

Heros of Faith #2
Enoch – He Walked with God
Genesis 5:21-24

INTRODUCTION Do you know your family tree? I don't mean a tree near your house. Your family tree, your ancestors, the history of generations in your family.

Genesis 5 has a good family tree: 10 generations from ADAM to NOAH - with famous people like LAMECH and JARED ... who?!? ... As in most family trees, this one has men not very famous or very important - and we know almost nothing about them. Yet here we meet another of our HEROES OF FAITH - ENOCH.

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I. "Good morning! I'm ENOCH!

"The Bible doesn't say much about my life ... JARED was my father, and he was 162 years old when I was born! ... one of my sons was METHUSELAH - you might remember his name - he lived a LONG time, 969 years! - he was born when I was 65 ... after that I lived more: 300 years ... that's all the Bible says - nothing about my work, my successes.

"Well, the Bible does say something more - really the best of all, it says that I 'walked with God' - beautiful how the Holy Spirit led Moses to describe my life that way! Many years later the Spirit led another writer say that meant that I was someone 'who pleased God - and without faith it is impossible to please God.' (Heb 11) Oh, we had many people who did not walk with God, especially the descendants of Cain (remember, he killed his brother Abel) ... yes, also people in my own family ... more and more, people drifted away and forgot about the Lord who made our first parents, Adam and Eve ... by the time of Noah there were only 8 people who walked with God!

"I learned about God from my father, same as he learned from his father - how God was strong in creating this world, how God was good in taking care of the world and everything living here, how God is kind in healing us when we were sick, and especially how God is loving & merciful in forgiving our sins. 'Walking with God' does not mean I was perfect ... no! - I was a sinner, sorry to say - doing many of the same wrong things that other people do, sometimes becoming so busy in my life that I forgot God ... I

needed God's love, His mercy, His forgiveness. Long ago, the Lord promised to Adam & Eve that He will send a Savior to take away our sins ... I believed God's promise - and because of that faith, God called me 'righteous' just like the other heroes of faith.

"Then one day no one could find me, because I wasn't there any more ... I did not die - instead, God took me to heaven! Maybe this was His way of showing the people who believed Him that they will live again in heaven - even though they die ... there is life eternal for His righteous people. Jesus - you know Him, the Savior that God promised! - said, 'I am the resurrection and the life. Anyone who believes in Me will live, even though he dies, and whoever lives and believes in Me will never die.' (John 11) I walked with God during the 365 years I lived on earth - me, a sinner who believed God's promise of forgiveness

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II. Jesus said, "Come ... follow Me."

Jesus walked with God, too - all the way to the cross where He died. In Genesis 5 the brief description of these men all end with the words "and he died" - except for Enoch - and the story of our life (short or long) will end the same way ... death will come to us, because like Adam and Eve we have sin and deserve death. Christ did not deserve death, for He walked with God perfectly ... yet He died FOR US - and rose again! Now He says to us and to all, "Come ... follow Me ... walk with Me!" And by faith we do follow Him ... we DO walk with Him! ... and we live in the faith that we will walk with Him forever, even though we die.

My brothers & sisters, walk with God each day ... because He has called you away from your aimless wandering through life - He called you to union with Himself through Baptism ... begin each day remembering that Baptism - "in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit" Look to Him for everything you need. Speak to Him in prayer. Listen to Him, for He speaks to you and writes to you in the Bible. Serve Him in love & joy walk with God - now and forever!