

Walking with God

Genesis 5



A small chance of a great outcome

What are examples?

A genuine relationship with God

Actually growing in the fruit of the Spirit:

love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control

With power and boldness

Seemingly only exceptional people have it

“Lord, we want to know you more!”

Genesis 1-4

Paradise...with one warning

“And the LORD God commanded the man, “You are free to eat from any tree in the garden; but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat from it you will certainly die.”” Genesis 2:16-17

And they ate from that tree

That failure broke the goodness

“Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the LORD God as he was walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and they hid from the LORD God among the trees of the garden.” Genesis 3:8

“Walking” is a life of fellowship with God

Sin separated them from fellowship with God

Sin separated them from fellowship with people

Sin brought death to all people

Walking with God was no longer possible

Yet there was hope

“To the serpent, God said: And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel.” Genesis 3:15

Offspring of the woman will end the curse.

When?

The first 2 brothers: 1 murdered the other!

Genesis 4: Not in the line of Cain

Genesis 5

1-2

The pattern of the genealogy

When ___ had lived ___ years, he became the father of ___.

After he became the father of ___, ___ lived ___ years and had other sons and daughters.

Altogether, ___ lived a total of ___ years, and then he died.



3-5

His own likeness, in his own image: sinfulness & its consequences

The final word in every single person’s life

“You will surely die”

“by the trespass of the one man, death reigned through that one man” Romans 5:17

A Puzzle: Very long lives

Puzzles without broadly accepted answers:

Very long lives: over 900 years. Overall time period is not long enough

Ideas

Skipping generations (10 to Noah, 10 to Abraham)

Age of a family line rather than an individual

Longer lives before the flood

Sumerian King List: 43,200 year old king!!

No explanation is without difficulty

What matters most:

These are real people

This is a real lineage from Adam to Noah to Abraham

They lived and died, just like people always have

**6-8: Seth. 9-11: Enosh. 12-14: Kenan. 15-17: Mahalalel. 18-20: Jared
21-24: Enoch**

Enoch walked with God: Faithfulness and fellowship, means and outcome

God took him away

New Testament understanding

“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

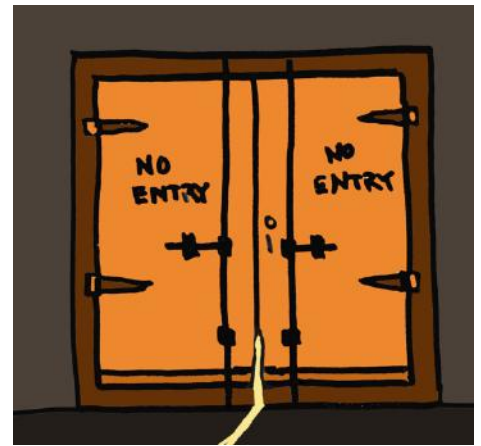
25-27: Methuselah

28-31: Lamech

The curse was still real! Yet he had faith

32: Noah

Genesis 6:9; 9:28-29



The Main Point

There is hope that an offspring of the woman will undo the curse by walking with God

Enoch showed there was hope, but it wasn't solved yet

The solution in Jesus Christ

“For if, by the trespass of the one man, death reigned through that one man, how much more will those who receive God's abundant provision of grace and of the gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man, Jesus Christ!” Romans 5:17

Death has lost its power

““Death has been swallowed up in victory.” “Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?”

The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.” 1 Corinthians 15:54-57

➔ **Jesus (the Son of God) has undone the curse for all who come to God by faith in Jesus**

“The God of peace will soon crush Satan under your feet. The grace of our Lord Jesus be with you.” Romans 16:20

Death reigned over Adam and his offspring

The way to life and fellowship with God was blocked

God's promise: Someday an offspring of the woman would open the way!

Enoch showed that victory over the curse is possible

But it was only a tiny sliver of light!

Jesus burst open the prison doors!

We are invited to walk with God through faith in Jesus!

Everyone is invited!

And can it be?

Long my imprisoned spirit lay

Fast bound [securely chained] in sin and nature's night;

Thine eye diffused [caused to shine] a quickening [life-giving] ray,

I woke, the dungeon flamed with light;

My chains fell off, my heart was free, I rose, went forth, and followed Thee.

Amazing love! How can it be That Thou, my God should die for me?



Even though Jesus' victory is complete, we don't yet fully experience it

It still requires faith

Application

Live new life by faith in Jesus

"I woke, MY dungeon flamed with light MY chains fell off, MY heart was free!"

There is now no condemnation!

We can come boldly to God for help and hope

Death is defeated!!

Yet we still experience the curse

Jesus has opened the way to walk with God

Walk with God

Like Adam and Eve with God before sin

The Spirit of the Living God alive in us

"For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord." Romans 8:38-39

Spread the Good News

So many people live without God and without true hope, in dungeons of darkness

The number of unreached peoples is growing!

Pray! For workers, boldness, God to open hearts

Invite people: "Come and see"

Support people who go and tell

Learn to make known the Good News!

"How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? And how can anyone preach unless they are sent? As it is written: "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!" Romans 10:14-15

Jesus burst open the doors to God!

Have you entered?

Are you walking by faith with God?

What is your next step?

Reflection Questions for later today or this week...

1. Have you entered God's paradise through faith in Jesus? How did that happen in your life? If not, is there a reason not to take that step now?
2. What does it look like for you to walk by faith with God, in a genuine and powerful way? What is a next step you can take today or this week?

Conversation starters

Given all the trouble in the world and the inevitable reality of death, what gives you life-giving joy and hope?