

GENESIS: Where Grace Begins

A Step Above Mere Living

By faith Enoch was taken up so that he should not see death, and he was not found, because God had taken him. Now before he was taken he was commended as having pleased God.

- Hebrews 11:5 (ESV)

What Happened to Adam?

¹ This is the book of the generations of Adam. When God created man, he made him in the likeness of God. ² Male and female he created them, and he blessed them and named them Man when they were created. ³ When Adam had lived 130 years, he fathered a son in his own likeness, after his image, and named him Seth. ⁴ The days of Adam after he fathered Seth were 800 years; and he had other sons and daughters. ⁵ Thus all the days that Adam lived were 930 years, and he died.

Genesis 5:1-5

He was created by GOD'S OWN hand.

He was formed in GOD'S IMAGE.

He was BLESSED by God.

He SINNED against God and therefore he DIED.

⁶ When Seth had lived 105 years, he fathered Enosh. ⁷ Seth lived after he fathered Enosh 807 years and had other sons and daughters. ⁸ Thus all the days of Seth were 912 years, and he died. ⁹ When Enosh had lived 90 years, he fathered Kenan. ¹⁰ Enosh lived after he fathered Kenan 815 years and had other sons and daughters. ¹¹ Thus all the days of Enosh were 905 years, and he died. ¹² When Kenan had lived 70 years, he fathered Mahalalel. ¹³ Kenan lived after he fathered Mahalalel 840 years and had other sons and daughters. ¹⁴ Thus all the days of Kenan were 910 years, and he died. ¹⁵ When Mahalalel had lived 65 years, he fathered Jared. ¹⁶ Mahalalel lived after he fathered Jared 830 years and had other sons and daughters. ¹⁷ Thus all the days of Mahalalel were 895 years, and he died.

Genesis 5:6-17

Key Themes (so far)

The constancy and certainty of DEATH due to the CURSE of sin.

COMMON grace.

God's preservation of a promised SEED of deliverance.

God's personal KNOWLEDGE of all people.

An APPOINTED LINE (Seth's) thru which the afore-promised deliverance would come.

More Than Mere Genealogy:

¹⁸When Jared had lived 162 years, he fathered Enoch. ¹⁹Jared lived after he fathered Enoch 800 years and had other sons and daughters. ²⁰Thus all the days of Jared were 962 years, and he died. ²¹When Enoch had lived 65 years, he fathered Methuselah. ²²Enoch walked with God after he fathered Methuselah 300 years and had other sons and daughters. ²³Thus all the days of Enoch were 365 years. ²⁴Enoch walked with God, and he was not, for God took him.

Genesis 5:18-23

Enoch was a PROPHET/PREACHER who spoke against the UNGODLINESS of his generation. (Jude 14-15)

Although Enoch lived in a time where WICKEDNESS was ASCENDING, he nonetheless remained faithful to God.

Enoch "WALKED WITH GOD" (This was an age in which hardly anyone else was walking with God. Certainly his ungodly cousins - Irad, Mehujael, Methushael, Lamech and his sons - of whom we read in Genesis 4, were not.

What does it mean to "walk with God"?

Enoch walked with God because he was His friend and liked His company, because he was going in the same direction as God, and had no desire for anything but what lay in God's path.

We walk with God when He is in all our thoughts; not because we consciously think of Him at all times, but because He is naturally suggested to us by all we think of ... with the godly man everything has a connection with God and must be ruled by that connection. When some change in his circumstances is thought of, he has first of all to determine how the proposed change will affect his connection with God—will his conscience be equally clear, will he be able to live on the same friendly terms with God and so forth.

When he falls into sin he cannot rest till he has resumed his place at God's side and walks again with Him. This is the general nature of walking with God; it is a persistent endeavor to hold all our life open to God's inspection and in conformity to His will; a readiness to give up what we find does cause any misunderstanding between us and God; a feeling of loneliness if we have not some satisfaction in our efforts at holding fellowship with God, a cold and desolate feeling when we are conscious of doing something that displeases Him.

... It is easy then to understand how we may practically walk with God—it is to open to Him all our purposes and hopes, to seek His judgment on our scheme of life and idea of happiness—it is to be on thoroughly friendly terms with God....

Things were not made easy to Enoch. In evil days, with much to mislead him, with everything to oppose him, he had by faith and diligent seeking, as the Epistle to the Hebrews says, to cleave to the path on which God walked, often left in darkness, often thrown off the track, often listening but unable to hear the footfall of God or to hear his own name called upon, receiving no sign, but still diligently seeking the God he knew would lead him only to good.

- Marcus Dods, *Book of Genesis*, 51-53.

This phrase is only applied to two men in Genesis: Enoch and NOAH (Genesis 6:9)

Hebrews 11:5 says Enoch "PLEASED GOD".

Like ELIJAH later, God simply "took him".

As Luci Shaw states in her poem *Enoch*, he ...

crossed the gap

another way

he changed his pace

but not his company.

Enoch's "translation" is a foreshadowing of our salvation.

His life shows that God created us for LIFE and not DEATH, and the means of life is RIGHTEOUSNESS.

The 2nd Key Figure of Genesis – Noah:

²⁵ When Methuselah had lived 187 years, he fathered Lamech. ²⁶ Methuselah lived after he fathered Lamech 782 years and had other sons and daughters. ²⁷ Thus all the days of Methuselah were 969 years, and he died.

²⁸ When Lamech had lived 182 years, he fathered a son ²⁹ and called his name Noah, saying, "Out of the ground that the Lord has cursed, this one shall bring us relief from our work and from the painful toil of our hands." ³⁰ Lamech lived after he fathered Noah 595 years and had other sons and daughters. ³¹ Thus all the days of Lamech were 777 years, and he died.

³² After Noah was 500 years old, Noah fathered Shem, Ham, and Japheth.

Genesis 5:25-32

For 1,500 years after creation, men lived such long lives that most were either contemporaries of the first man, Adam, or personally knew someone who was! The ten patriarchs (excluding Enoch) who preceded the Great Flood lived an average of 912 years. Lamech died the youngest at the age of 777, and Methuselah lived to be the oldest at 969.

During the 1,000 years following the Flood, however, the Bible records a progressive decline in the life span of the patriarchs, from Noah, who lived to be 950 years old, until Abraham at 175 (see figure 1 and table 2). In fact, Moses was unusually old for his time (120 years) because, when he reflected on the brevity of life, he said: "The days of our lives are seventy years; and if by reason of strength they are eighty years, yet their boast is only labor and sorrow; for it is soon cut off, and we fly away" (*Psalms 90:10*).

The Old Testament (1 Chronicles 1:1-4) and the New Testament (Luke 3:36-38) both affirm that the ages depicted were accepted as historical by biblical writers.

If there are no gaps, the timeline looks like this:

<i>Patriarch</i>	<i>Year of Birth</i>	<i>Age at Birth of Next Patriarch</i>	<i>Year of Death</i>
Adam	1	130	930
Seth	130	105	1042
Enos	235	90	1140
Cainan	325	70	1235
Mahalaleel	395	65	1290
Zared	460	162	1422
Enoch	622	65	987*
Methuselah	687	187	1656**
Lamech	874	182	1651
Noah	1056	500	2006

*Enoch did not die, but was 'translated'.

**Methuselah died in the very year that the flood came.