

The First Step Up Is Down: 4

They Walked With God [part 1]

1 Peter 5.5-6

The outworking of grace elevates us and raises us up.

Humility is not as many believe, to debase yourself or make yourself to be so unworthy, so poor, or so insignificant – it is quite simply being submissive and obedient to God, walking in His ways.

The phrase '*walked with God*' is used only three times in the entire Scriptures. This phrase highlights what it means to be humble -

Enoch – Genesis 5.18-24

This phrase is used first of all (and two of three times) in connection with Enoch both in this chapter.

Not much is mentioned about this man in the Bible, but let us look at what the Bible does say.

- Enoch is the son of Jared. He is not to be confused with Enoch son of Cain or the city that was named after him. (Genesis 4).
- Enoch is the father of Methuselah
- Enoch lived for 365 years
- Enoch *walked with God*
- Enoch is mentioned in the genealogy of Jesus – through the legal line, as recorded by Luke (3.37)
- Enoch did not die – God took Him
- Enoch had this testimony that he pleased God
- Enoch functioned as a prophet preaching the coming of the Lord to judge the ungodly of their sinful ways.

Enoch walked with God – what does this statement mean?

1. *Enoch was at peace with God* – the Bible declares that two cannot walk together unless they are agreed (Amos 3.3)
2. *Enoch enjoyed close communion and fellowship with God.* Like that He had with Adam in the garden of Eden. God was a pleasure to Enoch and Enoch pleased God. The Amplified version says “Enoch walked [in habitual fellowship] with God..” (vs22).
3. *Enoch lived a blameless life in a wicked age.* He lived a separated life in that he did not walk in the 'way of sinners' (2 Corinthians 6.11-18). His life, character and conduct were a living testimony and rebuke to the ungodly around him. His life matched up to the message he preached.
4. *He walked progressively with the Lord* – He did not walk alone, God was with him, leading him. This was not an on/off progression, he walked steadfastly with God. Enoch walked with His eyes fixed on the Lord, Like Peter when he walked on the

water. He grew in his walk from one level to another – from one degree of glory to another degree of glory (2 Corinthians 3.18)

5. *Enoch was translated* – Enoch was one of only two that did not die (the other being Elijah). “He was not, for God took him”, the implication of this statement means that they searched for him, as a missing person, but could not find him. It has been suggested (by Andrew A Bonar) that God and Enoch were enjoying walking together so much that one day God said to him 'why go home, come back with me'

God's grace was upon Enoch that it lifted him straight into heaven. The Bible declares that 'righteousness exalts a nation..' (Proverbs 14.34)

Righteousness will raise you up! - it was Enoch's testimony of faith and righteousness that pleased God, and caused God to show him such grace and favour – that led to God literally raising him up from the earth.