



# 12 | GENESIS 5

## JESUS & ENOCH

*Life is short, so walk with God, share Christ with your family, with your kids if you have them, and with the world. You can change the world one soul at a time.*

### Outline

#### 1. THE PORTION OF LIFE (5:1-20)

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The Measure of Technology  
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Application

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The Life of Noah  
The Life of Adam

#### 3. THE PURPOSE OF LIFE (5:23-32)

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A Vision for Family  
A Vision for Fallen Humanity

### Call to Worship

I will give thanks to you, O LORD, for though you were angry with me, your anger turned away, that you might comfort me. <sup>2</sup>“Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not be afraid; for the LORD God is my strength and my song, and he has become my salvation. —Isaiah 12:1-2

### Songs

*Only a Holy God*

*Love Ran Red*

*Immortal, Invisible*

*How Sweet and Awesome is the Place*

*I Want to Know You*

## Announcements

**WELCOME:** We are glad you are here! Be sure to grab a Welcome Packet if you are visiting with us.

**VBS NEED:** VBS needs 4-5 more volunteers. The areas of need are group leaders (male and female), media, nurse and security. We are also still in need of donations. We have around \$150-200 and need \$350.

## Introduction

In 1886, Carl Benz drove his first automobile through the streets of Munich, Germany. He named his car the Mercedes Benz. His chief engineer had created a marvel, so he honored him by naming it after his engineer's daughter, Mercedes.

**The new motorcar was not immediately accepted** because it was too fast. Pressured by the citizens, the local officials immediately established a speed limit for "horseless carriages" of 3.5 miles an hour in the city limits and 7 miles an hour outside. Benz knew he could never develop a market for his car and compete against horses if he had to creep along at those speeds. They eventually lifted the speed limit, but it didn't really "take off" since it was considered unsafe with a top speed of over 20 miles per hour. **It had a one cylinder, 0.9 horsepower engine which would top out at a whopping 20 mph!** By 1938, the car could actually achieve an incredible 268 miles per hour at 180 horsepower!

With the populace thinking the car was unsafe, **Carl Benz' wife Bertha came up with a brilliant solution.** Without her husband's knowledge, Benz's wife Bertha and their two sons Eugen (15) and Richard (14) embarked on the first long-distance journey in automotive history on an August day in 1888. The route took them from Mannheim to Pforzheim, her place of birth. It was **a 120-mile journey!** With her **courage Bertha Benz demonstrated the practicality of the first motorized vehicle** to the entire world. **Without her daring** – and that of her sons, the automobile might not have changed the world.<sup>1</sup>

**There is a kind of daring** in Genesis chapter 5 that changes the world in a much more transcendent way. The birth Adam and Eve's third son, Seth is recorded. **It's a birth that changes the world.** Seth is one of the **sons of promise** whose family line will one day **bring forth the Messiah** (cf Lk 3:36-38).

## SINNERS VS. SAINTS

The world is being **populated by rebel sinners** through the line of Cain, and Adam and Eve have another boy, whose name is Seth. It was in the days of Seth, the Bible says, **"At that time people began to call upon the name of the LORD"** (4:26b).

Interestingly, we see how fatherhood brings an awake to Seth, and he starts seeking God. Seth has a son named Enosh, and it's at that time that people start calling upon the "name of the LORD."

Later, Seth's descendent Enoch becomes a father to Methuselah at age 65 and at that time of first time **fatherhood starts walking with God.** We see what walking with God can do for a generation. Indeed with Noah, this one family keeps the human race out of extinction.

I look over our congregation, and I must say it is a beautiful sight to see so many of **you fathers sitting with your children.** There is something really wonderful about multi-generational godliness. We see all these fathers with their children in church, and it is one of the greatest blessings.

OFFERING: KIDS ARE FREE

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<sup>1</sup> Michael Marcovici, *The 50 Greatest Events in the History of Humankind* (Germany: Books on Demand, 2014), 233.

Kids are amazing aren't they? They're so funny. I heard about **a young boy** who was sitting with his dad in church, and the offering plate was approaching. He said, "**Don't pay for me, dad, I'm under five. Kids get in free!**" Aren't you glad the gospel is free?

#### POOREST PREACHER!

I heard about **a little girl** who walked out of the service after it was over and she said to the pastor, "When I grow up, I'm going to **give you some money.**" The pastor said, "Thank you, dear, but why?" She said, "Because **my dad says you are the poorest preacher we've ever had.**"

Seriously though, children are truly a blessing from the Lord, and this passage tells us we can change the world if we walk with the Lord with our children.

Key thought: Life is short, so walk with God, share Christ with your family, with your kids if you have them, and with the world. You can change the world one soul at a time.

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## 1. THE PORTION OF LIFE (5:1-20)

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*James 4:14* | What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes.

Life is short. It's a vapor. Listen to the words of C.T. Studd, missionary to India, China, and Africa.

Only one life, 'twill soon be past. Only what's done for Christ will last.<sup>2</sup>

### THE MEASURE OF LEGACY

In Genesis 5, we are given the genealogy of Adam to Noah, covering many centuries, a total of 1656 years, from Adam to the Flood.<sup>3</sup> In Genesis 4 **Cain's family line tries to make a name for themselves.** It's evil and rebellious. But Genesis 5 shows how **Seth** and his family line **save the world by making a name for God.** He's going to pass on the faith all the way to his descendent Noah. **Seth lived 912, so he would have known all of his descendants, including Noah.**

#### *Two Images: God or Adam*

As we are introduced to Seth, we are told something about imaging our father. Adam is made originally to image his heavenly Father, God. But **Seth is not said to image God but is born imaging his earthly father, Adam.**

**Genesis 5:1-3** | This is the book of the generations of Adam. When God created man, he made him in the likeness of God.<sup>2</sup> Male and female he created them, and he blessed them and named them Man when they were created.<sup>3</sup> When Adam had lived 130 years, he fathered a son in his own likeness, after his image, and named him Seth.

We note first, that **Seth's line seeks redemption.** Adam was made in the image of God but **Adam's son Seth is made in Adam's image.** The idea here is also that whatever "image" involved was passed on to the son, for Seth was in the image of his father.<sup>4</sup> One thing about Seth's line, is even though they are going to live longer, death is going to come, except for one of Seth's descendants: Enoch. He'll be

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<sup>2</sup> C.T. Studd in *Biblical Discipleship: Essential Components for Attaining Spiritual Maturity* (Sutherlin, OR: Selah Book Press, 2016), 22.

<sup>3</sup> Rousas John Rushdoony, *Commentaries on the Pentateuch: Genesis* (Vallecito, CA: Ross House Books, 2002), 51.

<sup>4</sup> Allen P. Ross, *Creation and Blessing: A Guide to the Study and Exposition of Genesis* (Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Books, 1998), 174.

transported to heaven to demonstrate that life is not mainly about the here and now, but it's about the eternal.

God had told Adam and Eve to “be fruitful and multiply and have dominion over the earth (1:28). We are here first introduced to Seth who is named because he's clearly faithful to God. He's the seed of the coming Redeemer.

### *Two Lines: Rebellious and Redeemed*

**The rebellious family line of Cain.** In Genesis 4, we read Cain's rebellious genealogy. He and his family are the seed of the serpent in the garden. They do begin multiplying, but without God, **all the people and all the technology can't relieve the misery.** They do a lot of things, but they are **forgotten.** We don't know how long they lived because their lives were worthless and forgotten. They created a civilization that would be mostly destroyed during the flood. They lived, they died, and their selfish lives did not matter.

**The descendants of Cain also are passed over very quickly.** Even though they achieve these great feats that are detailed for us we don't know their age. There's no detail about how long they lived. It seems as if their lives, largely speaking, weren't all that important to God. They built great stuff. Archeologists are finding a handful of buried architectural wonders. But because Christ is not at the center of their lives, their lives are completely meaningless. However long we live, we should live it to God and the young man who lives from 15 to 25 sold out for God and has taken at an early age into God's presence, has done more for God and has done more of significant ultimately, than the man who lives for 100 years and yet did nothing for God at all.

#### SETH'S LINE IS REDEEMED & REMEMBERED

**The redeemed family line of Seth.** We have something very different in Genesis 5. By repeating themes from the creation account, the writer shows **God's purpose for the human race.**<sup>5</sup> It's to glorify God. That's the idea of “image”.

Mankind cannot flourish without imaging and reflecting and glorifying God.

Genesis 5 gives us the genealogy of Adam and swiftly moves us from Adam to Seth to Noah. We have about 1656 years of human history from creation to the flood.

### *Two Seeds: The Serpent and the Savior's Offspring*

You have two lines of humanity: the **sons of promise and the seed of the serpent.** You have God's seed and Satan's seed. Cain's seed is taking over the earth in Genesis 4, and we see that they are advanced, fat, and happy, but ultimately they are forgotten.

**Seth and his family on the other hand is remembered** because **his line puts their faith in Yahweh.** The blessing had been defined in 1:28 as procreation and multiplication: God says to them, “Be fruitful and multiply.” **The family line of Seth is blessed** and begins to fill the earth with faithful families.<sup>6</sup>

### *Big Names of Humble Men*

Here in Genesis 5, you have big names of humble men who sought the Lord. These are the sons of promise. And we have some big names in this list that the Holy Spirit highlights. After **Seth** we have **Enoch** who walked with God and was translated to heaven. And then his son is **Methuselah.** He's not only the **oldest person in the Bible at 969** years old, but he dies the year the flood comes. Of course, Methuselah's grandson is the famous **Noah,** whose name means “**rest.**” Noah is hugely significant as it is

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<sup>5</sup> Allen P. Ross, *Creation and Blessing: A Guide to the Study and Exposition of Genesis* (Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Books, 1998), 173.

<sup>6</sup> R. Kent Hughes, *Genesis: Beginning and Blessing*, Preaching the Word (Wheaton, IL: Crossway Books, 2004), 118.

**through Noah that humanity is spared and preserved** even though God is brought to a point where he must destroy the world.

Now, the descendants of Adam obviously are a mixed bag, and even among the best of them there is this lack of ability to avoid the reality of death. Because Adam sinned, death comes into the world. There's one exception to that with Enoch, and he brings to as much instruction.

**Genesis 5:4-20** | The days of Adam after he fathered Seth were 800 years; and he had other sons and daughters. <sup>5</sup> Thus all the days that Adam lived were 930 years, and he died. <sup>6</sup> When Seth had lived 105 years, he fathered Enosh. <sup>7</sup> Seth lived after he fathered Enosh 807 years and had other sons and daughters. <sup>8</sup> Thus all the days of Seth were 912 years, and he died. <sup>9</sup> When Enosh had lived 90 years, he fathered Kenan. <sup>10</sup> Enosh lived after he fathered Kenan 815 years and had other sons and daughters. <sup>11</sup> Thus all the days of Enosh were 905 years, and he died. <sup>12</sup> When Kenan had lived 70 years, he fathered Mahalalel. <sup>13</sup> Kenan lived after he fathered Mahalalel 840 years and had other sons and daughters. <sup>14</sup> Thus all the days of Kenan were 910 years, and he died. <sup>15</sup> When Mahalalel had lived 65 years, he fathered Jared. <sup>16</sup> Mahalalel lived after he fathered Jared 830 years and had other sons and daughters. <sup>17</sup> Thus all the days of Mahalalel were 895 years, and he died. <sup>18</sup> When Jared had lived 162 years, he fathered Enoch. <sup>19</sup> Jared lived after he fathered **Enoch** 800 years and had other sons and daughters. <sup>20</sup> Thus all the days of Jared were 962 years, and he died.

When we read Genesis 5, one of the questions that arises and maybe some of you children think this or wonder about this, how come they all lived so long? You have this list of names. They all seem to live a very long time. Well, various arguments are given.

**Lifespans are much longer near the beginning of the creation for several reasons that we are going to explore.**

### **THE MEASURE OF GENETICS**

The first measure of life is genetic. **The human genome was much stronger and less corrupted because it's so close to the original creation.** As time goes on the genome is more and more weakened. But at this time the **human genome was in a healthier state.** The environment of the earth with the earth's **canopy likely had much more oxygen in the atmosphere**, so you have healthier conditions for humanity (1:6).

### **THE MEASURE OF POPULATION GROWTH**

Remember God had said in Genesis 1:28, "Be fruitful and multiply and have dominion over the earth." Here we see the **measure of population growth.** It seems God allows longer life spans so that **the initial command to fill the earth could be performed more quickly** and with the longevity of life. Populating of the earth could happen at a faster rate. If you're going to see the multiplication of the of the race and a **maximized multiplication** of the race, you're going to **need extended life cycles.** So that people can have more children. So you get the multiplication of the race through these extended life cycles.

Each of the people mentioned, it says, they "**had other sons and daughters**" (5: 4, 7, 10, 13, 16, 19, 22, 26). There's no telling **how many children** each of these individuals could have **been responsible for**, or how many children that their children could have been responsible for in these first 10 generations.

### **THE MEASURE OF TECHNOLOGY**

Another measure of these extended lifespans has to do with **technology.** Long life spans would have helped man to acquire skills and learning. A man who has 50 years of mastering his trade has not the same

advantage, so if you live for 5, 6, 7, 8 or 900 years, you can **master a trade to perfection**. You can pass on all that knowledge that you acquire to another generation. With new technologies today, scientists and archeologists are discovering architectural technologies that existed before the flood.

Because of longer life spans, you have the preservation of Arts and Sciences. Think about it: **Adam is alive until just before Noah is born**. Everybody on earth is living so long, **sharing technology and architecture**. Imagine if **da Vinci** had gotten 300 more years. Imagine the art and the inventions. Or imagine if **Einstein** had gotten 400 more years. Think about him applying his God-given gifts and talents and abilities for another 400 years. Think about the great scientists. Great musicians think about. If **Beethoven** had been given 800 years, can you wrap your mind around that one? Or what about Mozart? The music!

#### NO CAVE MEN BUT TECHNOLOGY

And so we have, Adam, the original man. He lived 930 years with the most pristine mind on this earth aside from Christ, of course. Adam is perhaps the keenest human intellect ever. So this pristine technology is amazing before the flood. **These weren't "cave men."** That cave man idea is a complete **myth of the lie of evolution**. These were **sophisticated, highly intelligent people**, likely much more intelligent than our current generation. Who knows what technologies they had, because they were mostly lost during the flood. I say mostly, because geologists and archeologists tell us of some technology that is amazing to people today.

There is **architecture that some archeologists believe should be dated as before the flood**, and we don't know how it is possible to build those ancient structures without cranes. We don't have an answer. We have for instance, **some statues** that are so pristine and symmetrical that it looks like a laser carved it out of granite, some of the hardest rock on earth. How did they do it? It's so precise, it looks like a machine did it. We don't know the technology they had. **Some archeologists are now dating some of the architecture and art from before Noah's flood**. The **technology** and the **art** and even some of the **architecture** is at this time beyond our reach.

### THE MEASURE OF GODLINESS

*Genesis 4:26* | To Seth also a son was born, and he called his name Enosh. At that time people began to call upon the name of the LORD.

Another measure of life is **multi-generational godliness**. God has promised that the Seed of the woman would crush the seed and offspring of Satan. We can see from the genealogies in Genesis 4 and 5, that only a small handful of people are faithful to God, and they are mentioned here in chapter 5 in the line of Seth. So **God is allowing long life spans for evangelistic purposes**, and to preserve a family line for the Messiah to enter into humanity.

### APPLICATION

Now, each of us has just a **small portion of life**. Even if it were 900 years, it would still be a vapor that appears for a little while, and then vanishes away. What are you doing with your life? Which kingdom are you building? Ask yourself this question.

*Matthew 16:26* | What will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his soul? Or what shall a man give in return for his soul?

What is your soul worth? Seek the Lord! Seek first his kingdom and righteousness. Put the Lord first in your small portion of life!

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## 2. THE PROMISE OF LIFE (5:21-24)

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When we choose Christ, we choose life. We get the promise of life. Listen to the words of Jesus.

*John 10:10* | The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.

We are called to live an abundant life. Cain chooses death and hell and Satan in Genesis 4. Seth chooses the Lord and heaven and life in Genesis 5. We have a contrast of the meaningless life with the meaningful life.

## THE LIFE OF ENOCH

**Genesis 5:21-24** | When Enoch had lived 65 years, he fathered Methuselah.<sup>22</sup> Enoch walked with God after he fathered Methuselah 300 years and had other sons and daughters.<sup>23</sup> Thus all the days of Enoch were 365 years.<sup>24</sup> Enoch walked with God, and he was not, for God took him.

Enoch, relatively speaking, does not live anywhere near as long as everyone else. Everyone else is living around 900 years. Enoch lives for 365 years, but his life counted. It had huge significance to God, and when we look at the life of Enoch, we see that in a number of ways.

### *Enoch, a Type of Christ*

Righteousness of Christ  
Resurrection of Christ  
Ascension of Christ

Enoch typifies the Lord Jesus Christ. First of all, Enoch typifies for us the **righteousness of Christ** because **he walks with God**. Yet Enoch walks imperfectly. Christ walks with God perfectly. Enoch typifies and points to the perfect, righteousness of Christ. Our Lord is going to come take on flesh. He's going to walk with God perfectly on our behalf and acquire for his righteousness that is imputed to us. When we believe we are declared righteous before a holy God. Our sins are washed away and imputed to Christ, and his righteousness is given to us.

Also, Enoch typifies for us the **resurrection of Christ**. Because he manages to circumvent death by the help of God and by a miracle of God.

And Enoch also typifies the **ascension of Christ** because God takes him, and he ascends to heaven without dying. And that happens in the life of our Lord Jesus as well. He ascends to heaven after his resurrection.

### *Enoch, a Preacher of Christ*

*Jude 1:14* | It was also about these that Enoch, the seventh from Adam, prophesied, saying, "Behold, the Lord comes with ten thousands of his holy ones..."

It was a difficult day when Enoch came along. It was a society very much like our society. In fact, God began warning Enoch about the judgment that was coming in the flood. Then Enoch's wife was with child. When little Methuselah was born, something radical happened to this man Enoch. First, sometime before his little son's birth, Enoch had gotten a warning from God that the judgment of God upon humanity was near. **Enoch used his son's name to be a sermon and a prophecy.**

One of Enoch's prophecies is found in the meaning of his son Methuselah's name: "When he dies, it [the Flood] shall come."<sup>7</sup>

<sup>7</sup> J. Phillips, *Exploring Genesis*, Ge 5:6–32.

Enoch knew the world was temporary. God had told him a flood was coming. The world as he knew it was going to be wiped away. And then right around that time, he fathers Methuselah.

### *Enoch, Free from Death*

*Hebrews 11:5a* | By faith Enoch was taken up so that he should not see death, and he was not found, because God had taken him.

Enoch was translated out of this life without suffering death.<sup>8</sup> Enoch walked with God, and he was raptured out of this world. Like Elijah, he was taken up with God, perhaps by an angelic escort. All because he walked with God.

What does it mean to “walk with God”? We **walk with God** when the Lord is in all our thoughts; not because we consciously think of him at all times, but because he is in the blazing center of our heart and life.<sup>9</sup> We cannot escape him since he indwells us. We are his temple. It is for him we hunger and thirst. He satisfies.

**We have escaped death since Christ**, who is eternal life, lives in our hearts. We will one day cheat death since death has no sting for the Christian. It’s just a shadow. The shadow of a truck can’t hurt me. Neither can the “shadow of death” hurt the Christian.

### *Enoch, a Father of Children*

Enoch didn’t always walk with God. There was a time when he was like everybody else, but he got a warning from God, and it seems he had a sudden conversion. It happened about the time of **the birth of his baby boy**, for the Bible says he began to walk with God when he became a father.

*Genesis 5:22* | Enoch walked with God after he fathered Methuselah 300 years.

Enoch walked with God, but he **brought his kids along with him**. He led his children to the Lord. Your children are going to follow your example. They are watching your life. They don’t need to take notes.

*Scott and Me*. When I was a kid, I’d go on walks with my big brother who was six foot, six inches. He is fourteen years old me. On our walks in Oak Forest, Illinois in the **southside suburbs of Chicago**, I would try and keep up. I’d have to take two big leaps to keep up with his one stride. Every step he would take I would try to stretch my little legs and take the same steps as my brother. I was following my brother. I wanted to be like him.

How about you dad, where are you leading your children? Are you kind to your wife? Are you growing? Are you getting accountability? **Have you chosen to walk with God like Enoch?** The father is the spiritual key in the family. If there is a fire in his heart, then often the rest of the family follows. If there is coldness in his heart, the rest of the family suffers.

Every dad can be a great father if you will humbly follow the heavenly Father. **Don’t stand there with your arms crossed when your kids fail**. All our children will make their own mistakes. You keep your arms open, just like our heavenly Father. Let Jesus Christ be the center of your life. Make sure you are on the right path. Make sure Jesus is the center of your life.

## THE LIFE OF METHUSELAH

*Genesis 5:25-27* | When Methuselah had lived 187 years, he fathered Lamech. <sup>26</sup>Methuselah lived after he fathered Lamech 782 years and had other sons and daughters. <sup>27</sup>Thus all the days of Methuselah were 969 years, and he died.

<sup>8</sup> Allen P. Ross, *Creation and Blessing: A Guide to the Study and Exposition of Genesis* (Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Books, 1998), 174.

<sup>9</sup> *Ibid.*, 175.



***Not much is said about Methuselah***, but his name says it all. **Methuselah's very name is a harbinger of coming judgment.** Methuselah's name means "when he dies, it [the Flood] shall be sent." When we do the calculation we find that **the year Methuselah dies, Noah's worldwide flood destroys the entire population** of the world (with the exception of eight people).

#### ENOCH'S AWAKENING: HARBINGER PROPHECY

So we know **that Enoch had an awakening of some kind at age 65** and started walking with God. That awakening was so great, that he named his son a prophecy of coming judgment. **When Methuselah is gone, God's judgment will fall.**

#### THE AWAKENING OF FATHERHOOD

It seems that with the birth of Enoch's son, he begins at that point to walk with God. It's almost as if **becoming a father moves him to take seriously how he is living** and that that can be a sobering. Those of you that are parents may be aware of that experience or have felt some kind of experience like that every time God places a life into your hand. We should step back and be aware. Fathers and mothers, we need to **walk with God** and be an example to these children.

#### LABORS MAY BE GREAT, FRUIT SMALL

With Enoch, we also learn that while our **labors may be great** and significant, the **fruit might be small.** Enoch doesn't see much fruit. There may have been many that were converted that died before the flood came. But **when the flood finally comes, there's little evidence that Enoch had a significant influence** upon the people living at that time. The only people to enter the ark are Noah, his wife, his sons and their wives. You may be given a great task with little fruit at first.

Enoch didn't have apparent success right away outside of his walk with God. But **remember Enoch's seed.** It's **Methuselah**, and later **Noah**. And much later, in Luke 3, it's **Jesus Christ!** So **do not despise the day of small beginnings** (Zech 4:10).

### THE LIFE OF NOAH

Genesis 5:28-32 | When Lamech had lived 182 years, he fathered a son<sup>29</sup> and called his name Noah [rest], 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."<sup>30</sup> Lamech lived after he fathered Noah 595 years and had other sons and daughters.<sup>31</sup> Thus all the days of Lamech were 777 years, and he died.<sup>32</sup> After Noah was 500 years old, Noah fathered Shem, Ham, and Japheth.

In verse 29, Lamech names his son "Noah" believing that through Noah redemption and rest will come.

#### *Noah, a Person of Rest*

Lamech's hope was not just for relief from pain or tiredness. He displayed his faith by giving his child great name. Lamech, as part of the faithful remnant, expressed a longing for the heavenly realm to which God took Enoch, beyond this sin-cursed temporal existence.<sup>10</sup>

Just as Methuselah's name was a **warning of judgment** ("when he dies, it [the Flood] will come." So now Noah's name is not a warning but an **encouragement of blessing.** The name "Noah" means **"comfort" or "rest."** Noah reminds us of the rest and comfort of redemption we have. Noah entered the ark and found rest amidst the flood of judgment. Those waters were **judging the world**, but Noah and his family were safe and comforted. Why? Because they got on the ark. **Jesus is our ark today.** Jesus takes on the waters of God's infinite justice and judgment against us. He dies, is buried, and he rises again!

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<sup>10</sup> Meredith G. Kline, *Genesis: A New Commentary*, ed. Jonathan G. Kline (Peabody, MA: Hendrickson Publishers, 2016), 31.

Noah looked for salvation from God's judgment. **He found rest in the Lord.** He entered the ark. Noah was safe from condemnation and judgment, even though he was a sinner. When you sin you are not safe. **Sin makes you frantic.** You can't rest until you have the Holy Spirit living in your heart. Noah in some way is going to provide rest or comfort to the world amidst all the devastation of sin and the judgment that God is going to bring up. He represents redemption. **Noah points to Christ, who is our ark,** our salvation from the judgment.

### *Noah, a Preacher of Righteousness*

The real comfort and rest that Noah gives is not through what he does. It is through the one that he preaches.

*2 Peter 2:5* | [God] did not spare the ancient world, but preserved Noah, a herald of righteousness, with seven others, when he brought a flood upon the world of the ungodly.

Men would listen to the preaching of Noah. It is so sad that they rejected Noah's preaching since that is where the rest and comfort comes from. And the same is true today where cells can't bring any rest or comfort, but we bring comfort to the world and rest to the souls of men when we point them to Christ. To trust in him. This is our work. This is your work. This is my work. May we also like Noah, bring comfort and rest to souls by preaching up the Lord Jesus and telling everyone everywhere to "behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world" (Jn 1:29).

There is no avoiding the consequences of sin. Death is coming! **None of us will avoid death.** Children, you need to be aware that if the Lord tarries his coming, **you will die one day.** He may come back in your lifetime. If not, you will die a natural death. You can't avoid it. Parents, adults, you also need to be aware of this. We are all going to die. There's no avoiding this. Remember the Romans road to Christ.

*Romans 6:23* | The wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

We learn from Noah that God plans to wipe the slate clean as far as this world is concerned, and Noah is the one that is going to bring rest and comfort, so he is going to live in a time when God is going to take away all the ungodly line. Noah and his family will be what's left over.

## **THE LIFE OF ADAM**

In Luke 3 we have the genealogy of Christ which mentions David and Abraham, but it goes all the way back to Adam.

*Luke 3:23, 36-38* | Jesus, when he began his ministry, was about thirty years of age, being the son... of David... the son of Abraham... <sup>36</sup> ... the son of Shem, the son of Noah, the son of Lamech, <sup>37</sup> the son of Methuselah, the son of Enoch, the son of Jared, the son of Mahalaleel, the son of Cainan, <sup>38</sup> the son of Enos, the son of Seth, the son of Adam, the son of God.



Think about this: **Adam was so old that he was alive until just before Noah's generation.** Everybody else would have had a minimum of 150 years with the first man created. Everyone knew the man who walked with God in the garden in the cool of the day. They didn't have to hear about Adam from somebody else. Enoch would have known Adam in his prime. Cause would have just been a little more than halfway through his life by the time Enoch was born. So the first nine generations from Adam, they're not reading about what Adam did. They're not reading about the fall. They are speaking to Adam himself and getting the **biblical history firsthand!**

What a promise of life we have when we turn our eyes on Jesus.

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### 3. THE PURPOSE OF LIFE (5:23-32)

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Of course, one day, Enoch is walking with God, and suddenly, he's in the presence of God. It's like a dress rehearsal for the second coming of Christ. There are **many purpose statements in the Bible** but they all point to an **intimate relationship with Jesus** Christ.

*Philippians 1:21* | For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain.

*1 Corinthians 10:31* | Whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.

*Philippians 3:10* | That I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death.

*Colossians 1:18, NASB* | That [Christ] himself will come to have first place in everything.

And then we have God's purpose statement for us.

*Romans 8:29* | For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son.

If you want to see real change in your life, you need to have that centralized vision for your life. When Christ is Lord in your heart, God's blessing and grace rests upon you. He'll give you clarity and guidance and wisdom. When you have an overall driving purpose for your life, it drives your vision and informs your choices. **In Genesis 5, that purpose works itself out in three clear visions for life.**

## A VISION FOR FELLOWSHIP

**Genesis 5:23-24** | Thus all the days of Enoch were 365 years. <sup>24</sup> Enoch walked with God, and he was not, for God took him.

Enoch went to heaven without dying. He went right into glory, and he never experienced death. The **Bible gives us commentary** of Enoch's glorious translation to heaven in the New Testament.

**Hebrews 11:5-6** | 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. <sup>6</sup> And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him.

“Walk” is the biblical expression for fellowship and obedience that results in divine favor. Enoch's walk lasted **300 years**. No doubt his walk would have continued, but **God took him away** (5:24)—he did not die.<sup>11</sup> **God gave Enoch's obituary**. Enoch walked with God, and he was not. God took him. No death for Enoch.

Where is your walk? Are you faithful in all the means of grace? Are you reading God's word with the Spirit's application to your heart? Are you earnestly praying? Are you fellowshiping with God's people.

**Without a walk and fellowship with God, life is meaningless.**

## A VISION FOR FAMILY

One thing I love about genealogies, is you can see the outcome of one person's faith. **Enoch had a son named Methuselah** who he helped walk with God. Not only did Enoch walk with God, but he helped his son Methuselah walk with God. I'm sure they would have walks together.

**I can hear Enoch**, “My son Methuselah, do you know what your name means?”

“No dad, what does it mean?”

“It means ‘When he dies, it shall be sent,’ says father Enoch.

“What do you mean? Says little Methuselah.

Enoch replies, “It means when you are done living your life, and you die and meet the Lord, God is going to judge the earth with an awful flood.”

**Methuselah was a walking sermon!**

Enoch walked with God, but he did not know there would be a worldwide cataclysmic event that would destroy many species of animals across the globe. This even is the reason we have fossils and waterlines making the thousands of feet of water that suddenly overtook the earth, making tsunamis look small. It changed the climate of the earth. We have tropical Woolley Mammoths underneath the ice caps. Enoch didn't know the world would end as he knew it within a generation or two. He just walked with God. He prepared his children to follow God. He planted a culture of multi-generational godliness. You see Enoch's great grandson is Noah.

**Genesis 5:25-32** | When Methuselah had lived 187 years, he fathered Lamech. <sup>26</sup> Methuselah lived after he fathered Lamech 782 years and had other sons and daughters. <sup>27</sup> Thus all the days of Methuselah were 969 years, and he died. <sup>28</sup> When Lamech had lived 182 years, he fathered a son <sup>29</sup> 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.” <sup>30</sup> Lamech lived after he fathered Noah 595 years and had other sons and daughters. <sup>31</sup> Thus all the days

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<sup>11</sup> Allen P. Ross, “Genesis,” in *The Bible Knowledge Commentary: An Exposition of the Scriptures*, ed. J. F. Walvoord and R. B. Zuck, vol. 1 (Wheaton, IL: Victor Books, 1985), 36.

of Lamech were 777 years, and he died. <sup>32</sup>After Noah was 500 years old, Noah fathered Shem, Ham, and Japheth.

Four of these people in this genealogy along with their wives will be the final eight people left on the earth when God hits the earth with a cataclysmic flood.

#### BOY: I WANT TO BE WHERE MY DADDY GOES

**A little boy came home one Sunday morning.** Dad was watching the game. After a while the little fellow just jumped up in his dad's lap. Dad held him and hugged him a little bit.

Then the little boy looked at his dad and said, "Dad, **guess what the Sunday school teacher asked me** this morning."

He didn't even take his eyes off the game. "What did the teacher ask this morning?"

The little boy said, "**The teacher asked when we died where did we want to go?**"

That got the dad's attention. He looked down at the boy and said, "Son, what did you tell them?"

The little guy crawled up a little closer and cupped his hands around his daddy's face and whispered in his ear, "**I told my teacher when I die I want to go where my daddy goes.**"

Dad, where is your eternal destination? Are you ready to meet God? How can your children be ready if you're not ready? Enoch prepared his son Methuselah for something better than earthly things. He prepared him for heaven.

### A VISION FOR FALLEN HUMANITY

Methuselah lived a long time, but I'm sure he never forgot his father's walk with God and his father's preaching. We have Enoch's preaching recorded in the book of Jude. Enoch's favorite subject was the second coming of Christ.

*Jude 1:14-15* | It was also about these that Enoch, the seventh from Adam, prophesied, saying, "Behold, the Lord comes with ten thousands of his holy ones, <sup>15</sup> to execute judgment on all and to convict all the ungodly of all their deeds of ungodliness that they have committed in such an ungodly way, and of all the harsh things that ungodly sinners have spoken against him.

Enoch didn't have his understanding of how the first and second advent of the Messiah would work out in history. But he knew the Lord would judge the world in power and glory. Messiah would come execute judgment. Enoch preached Christ.

Who do you think was the first person that met Methuselah when he went through the gates of glory? I have a feeling that after Jesus it was his father Enoch. Enoch, by walking with God, had led his son to the right place.

Jesus is coming again. Are you ready? Enoch was ready. Enoch was one of two people to never experience death. The other was Elijah in the chariot of fire.

Enoch got to experience what we may experience if Jesus comes back in our lifetime. The Bible says there's coming a day when every eye sees Jesus!

*2 Thessalonians 4:16-18* | For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. <sup>17</sup>Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord. <sup>18</sup>Therefore encourage one another with these words.

Fathers, be encouraged. Enoch was a man just like you. He didn't have the wisdom to raise his boy Methuselah and the rest of his kids. So he sought God. He walked with God. You can too. Get your wisdom from walking with God.

### Conclusion

In 1990, **Tom Stuker paid \$500,000 for a lifetime pass on United Airlines.** “**Best investment of my life,**” he says, **23 million** miles later. The married father-of-two has been jet setting around the world in First Class seat 1B ever since. When he hit the 10-million mile mark in 2011, it prompted United to name a 747 after him. Mr Stuker has been to more than 100 countries using his unlimited United pass and even shares the wealth with his wife, taking her on over 120 “honeymoons.” Of course, Tom also is **a member of MileagePlus** where he gets redeemable miles. **This means he actually makes free money and free miles by flying.**

### ADVENTURE WITH GOD

You know saints, we don’t need a lifetime United airlines pass to have an adventure. We have access to the Father who knows all our needs and will supply them according to his infinite riches in glory.

Walk with God like Seth and Enoch and Noah. What an adventure. I can’t promise you a trip to Tahiti or Hawaii. But I can promise you that if Jesus comes again, you will not see death.

Let me encourage you and tell you about Enoch and how he was translated miraculously to heaven without dying. The truth is we all need to be ready to be translated to heaven. Christ could come at any moment. Aren’t you ready? What an adventure that would be!

### Benediction

*Philippians 4:7* – May the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.