

Genesis 5:22

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And Enoch walked with God after he begat Methuselah three hundred years, and begat sons and daughters:

Analysis

And Enoch walked with God after he begat Methuselah three hundred years, and begat sons and daughter... This passage belongs to the primeval history section (Genesis 1-11) which establishes universal truths about God, humanity, sin, and divine purposes before focusing on Abraham and Israel. These chapters answer fundamental questions about human origins, the spread of wickedness, God's judgment, and the preservation of a righteous remnant.

Recurring patterns emerge: human sin escalating from individual disobedience to societal corruption, divine patience followed by judgment, gracious preservation of a remnant, and covenant promises ensuring redemptive purposes continue. The genealogies connect historical persons, demonstrate the fulfillment of divine promises (blessing and multiplication), and trace the line leading to Abraham and ultimately Christ.

Key theological themes in this section include:

1. sin's destructive progression affecting all humanity
2. God's righteous judgment while preserving mercy
3. human pride and autonomy opposing divine sovereignty
4. cultural development as both blessing and potential idolatry
5. God's sovereign plan advancing despite human rebellion.

These narratives provide the necessary context for understanding God's calling of Abraham and the covenant promises through which all nations will be blessed.

Historical Context

The primeval history (Genesis 1-11) parallels ancient Near Eastern traditions including Sumerian King Lists (pre-flood longevity), Akkadian flood traditions (Atrahasis, Gilgamesh), and Mesopotamian city foundation myths. However, Genesis demythologizes these traditions, presenting monotheistic history rather than polytheistic mythology. The genealogies connecting Adam to Noah to Abraham provide historical framework absent in pagan myths.

Archaeological evidence confirms ancient urbanization (chapter 4's cities), agricultural development, metallurgy, and musical instruments emerging in Mesopotamia's early history. The Babel account reflects Mesopotamian ziggurat construction (stepped pyramid temples), particularly in Babylon. Linguistic diversity requiring explanation was obvious to ancient peoples, making the Babel narrative culturally relevant.

For Israel in covenant with Yahweh, these chapters explained their relationship to surrounding nations. All peoples descended from Noah, but Israel descended from Shem through Abraham—chosen for blessing all nations. The flood demonstrated God's justice and mercy: judging wickedness while preserving the righteous. This pattern would recur throughout Israel's history, assuring them that God's covenant faithfulness endures despite judgment on the wicked.

Related Passages

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Study Questions

1. How does this verse deepen our understanding of God's character and His relationship with creation?
2. What specific changes in thinking or behavior does this verse call us to make?
3. In what ways does this narrative foreshadow or typify aspects of Christ's redemptive work?

Interlinear Text

וַיָּתַבֵּל רֹהֵן וְבָנָיו בְּמִים אֲתָה קָאַלְתָּה יְהוָה יְמִינְךָ אַתָּה אֶת־ walked And Enoch with God after and begat	H1980 H2585 H854 H430 H310 H3205	H853
וְבָנָיו בְּמִים אֲתָה קָאַלְתָּה יְהוָה יְמִינְךָ לְחַיִּים and daughters sons and daughters	H4968 H7969 H3967 H8141 H3205 H1121 H1323	

Additional Cross-References

1 Thessalonians 2:12 (References God): That ye would walk worthy of God, who hath called you unto his kingdom and glory.

Genesis 17:1 (References God): And when Abram was ninety years old and nine, the LORD appeared to Abram, and said unto him, I am the Almighty God; walk before me, and be thou perfect.

Genesis 6:9 (References God): These are the generations of Noah: Noah was a just man and perfect in his generations, and Noah walked with God.

Luke 1:6 (References God): And they were both righteous before God, walking in all the commandments and ordinances of the Lord blameless.

Psalms 116:9 (Parallel theme): I will walk before the LORD in the land of the living.

1 John 1:7 (Parallel theme): But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.

Malachi 2:6 (Parallel theme): The law of truth was in his mouth, and iniquity was not found in his lips: he walked with me in peace and equity, and did turn many away from iniquity.

Micah 6:8 (References God): He hath shewed thee, O man, what is good; and what doth the LORD require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?

Leviticus 26:12 (References God): And I will walk among you, and will be your God, and ye shall be my people.

Colossians 1:10 (References God): That ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God;

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