GRANDPA ENOCH {The Grandpa who was Raptured!)

Genesis 5:18-24

'Enoch walked with God & he was not, for God took him...'

Enoch: His name means <u>'to wet the palate'</u>. The way you say this in Hebrew is <u>Ch</u>ă-nō-<u>ch</u> [Whenever you see 'ch' together in a Hebrew name, it's pronounced like the 'ch' in 'Bach' (the name of the guy who wrote music), & not like the 'ch' in chicken.]. We'll spell it 'Chanok' on this web site.

Prior to the last 100 years ago, when a child was being taught to eat solid food, the mother would chew up the food, & then take some & rub it on the roof of the baby's mouth. This was called 'To wet the palate'. The goal was to give the child a taste for something. Chanok's God given job was to give his listeners a desire for the things of God. See Genesis 5:18-24 in the 'Turning Over Every Stone: Hebrew Research Project' of this web site, & see also Jude 14-15 (and the rest of Jude from 3 to 16), & Hebrews 11:5 in your own Bible. This guy is your ancestor. Enoch/Chanok was born when Adam was about 622 years old. He began to preach about 400 years after men began to call on the name of YAHVEH [Genesis 4:26]. When he was age 65, he begot a son whom he named Methuselah. He also had other sons and daughters besides this one, but to this one he gave a special name. 'Methuselah' means, 'When he dies, it shall be sent!' or 'When he dies, judgment!' Methuselah is also your ancestor! According to Josephus (a Jewish historian living during the First Century), Adam said that the world would be destroyed twice: First by a Flood, and then by Fire. Apparently Enoch began saying that God was going to destroy the world with a flood of water about 969 years or more before the Flood happened! He preached for over 300 years. After that he went for a walk with God & they ended up at God's house, & Enoch never came back! (Can you imagine what it must have been like for his wife? If she were a godly women, she wouldn't have remarried because her husband wasn't dead! She may have still been alive when Shem & his brothers were kids. If that is the case, then that would mean that she remained single for almost 600 years!! [Enoch was taken 669 years before the Flood.] She's your ancestor Grandmother!!)

There were 1656 years from the first day of Creation until the first day of The Flood. Enoch preached in the middle of that time-line. One of the things he prophesied is recorded in Jude. Jude 4 talks about ungodly persons who turn the grace of God into 'licentiousness'. (Webster's defines it as lacking legal or moral restraints; esp: disregarding sexual restraints; marked by disregard for strict rules of correctness.) It was the grace of God that allowed Cain to live after he murdered his brother Abel. Instead of being grateful to be alive, Lamech (Cain's descendant) turned God's grace into licentiousness, by having two wives. Jude 14-15 says, 'And about these also Enoch, in the seventh generation from Adam, prophesied, saying, "Behold, the Lord came with many thousands of His holy ones, to execute judgment upon all, and to convict all the ungodly of all their ungodly deeds which they have done in an ungodly way, and of all the harsh things which ungodly sinners have spoken against Him. Verse 16 says, "These are grumblers, finding fault, following after their own lusts; they speak arrogantly, flattering people for the sake of gaining an advantage." (It sounds just like Lamech. He said to his wives, "You're

married to the Conqueror!") Enoch's preaching probably put spiritual restraints upon people, just like today when we speak out about the evil things of our society. It was only after he was taken out of the way that things got so bad, that God had to destroy the earth. He was taken up 669 years before The Flood happened. [That's about 700 years.] Most of the people, who had been around when he preached, could have very easily been still alive just prior to The Flood, including Adam's youngest grandchildren, & maybe even Adam's youngest children (unless they had been killed by the violence that ensued). If Adam died when Methuselah was 243 years old, then some of his children could have been younger than Methuselah! (It would all depend on when Eve stopped bearing children!!)

Enoch's being caught up was two fold: It was a warning to the rebellious, and it was a promise of there being a way to get to Heaven for the Righteous. Adam died during the Days of Enoch. He died when Enoch was 308 years old. That would have been a hard blow for the righteous ones of those days. When Enoch said, "Behold, the Lord came with many thousands of His holy ones", they must have considered that the Lord, who was in Heaven, was coming from Heaven with His holy ones. It must have been a great encouragement to the true followers of God at that time. It meant that even though Adam was physically dead, that was not the end. ('Holy ones' according to the New Testament means both redeemed people and angels who have remained true to God. The key phrase is in Jude 15, "to execute judgment upon all". The ones doing the judging are going to be Christ and those He has redeemed. (I Corinthians 6:3, Matthew 19:28, Matthew 24:29-31, Mark 13:24-27.) The angels are the ones who execute (carry out) the judgment!

[I have often thought about the actual event to come that Enoch was talking about, when the LORD rides out of the sky on a white horse, & we with Him. Grandma & Grandpa Enoch will be among us. This coming event is also mentioned in Revelation 19:11-16. I've even decided who I would like my riding buddies to be!! If the LORD wants us to be quiet, He's gonna have a hard time getting us to shut up!! We'll be shouting & singing that He is THE WINNER!! Then it will suddenly get quiet when we get to Armageddon, so that we can all hear what He says...]

Some more thoughts on Enoch's prophesy: (Jude 14-15) Enoch's prophesy is given with much detail if you think about it. [The language that he spoke must have been given to explicit details, just like the very detailed pre-Flood revelation given in the stars. Noah's descriptions of the events during the course of The Flood are also very detailed.] What does 'ungodly' mean? Think about it: 'the ungodly' are those who refuse to allow The Creator into their lives. 'Ungodly deeds' are ungodly actions. 'Ungodly way' is a way that is in opposition to God's way. An example would be 'the way of Cain'. 'Ungodly sinners'... We are all sinners, but those who refuse to trust God are without Him.

One last thought: Before Enoch disappeared, his son Methuselah begot a son named Lamech. Methuselah was 187 years old & Enoch was 252 years old when Lamech was born. Enoch disappeared 113 years later. Lamech was 56 years old when Adam died. Lamech was 182 when his son Noah was born, which would have been 69

years after Enoch disappeared! Lamech lived to be 777 years old, & he died 5 years before the Flood. He had lots of sons & daughters, but the only part of his family that survived were Noah & the 3 sons that got on the Ark & their wives [Maybe he died prematurely because of grief?] Methuselah lived to be 969 years old & died just before the Flood happened, when Noah was 600 years old & Shem was 98.

Some interesting parallels between Enoch ministry and Christ's:

- 1) Enoch preached in the middle of the time line between Creation and the Flood. Christ came in the middle of the time line between the end of The Flood and today. [The Flood happened 4112 years ago according to the Jewish calendar. 2008=5768. From the first day of Creation to the Flood is 1656 years.] Before Christ returns, the earth is going to be destroyed by fire! (See Isaiah 24:6, 2 Peter 3:10-12, Revelation 16:8-9.)
- 2) Noah was born after Enoch disappeared, and came safely through the Flood by God's grace. The Jewish believers become believers after we all disappear (Revelation 4:1), and <u>by God's grace</u> they live through the tribulation. (Revelation 19:11-21, Isaiah 34, Ezekiel 39, Daniel 12:1.) God will use the culture that He establishes through the Jewish people, after it has been purged of its dross through the Tribulation (Daniel 9:24), to set the standard for the rest of the earth during the Millennial kingdom when The Messiah reigns as King over all the earth. Their culture, based on Scripture, will be the pattern that He establishes for everyone else to follow. His millennial kingdom is not going to be based on 'the church cultures' of Christianity.
- **3)** Enoch disappeared 669 years before the Flood happened. (That's 700 years minus 31 years.) [Noah was born 69 years after he disappeared.] The coming Tribulation lasts for seven years, and it begins after the Rapture of the church. Jesus said something about "unless those days (The Tribulation) had been cut short, no life would have been saved; but for the sake of the elect, those days shall be cut short." (Matthew 24:22)
- 4) Enoch declared the return of Messiah in Jude 14-15, which is also described in Revelation 19:11-16
- **5)**Enoch was taken up into Heaven even though the devil was cast out of Heaven. Christ defeated the devil, and then Christ was taken up into Heaven.
- **6)** Enoch gave hope to the pre-flood Believers, even after Adam's death. Christ is our Hope and the Source of our Salvation.
- **7)**Enoch never experienced physical death, and some of us aren't going to experience it either. (Corinthians 15:50-52, 1 Thessalonians 4:17)