

Enoch: Translated By Faith

Ponder: How can a human being be “translated”?

Scripture: “By faith Enoch was translated that he should not see death; and he was not found because God had translated him” (Heb. 11:5a, KJV).

How would you like to be taken directly from Earth to heaven without experiencing death? Sounds great to me! But only two people on record experienced such a thing: Enoch and Elijah. For the rest of us, “it is appointed for men to die once, but after this the judgment” (Heb. 9:27). Right now let’s focus on Enoch.

Today’s text says Enoch was “translated.” We usually think of translation as putting words into a different language, but it’s a good word to state what happened to Enoch. Translate means change or transfer. Just as we transfer words from one language to another, God transferred Enoch from one residence (earthly) to another (heavenly).

Why did God do this? Because Enoch walked by faith! Remember, faith isn’t merely acknowledging that God exists; it is trusting obedience to His will. Moses wrote twice that “Enoch walked with God” (Gen. 5:22 & 24). Scripture says that of only one other person: Enoch’s grandson, Noah (Gen. 6:9).

During Enoch’s time people lived hundreds of years, giving them plenty of time to produce large families. “Answers in Genesis” has computed that at Noah’s time, earth’s population could have numbered in the hundreds of millions! Two generations earlier, Enoch may have shared this planet with at least tens of millions of people. He saw wickedness that increased until it prompted the great flood.

As his grandson would later do, Enoch warned of God’s judgment. Jude applied Enoch’s warning to first-century false teachers: “Now Enoch, the seventh from Adam, prophesied about these men also, saying, ‘Behold, the Lord comes with ten thousands of His saints, to execute judgment on all, to convict all who are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds which they have committed in an ungodly way, and of all the harsh things which ungodly sinners have spoken against Him” (Jude 14-15).

Your community needs you to set a godly example and tell them the truth. Like Enoch, let us walk with God and live by faith!

Song: “There’s A Message True And Glad”

Prayer: Righteous God, we strive to resist an ungodly culture. Please strengthen us to walk with You and live by faith as Your servant Enoch did. In Jesus’ name, Amen.