

WALKING WITH GOD

Genesis 5:22-24, Hebrews 11:5-6

Our text described how Enoch walked with God including the profitability of such an experience. His experience revealed that it is possible to walk with God. Actually, God's desire for men to walk with Him is clearly documented in the scriptures Micah 6:8. His delight in such a walk was obvious in the Garden of Eden where He often commune and fellowship intimately with Adam and Eve until sin ended that. Jesus came to solve the sin problem through His sacrifice. Faith in Christ following repentance and salvation restores man's broken relationship and intimacy with God such that today we can still have and enjoy the kind of closer walk with God that Enoch and others have. The grace to do so, God will give to us in Jesus name!

We shall consider three subtopics:

1. The possibility of walking with God
2. The distinctive features of saintly walk with God
3. The profitability of walking with God

1. The possibility of walking with God

Genesis 5:24, Micah 6:8, Habakkuk 1:13, 2 Corinthians 5:17

Walking with God is not an exclusive preserve of a privileged few. Rather, it is an ideal normal universal invitation extended to all who come into God's kingdom through salvation gateway. God desired and commanded all His children to walk (humbly) with Him Micah 6:8. Such walk He values much more than thousands of sacrifices. No wonder Enoch by His walk with God win God's approval in spite of his not having our privileges today.

At the time of Enoch, the Bible has not been written. He had no counsellor or pastor. There was no synagogue or Temple for communal worship or fellowship; he has no prayer partner and there was no crusade, Christian conference or seminar he could attend to sustain spiritual fire on his altar. All he had was a revelation of God and about God. He decided to walk consistently in the light of that revelation. His walk with God did not even start from his birth. He has no Christian parent, ministers or workers who could take him to church and encourage or motivate him to serve the Lord. He lived by the dictates of his own desires and will until he turned 65 after the birth of Methuselah the one who lived longest among the Patriarchs and died in the year of the flood. The name "*Methuselah*" according to its Hebraic origin testified of God's impending judgment. There probably was an experience with God that Enoch had when Methuselah was born that changed his life permanently. Walking with God therefore must by necessity be preceded by a life changing revelation and encounter with God, the

kind that Enoch had in the year that Methuselah was born. This encounter and experience revealed clearly the possibility of walking with God.

2. The distinctive features of saintly walk with God

Hebrews 11:5-6, Amos 3:3, 1 John 1:5-7, Galatians 5:16

“*Walking*” in the Bible is descriptive of men’s lifestyle. Enoch’s walk with God finds expression in his lifestyle. It presented a portrait of his prerogative, pre-occupation and priorities. Walking with someone come with overall sense of unity of intentions, ideals, plans, purpose and destination with that person. This is what happened to Enoch, and between Enoch and God after his 65th birthday. His manner of life changed. He became wholeheartedly devoted and dedicated to God. He began to operate on God’s frequency. He hated what God hates and loves what God love.

Walking with God implies walking within defined boundary. We become limited by His pace, steps and speed. We become responsive to the promptings, urging and restraints of His Spirit. We do things according to His revelation and leading. We cannot walk with God and walk in darkness because God is light. We cannot walk with God and walk in malice and hatred because God is love. We cannot walk with God and walk disorderly or walk in sin because “*in Him is no sin*” 1 John 3:5. Walking with God is walking in love Ephesians 5:2, walking by faith Hebrews 11:5, 2 Corinthians 5:7, walking in the light 1 John 1:7, and as children of light Ephesians 5:8, walking uprightly Psalm 84:11, doing what is right in God’s sight always, walking in wisdom Colossians 5:16, walking in the newness of life Romans 6:4, walking in peace and uprightness Micah 2:6 and walking as Jesus walked 1 John 1:6. Walking with God affects how we spend our time, energy and money, and how we relate with people. It is not difficult to identify or recognize those walking with God. Their lives are a contrast to the world around them like shining star in night-time sky and lilies in the mud. Walking with God is a continuous choice because temptations and problems are bound to happen in life but the one walking with God is determines never to be distracted. Such a walk comes with great blessings and benefits.

3. The profitability of walking with God

Hebrews 11:5, 1 John 1:7, Genesis 6:6-8, 17:1-2

Walking with God is profitable on earth and profitable in eternity. When we walk with people, our understanding of them and love for them increases. We tend to imitate them and imbibe their values. We often speak fondly about them and speak like them. These things that will happen to us when we walk with God. We enjoy regular continuous cleansing 1 John 1:7, deliverance Psalm 56:14, prosperity – it shall be well with us Jeremiah 7:23, Genesis 39:2, Favour Genesis 39:21, answer to prayers 1 Samuel 3:19, and open-doors of possibilities Shall be ours as we walk with God. It is the pathway to eternal glory. Here on earth we shall sense God’s presence and power at all times, and in all that we do as we walk with God. We are by it prepared to live with God like Enoch throughout eternity Revelation 3:4