

Sermon Discussion

23 January 2022

Read Genesis 5:1-6:10

Dig Deeper

The genealogy in chapter five is showing descendancy from Adam through Seth to Noah. The Cainites' genealogy in chapter four had 7 generations (from Cain to Jubal); this genealogy has 10 (from Adam to Noah).

Both lists end with three sons coming from the final name on the list (*Jabal, Jubal, Tubal-Cain* [4:20-22]; *Shem, Ham, Japheth* [5:32]). In each list only one man spoke: Lamech in the Cainite list (4:23-24), and a different Lamech in the Sethite list (5:29). The Cainite Lamech was taunting the curse (4:24), whereas the Sethite Lamech was seeking comfort under the curse by looking to his son Noah (5:29).

Enoch is pictured as one who did not suffer the fate of Adam because, unlike the others, he "walked with God." The sense of the author is clear. Enoch is an example of one who found life amid the curse of death. In Enoch, the author is able to show that the pronouncement of death is not the last word that need be said about a person's life. One can find life if one walks with God.

"*Walked with God*" indicates that Enoch had a lifestyle characterized by his devotion to God. The sense of **walk** in its verbal stem expresses a communion or intimacy with God. The double repetition of the phrase communicates Enoch was outstanding in this pious family.

There are two groups of people that bear mentioning. Who are **the sons of God** (6:2) and **the Nephilim** (6:4)? Whilst there are many interpretations, the text doesn't demand their identification to understand the passage. The point of is that wickedness on the earth was great. It's the rebellion of humanity that is the emphasis here. Mankind had deteriorated morally and spiritually. This incurs God's wrath, therefore, we must prepare for God's judgment.

1. At the beginning of this week's sermon, there was a reason given as to why biblical genealogies can be beneficial to read and study. What can be gained from reading these types of Scripture passages?
2. How would you answer someone who said, "It is not fair of God to condemn the human race because of Adam's sin"?
3. Why do you think Enoch escaped death and went to be with the Lord (see Hebrews 11:5-6)? What does it mean to "walk with God?" Could it be said of you? Why or why not?

4. What is the hope and promise of Seth's line of offspring as we see it in Noah (see 5:29)?
5. The situation presented in 6:5 appears completely desperate. What is the implication of how wicked humankind had become? What do you think is actually at the heart of the corruption that so displeases God?
6. What is God's response to the depth of the corruption? What do you think is meant by God was grieved?
7. As a surprising twist to God's response to the corruption, grace finds Noah. How is the choice of Noah more about grace and less about how righteous he was?

Application & Prayer

- Read to Jude 14-15. Enoch was bold and courageous. He preached and prophesied and prayed against all ungodliness. Relatives and family members were the unbelievers in his day, but Enoch did not hesitate to speak up. Are there family members that you need to speak with and pray for? Spend some time mediating on their lives and praying for them.
- Take time assess why it's so important to understand God's grace (or God's unearned favour) as the way to salvation. Write down ways you may be trying to earn salvation, and repent of those.
- Reflect on the implications of Genesis 5:1-6:10 for your own life today. Consider what you have learned that might lead you to praise God, repent of sin, and trust in His gracious promises.