

Hebrews 11:5-6 **“The testimony of Enoch”**

- I. Introduction**
- II. Vs. 5 Enoch’s story**
- III. Vs. 6 A pleasing walk**

I. Introduction

As noted verses 4-7 offers the reader three demonstrations of the definition of faith that the writer spoke of in the first three verses of Hebrews Chapter 11.

- In Abel we examined his life and true “WORSHIP” by faith.
- In Enoch, we will examine the true “WALK” by faith.
- In Noah, we will examine what true “WILLING OBEDIENCE” by faith looks like.

Able spoke to us of how “TRUE WORSHIP” by faith will change your **DESTINATION!**

Enoch will speak to us how “TRUE WALK” by faith will change your **DESTINY!**

II. Vs. 5 Enoch’s story

Vs. 5 Like Able, there are very few verses that give us any insight with regards to Enoch.

First to clarify; the Enoch mentioned Genesis 4:17-18 is not the same Enoch mentioned in Genesis 5:18-24. It is interesting that both Lamech and his grandfather Enoch share names in common with their ungodly relatives, Cain’s descendants. Further more these are the only two who did not outlive their fathers and both had words from the Lord. The thought is that they were called to reach out to the Canaanite’s! The first one is in the lineage of Cain where the one the writer makes reference too is from the Godly line of Seth who was born when Adam was 130 years old. So including the Genesis 5:18-24 passage Enoch appears in only five scriptures and two of those are just geologies (1 Chron 1:3 and Luke 3:37). So our complete knowledge of him comes form; Genesis 5:18-24, here in Hebrews 11:5-6 and Jude 1:14. Jude 1:14 tells us that he was the **seventh**

generation from Adam. Genesis 5:18-24, we are told that for 65 years he lived like everyone else before him in his day. It is in Genesis 5:20-24 that we gain insight into this man of faith's life: Through these verses we learn three things about Enoch whose name means "teaching":

- A man of faith in whose life was characterized by pleasing God.

1. Vs. 21-22a His walk started after the birth of his son Methuselah when he was 65 years old. The next three hundred years of his life can be summed up by the phrase "*walked with God*". In fact, twice in this short account of his life we are told that he "*walked with God*". The phrase "*walk with God*" in the Greek translation of Genesis 5:21-24 and the phrase "*pleased God*" here in Hebrews 11:5 both use the same Greek word and as such mean the same thing; "walking with God is pleasing God". Now by these words we know that Enoch had a very special relationship with the Lord. Heb. 11:5 Tells us that "*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.*" The intimacy in this walk is clearly seen by the words "by faith". His life was one that was centered on trusting the lord, which implies (obedience, prayer, and heart for God's word and worship) all of which "*please the Lord*".

- A prophet that spoke of impending judgment upon the pre-flood world.

According to Gen. 6:5-6 the wickedness of the world at the time of Enoch up to Noah was continually consumed in sin; so that it was their every thought of their heart. We are told that God was grieved and sorry that He had placed mankind upon the earth. There is also an interesting message in the meaning of the names of the Godly line from Adam through Seth. These men's names present a clear presentation of the gospel.

<u>Hebrew</u>	<u>English</u>
Adam	<u>Man</u>
Seth	<u>Appointed</u>
Enosh	<u>Mortal</u>
Cainan	<u>Sorrow</u>
Mahalaleel	<u>The Blessed God</u>
Jared	<u>Shall come down</u>
Enoch	<u>Teaching</u>
Methuselah	<u>His death shall bring</u>
Lamech	<u>Despairing</u>
Noah	<u>Rest</u>

If you put these translations of the names into a normal sentence structure it would read: "Man is appointed mortal sorrow; but the blessed God shall come down teaching that His death shall bring the despairing rest!"

2. Vs. 22 Apparently Enoch received a prophecy that judgment was coming, and that it was going to happen after his son Methuselah died because he named his son "*His death shall bring*". Methuselah has often been used as the answer to the

trivia question, “*Who is the oldest man recorded in the Bible?*” His age and the fact that his death brought upon the earth God’s judgment speaks of God’s longsuffering in that He is “*not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.*” (2 Peter 3:9) If you do your math you will find out that the flood did come in the year of Methuselah’s death in fact some say in the very week of it. So in Jude 24-25 we are told that for three hundred years Enoch “*prophesied about these men*” (**that is this 300-year generation just before the judgment of the flood**). Saying, “*Behold, the Lord comes with ten thousand of His saints, 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.*”

- **A man who was suddenly taken to the presence of God.**
3. Vs. 24 It does not say that he died as did the other godly ancestors but that suddenly he was no longer on the earth. Heb. 11:5 uses the word “*taken*” or as the KJ versions says, “*translated*”. The word appears 7 times in the NT where it is translated these ways, “**carried back, turning, being changed**”. So what we have here is a rapture like occurrence which is spoken of in 1 Thess. 4:17 where we read that those, “*who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air.*” The word “*caught up*” is “*harpazo*” in the Greek, which is translated into Latin with the word “*rapture*”. Now what is interesting, in light of the NT, is that this proceeded God’s judgment upon the earth. Enoch’s being **carried back** did not occur at the **mid point** of God’s judgment upon the earth. **Neither was he preserved** as Noah and his family was, going through the judgment. No, he was caught up and carried back being changed instantly as he was brought into the presence of God, so he is a typology of the Church as Noah is of Israel.

III. Vs. 6 A pleasing walk

Vs. 6 Enoch’s life ought to be what we see in the Church prior to God’s judgment upon the earth. That is, we ought to have:

- **A walk that is pleasing to God**
- **Mouths that consistently speak the Word of God**
- **Lives that are ready to be instantly in the presence of God**

The question that this ought to inspire in our hearts is; “**How are we to be this kind of Christian?**” That is where Hebrews 11:6 comes in as we see **Enoch’s threefold testimony of a walk that is pleasing to God:**

1. Vs. 6a “*Without God it is impossible to please Him (God), for he who comes to God must believe that He is..*”: Enoch had a hearty that consistently desired above all else desired to please God. This speaks that he only did, as Jesus says of himself in John 8:29 “*those things that please Him.*” **A life consistently lived in obedience to the word of God!** Religion doesn’t “**please God**” as it is a system that **by definition is: Trying to come to God by ANY OTHER WAY other than the WAY God has prescribed!** The first step of faith that Enoch did was to simple believe that God exists the way that He revealed Himself in the Bible. God cannot be proved by science any more than Abraham Lincoln can be proved by science. **For something to be proved by science it has to be repeatable and history by its very nature is unrepeatable!** We can learn many things that give evidence of God such as the, “**law of cause and effect**” that holds that for every **cause**; there must be an **effect**. So if you keep pushing back further and further you will end up with an “**uncaused cause**” and the **ONLY UNCAUSED CAUSE is God!** That’s what the writer said in Hebrews 3:4 “*For every house is built by someone, but He who built all things is God.*” **The Law of entropy**, says that: **Everything is running down and therefore is not self-sustaining.** *If it is not self-sustaining than it has to have a beginning and if it has a beginning than someone had to begin it and we are back to God and they uncaused cause!* There is the **Law of design**: That notes **the amazing complexity of design and the uniformity and functionality of design, all of which speaks of intelligence of God**

and the uncaused cause! **Reason cannot prove the existence of God but like science it gives a great deal of evidence.** Mankind, being personal, conscious, rational, creative and volitional makes it inconceivable that we could come into being by random chance and chaos. To believe that mankind who is personal and thinking could some how have developed from slime up an imaginable evolutionary chain makes no logical sense! The very idea of God lends substance to the fact that He is and further more the fact that mankind can conceive of God suggests that God has given mankind the ability of such a conception and that there would be a God who exactly fits this conception!

2. Vs. 6b “For he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who”: The next step of faith for Enoch isn’t just to believe that God is moral and just and that He will reward faith in Him! To Enoch God was “NOT merely the man upstairs” He wasn’t an impersonal force. Enoch walked with God and knew Him in a way that was personal and loving. You don’t “WALK” with a “force”; for too years Enoch had consistent personal fellowship with the true living God, who revealed Himself to Enoch as being: Just merciful, forgiving, holy and loving! **You can not please an impersonal object!** Enoch lived a life that trusted God and not his own insight. Enoch knew and trusted God’s character to always do what was best. Proverbs 8:17 says, “I love those who love me, and those who seek me diligently will find me.” The reward God gives for faith is our salvation as every good thing that God has, including eternal life is a reward for our faith!
3. Vs. 6c “diligently seek Him”: Lastly we see that in both of the above his heart was one of diligence. Enoch’s master passion was to seeking the Lord (**walking with**

God), in other words the Lord was fixed upon the throne of his heart. The term “walking with God” in the Bible speaks of a life spent faithfully living with God in “newness of life” (2 Corinth. 5:7). A life characterized by the words of Paul in Galatians 5:16 “Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh.” And Ephesians 5:2 “Walk in love, as Christ also has loved us and given Himself for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet-smelling aroma.” Enoch walked with God for 300 years in the same way in which he would be walking with God in heaven. A little Sunday School girl said it this way, “*Enoch was a man who learned to walk with God, and they used to take long walks together. One day they walked so far that God said, 'Look, Enoch, it's too far for you to go back; just come on home with me.'* So he walked on home with God.” That is the reality that Enoch discovered by a walk of faith. It was not Enoch’s retirement that gave him a deeper security. At 65 he began to enjoy the continuous presence of an unseen personal God, and he related his life daily to Him. He discovered a fellowship that death could not interrupt.