



# CAPITOL COMMISSION™

## *Enoch walked with God (Genesis 5:24)*

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*Our 2012 leadership series is on God's men & women, people in the Holy Bible whose lives can be a lesson for us. Enoch was a great-great-great grandson of Seth, son of Adam and Eve. Little is written of Enoch, but we can learn much from his example.*

### INTRODUCTION

Bible genealogies do not contain all of those born in the generations accounted for. Typically, one person is named to represent each generation. God apparently used some unrecorded criteria to decide who to list. I notice that most names are of those whom God could work through for His purposes. History also acknowledges only a few of the many humans who have lived. Your deeds can mark you as ordinary, famous or notorious. The last two will get you mentioned in contemporary news. Being acknowledged by God will get your name recorded for eternity.

### LONG LIFE - SHORT EPITAPH

*Genesis 5:19-20 After he became the father of Enoch, Jared lived 800 years and had other sons and daughters. Altogether, Jared lived a total of 962 years, and then he died.<sup>1</sup>*

Long life was the result of the pre-flood environment where the earth was covered by a canopy of heavy water vapor. This filtered out the ultraviolet rays of the sun, providing a tropical environment much like a rain forest. Plants and other life were also watered by underground springs and streams until Noah's flood.<sup>2</sup> There were nine generations from Adam to Noah and God marked eight of these with the epitaph "and then he died". Satan mocked God when tempting Eve to eat of the forbidden fruit. "You surely will not die!" Of the next generations of humans, the Scriptures indicate that eight died first spiritually, later physically.

### WALKING WITH GOD

*Genesis 5:21-22 When Enoch had lived 65 years, he became the father of Methuselah. After he became the father of Methuselah, Enoch walked faithfully with God 300 years and had other sons and daughters.<sup>3</sup>*

I found over twenty Scriptural references reporting of others who walked with God, in His ways, or statutes. Names identified in the Old Testament were Noah, David, Hoshea, Jehoshaphat, and Isaiah.

**Noah** was a precursor to Christ, saving the human race! He lived a righteous life and led a 120 year ark building project.

**David** was a world famous king in his day, "a man after God's own heart". He is renowned for his ability to confess after failing, repent, and be restored to greatness.

**Hoshea** was a prophet in Israel during the end of their prominence in history. Perhaps similar to TV preacher today who pushes a nation to reform.

**Jehoshaphat** was a king of Judah, the southern part of Israel. He instituted reforms, brought prosperity to the land, and defeated the armies of attacking nations.

**Isaiah** was a prophet who had access to a succession of four kings of Judah during prosperous times while the Northern Kingdom of Israel was in decline. Some of Isaiah's major predictions came to pass even during his lifetime and he is the most often quoted prophet the New Testament.

A sample of more contemporary leaders of whom it is said walked with God include: George Washington, Abraham Lincoln, Dwight Eisenhower, Billy Graham, and Mother Theresa.

Do you strive for success, significance, even greatness? A well documented prescription for greatness is to walk with God during our relatively brief season here on earth.

### AN ETERNAL PERSPECTIVE

*Hebrews 11:13 These people all died having faith in God. They did not receive what God had promised to them. But they could see far ahead to all the things God promised and they were glad for them. They knew they were strangers here. This earth was not their home.<sup>4</sup>*

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### BIBLE STUDIES

LEADERSHIP STUDY WEDNESDAYS: 7 TO 7:50AM, CAPITOL ROOM 142 SOUTH

STAFF/GUESTS: WEDNESDAYS: 12:05 TO 12:55 PM, GOVERNOR'S CONFERENCE ROOM – CAPITOL 264WEST

# Kansas

## Enoch walked with God (Genesis 5:24)

### A FRIEND OF GOD

*Genesis 5:24 And Enoch walked [in habitual fellowship] with God; and he was not, for God took him [home with Him].<sup>5</sup>*

Enoch was the only one in the nine generations between Adam and Noah whom God gave a different epitaph. Rather than “and he died” we read “God took him home.” The writer of Hebrews gave us a little more detail: *By faith Enoch was taken from this life, so that he did not experience death: “He could not be found, because God had taken him away.” For before he was taken, he was commended as one who pleased God. And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him (Hebrews 11:5-6).*

The Scriptures report of one other of God’s friends who were taken home with God without first seeing death. God was replacing His prophet Elijah with understudy Elisha. A chariot and horses of fire appeared and Elijah was taken up in a whirlwind (2Kings 2:11).

### CONCLUSION

You may not be taken to heaven in a whirlwind, even from the Kansas landscape. Some may be here when Jesus comes back for His own just before the battle of Armageddon. All others have a 100% chance of facing death. We are told to fear not! Jesus comforted His followers, those who were walking with the Lord: *“Do not let your heart be troubled. You have put your trust in God, put your trust in Me also. There are many rooms in My Father’s house. If it were not so, I would have told you. I am going away to make a place for you (John 14:1-2).*

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<sup>1</sup> The Holy Bible, New International Version. (International Bible Society). 1984.

<sup>2</sup> John MacArthur, The MacArthur Study Bible (Thomas Nelson Inc.). 2006 p23.

<sup>3</sup> The Holy Bible, New International Version. (International Bible Society). 1984.

<sup>4</sup> The Holy Bible, New Life Version. (Christian Literature International). 1969.

<sup>5</sup> The Holy Bible, Amplified Bible. (The Lockman Foundation). 1987