased God, knew the heart of God, and therefore would become the testimony of God at exactly the right time.

If this is true, have you ever stopped to realize that the man who walks with God and pleases God is not exempt from tribulation? He is not exempt from pain, he is not exempt from persecution, and he is not even exempt from martyrdom. If you were to interview Stephen for the San Antonio Express you would hold your mike up, as the kids do when they are going to say something important, and would say, "Stephen, when was the most beautiful day of your life?" He would describe an occasion for you when he just literally lit up with the joy of the Lord and he literally saw the face of the Lord. He would get so excited as he described this day and he would tell you one of the greatest men in Scripture was converted as a result of that day. He would say that he and God were closer together than at any time that he spent on earth. You would say, "Well, was it your 29th birthday? He'd say, "No." "Was it your 10th anniversary as pastor of the Jerusalem Baptist Church?" He'd say, "No."

"Well what was it?" Stephen would look at you with this glow, and he'd say, "It was the day they stoned me to death." You'd say, "Oh." Stephen was a man that walked with God, that pleased the heart of God, and he was at the happiest point of his life when he was able to suffer for the glory of God.

In closing, there are three ways in Scripture that men can walk in the presence of God.

- 1- We can walk *before* God, being totally aware of His presence.
 - 2- We can walk *after* God, being totally obedient to His Word,
- or

Enoch Walked With God

3- We can walk *with* God, aware of His presence, obedient to His Word, and in continual close fellowship with Him.

Do a study sometime in Matthew 14 where Peter attempted to walk to God on the water. We won't take time to do that this morning, but only to remind you that three things can be said of the man who walks with God:

1- He needs to be a man of continual obedience or a woman of continual obedience. When God convicts you, don't argue with Him. When you walk with God you don't want to do anything to displease Him. A husband and wife, really in love, walking together, will do anything to keep from hurting the other one, because they don't want their walk to be interrupted.

2- They will have a life of continual forgiveness. The first second that you disobey and hurt the heart of God, instead of living and wallowing in it, you must turn immediately and say, "Lord, please forgive me." (Immediately asking and immediately accepting.) Don't carry the burden on your shoulders like you're trying to help God at Calvary. "Please, Lord, forgive me; thank you, Lord, you forgave me."

3- A person of continual conversation with God. Pray without ceasing. This is the harder part. It means you get up in the morning roll out of bed, crawl out of bed, cry out of bed, whatever you do—maybe groan out of bed. The first words out of your mouth ought to be, "Good morning, Lord, thank you for the night." "Thank you for the next day." "I want to praise You." You ought to get up and go to the shower and think about the showers of blessing that God is giving you. You ought to sing or praise, even when there is nobody to hear you. You sit down to say grace. You ought not to do it the way I do. Basically my heart often says, "Lord, here we are again. I'm in a hurry to eat, so let's get it over with." You get up and get into your car. What do you do in your car? Run over people, growl at people, shift gears, speed? Turn on the radio as loud as you can to keep you from thinking, or listen to the enemy and get in trouble? I think we all ought to disable our radios in our cars because that's the most fruitful time of the day to praise God and to pray. Picture this: you get to work having done this, having started the day walking with God, and the boss comes in and really puts it on you. He blames you for something you didn't do. What do you do? Turn to the Lord, because you've been walking with Him all morning already, and

Enoch Walked With God

you say, “Thank you Lord, how are you going to handle this?” He puts His arm around you and He says, “Son, I’ll take care of it.” Remember what Jesus said;

He committed Himself to Him that judges righteously
(I Peter 2:23 paraphrased)

Submit yourself to them that have authority over you
(Hebrews 13:17 paraphrased)

“Thank you Lord, I’ll do that.” It is total, complete fellowship and union with Him—continual, unbroken fellowship.

Now I don’t pretend to be qualified to teach this lesson. But I have been convicted in the study of it, and I trust that perhaps you have, too. We can realize this morning how the heart of God responds to just one man who walks with God, pleases God, knows the heart of God, and is available to God.

In closing, before we pray, let me leave you with this thought,

ENOCH WALKED WITH GOD

We know not much about Enoch,
Or the depth of terrain that he trod.
But oh, the power in what we know,
For we know that he walked with God.

We do not know of his deeds or his works—
There’s no legacy there to see—
But we only know of the Master’s words,
“This man’s life has been pleasing to Me.”

Search the Scriptures hour upon hour
Through scenes both joyous and grim.
Is there ever a work that man has done
As triumphant as walking with Him?

Many walk before Christ as their Savior;
Some walk after as the Scripture intends,
But oh, the joy of those precious few
Who have walked with Him as friends.

Let’s pray:

Father,

Thank You for the pictures you paint in Scripture of your choice servants. We don’t really know how to relate to a

Enoch Walked With God

man like Enoch. We don't know much about all of the great things he did, the jobs he had, the people he ministered to. We don't even know much about what he said when he spoke. We just know his heart. We know, Father, that's what You're really looking at. And here was a man that pleased You so much that he was able to walk with You day by day, just continually in fellowship and harmony, thinking Your thoughts and breathing Your breath, and never taking a thought without taking You into account. And You loved him so much that you caught him up to be in heaven with Yourself, and he's there even now, perhaps awaiting that time when you'll allow him to be a martyr.

Father, we thank You this morning that Enoch was not some supernatural soul that we as Christians cannot aspire to be like.

Amen

dtm DISCIPLESHIP TAPE MINISTRIES, INC.

10602 Mossbank, San Antonio, TX 78230

210-226-0000 or 1-800-375-7778

www.dtm.org • dtm@dtm.org • © Russell Kelfer

(07.14.15)