

SERMON OUTLINE

'Who by Faith' - 3

Studies in Hebrews 11

Hebrews 11 v5 - 6, Jude v14 - 15 & Genesis 5 v21 - 24

Enoch is one of the truly mysterious figures in Scriptural history.

What do we know about Enoch?

A. HIS PHYSICAL AGE

See Gen 5 v21 - 23. Key Point arising from the ages of the patriarchs - following on from the fall not only did the earth begin to physically decay, man began to physically decay as well with his length of years reducing and reducing until following the flood his years began to average out at three score years and ten.

B. HIS SPIRITUAL CHARACTER

See Jd v14 - 15, and contrast with Gen 4 v17 - 18f. Key Point - Whilst Enoch (the third from Adam) had a city named after him, Enoch (the seventh from Adam) had the most important thing of all - faith!

There are 3 things to be seen in Enoch that we should want to emulate:-

1. HE BELIEVED IN GOD

See Heb 11 v5b - 6a.

Fact - Enoch pleased God.

Question - What is it that pleases God?

Answer - Faith pleases God.

Question - What do mean by faith?

Answer - It's believing that God exists.

Is this not a problem? Are we saying that as long as you believe that there is a God then you'll get to heaven? Of course not! Key Point - We must read this text through Hebrew eyes. See Ex 3 v14 (Greek version of OT) - "God said to Moses - I exist." It's not just believing in God, but believing in this God - that is, the God who revealed Himself to Moses as the God of saving grace, and then seeking Him in order

find Him. See Heb 11 v6b. In other words, this believing in God is trusting God.

Question - Why is it faith (this saving faith) which, above and beyond everything else, pleases God? Answer - This faith gives glory to Jesus. See Eph 2 v8 - 9.

2. HE WALKED WITH GOD

See Gen 5 v22 - 24a. Key Point - The evidence that we have faith in God is that we will walk with God. Walking is a picture of fellowship / friendship with God. See Amos 3 v3 & 1 Jn 1 v5 - 7.

3. HE WAS REMOVED BY GOD

See Heb 11 v5a & Gen 5 v24.

Key Question - Why did God do this? Note the context in Genesis 5 that all these patriarchs, except Enoch, died - "and then he died... and then he died... and then he died...." Note (do your arithmetic) - after Adam died, the next to depart the earthly scene was Enoch who didn't die. What this is telling us is that for the Christian believer (the man or woman of faith) death doesn't have the last word.