

When the Boss Is Pleased, the Day Is Good

Hebrews 11:5-6a

“By faith Enoch was taken up so that he would not see death: and he was not found because God took him up; for he obtained the witness that before his being taken up he was pleasing to God.

And without faith it is impossible to please Him ...”

I. Walking with God means living a life of trust in Him.

Enoch was born in spiritual death. Enoch was not pleasing to God by his own virtue, but by his faith in God.

A. Enoch saw man’s inherent inability to be pleasing to God.

Long before Enoch was translated into glory, he had been translated in his heart and soul.

“And Enoch also, the seventh from Adam, prophesied of these, saying, Behold, the Lord cometh with ten thousands of his saints, to execute judgment upon all, and to convince all that are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds which they have ungodly committed, and of all their hard speeches which ungodly sinners have spoken against him” (Jude 14,15).

B. Enoch trusted the gift of righteousness God provides sinners.

Nothing pleases God except his Son – *“This is my beloved Son in whom I am well-pleased!”* The only way we are pleasing to Him is by faith in the Lord Jesus Christ (John 14:6; 1 Peter 2:4-5).

“As you have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him: Rooted and built up in Him, and established in the faith, as you have been taught, overflowing with thanksgiving” (Colossians 2:6-7).

II. Walking with God in a life of faith has distinctive characteristics.

To walk with God by faith has four distinctive characteristics:

A. To walk with God by faith is to live with the realization of His presence.

“Rejoice in the Lord always: and again I say, Rejoice. Let your moderation be known unto all men. The Lord is at hand.” (Philippians 4:4-5).

B. To walk with God is to enjoy life by resting in His promises.

“Rejoice from now on. Pray without ceasing. In everything give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you” (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18).

“Trust in the LORD with all your heart; and lean not unto your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will direct thy paths” (Proverbs 3:5-6).

C. To walk with God implies perseverance and pace, not a blazing race.

A believer walks with God in this world like a little child walks through the woods with a father. It is a loving walk, a walk of confidence and trust, an instructive walk, a happy and safe walk.

D. To walk with God is to make progress, even when you stumble and fall.

Enoch’s faith was not stagnant, but progressive. At the end of 300 years he stood upon the same ground, but he was not the same man. Enoch went forward in faith. At the end of his days he knew more, enjoyed more, loved more, did more, believed more, received more, and gave more than in the beginning of his walk with God.

III. Walking with God in a life of faith will one day come to an end.

Because he walked with God, Enoch escaped the pain and trauma of physical death. This is a type.

A. The sting of death is removed from the believer (John 11:25 and Revelation 20:6).

Both Abel and Enoch walked to please God. Abel was murdered. Both escaped the sting of death.

B. At death there is a translation from this world to the next (it is the NT word “departure”).

C. After death there is the receiving of great rewards from the God in whom you have believed.