



# **THE BEGINNINGS!**

**The Book of Genesis**

## **Walking with God!**

**Genesis 5:1-32**

**Message #6 of 50 – S903**

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**Sunday Morning Service**

**Pastor Rick Lancaster**

# Walking with God!

## Genesis 5:1-32

### Opening Comments

- Good morning – turn to **Genesis 5**
- Today we continue our journey through **Genesis: THE BEGINNINGS!**
- Everything or everyone who touches our lives in any way influences us in some way – either for good or for bad
- Either toward righteousness or toward wickedness and evil
- Either toward God or away from Him
- Toward His will or against it
- The influence is usually imperceptible, but you are changing
- There is a tree in Aruba – the Divi tree (**Picture of Divi tree**)
- Because the wind almost always blows from the East, the tree leans heavily toward the West
- That didn't happen overnight
- For the entire life of the tree the wind has been influencing it to grow that way
- The tree has no control over that influence, it simply yields to it
- Each of us has been influenced by the world system, by the media, by our education, by our entertainment, by our parents, by our friends
- And chances are that you were not aware of that influence
- But you are a product of that influence
- The big difference between us and that Divi tree is that we can choose not to be influenced by something
- As adults, we are capable of choosing what does or does not influence us
- We will grow in the way that we are allowing ourselves to be influenced
- For example, Paul says choosing the right friends is important **1 Corinthians 15:33**

**Do not be deceived: "Evil company corrupts good habits."**

- The world is the way that it is because most of the people in the world are allowing themselves to be influenced by the wrong things

- If you are alive, you are being influenced by something
- And if that influence is determining how you grow and develop – shouldn't we be deliberate about what or who is influencing us
- In this text we will see the who and what that influences us to the best growth possible
- Let's pray and then get into our text for today
- **Pray**

## Teaching

- **Walking with God!**
- Let's look at chapter 5
- **Genesis 5:1-5**
- Adam lived 930 years – that sounds like a long time because we think someone 100 is ancient
- Death was not God's plan for human existence
- The Tree of Life would have allowed them to live until God was ready to take them to heaven
- In the next chapter we see God putting a limit on human life on earth
- **Genesis 6:3**
- **And the LORD said, "My Spirit shall not strive with man forever, for he *is* indeed flesh; yet his days shall be one hundred and twenty years."**
- The oldest living person is Kane Tanaka – 117 year old woman-Japan
- In Adam's day to be 120 years old was still young
- I am going to read through the whole genealogy and then look at one of them more closely
- **Genesis 5:6-32**
- Ten generations covering about 1,550 years
- Jump back to verse 21 at Enoch
- **Genesis 5:21-23**
- Enoch only 365 years – significantly less than previous generations
- The next verse tells us there was something noteworthy about Enoch's life
- **Genesis 5:24a**
- 'walked with God' – Enoch lived his life in close communion with God – closer than anyone else in his family or generation

- Most were following the way of Cain – doing their own thing – living life on their terms
  - Only one other person received such a description, Enoch’s great-grandson Noah
  - The epistle of **Jude 14-15** tells us a little about Enoch  
**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.”**
  - Part of walking with God included being a spokesperson for God to the world around him
  - Most of the world was following the way of Cain
  - In three more generations, judgment was coming through the Flood
  - The writer of **Hebrews 11:5-6** also speaks of Enoch  
**By faith Enoch was taken away so that he did not see death, “and was not found, because God had taken him”; for before he was taken he had this testimony, that he pleased God. But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.**
  - One of the things that constantly fills my heart with wonder is the fact that my life or anyone’s life can please God – bring Him pleasure or satisfaction
  - That reminds us that our lives are important, and that God cares about what we do with our lives
  - Enoch lived by faith and his life pleased God
  - We need to remember that faith is not just about what we believe  
**Leviticus 26:3; 12**
- <sup>3</sup> **If you walk in My statutes and keep My commandments, and perform them... <sup>12</sup> I will walk among you and be your God, and you shall be My people.**
- To walk with God is to live in close communion with God in faith and obedience to His revealed Word by the leading of the Holy Spirit in the name of God’s Son Jesus
  - And don’t imagine that was any easier for Enoch than it is for us
  - We will see in the next chapter that most of the world was following the way of Cain
  - Enoch was surrounded by people who were not walking with God because they didn’t want to

- Enoch chose to walk with God, and then God did something radical
- **Genesis 5:24**
- Turn to **1 Thessalonians 4**

- Enoch didn't die – God took him – doesn't say how – he was there and then he wasn't **1 Corinthians 15:51-52**

**Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed—in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.**

- Because Enoch walked with God, God exempted him from the law of death that was ruling the earth at that time
- It is the hope that we all have as believers in Jesus

- **1 Thessalonians 4:13-18**

- Walking with God doesn't guarantee that we won't die before the Rapture of the church, but we will meet Him in the air regardless
- Enoch lived in an increasingly godless society
- Adam was still alive when Enoch was born
- I wonder if maybe Enoch heard first-hand from Adam about the Garden and having walked with God in the cool of the day
- I wonder if he sensed Adam's regret
- Or maybe he had heard from Seth about what it was like when men first started to call on the name of the Lord
- Enoch chose to be influenced toward God and he chose not to be influenced away from God
- Though the world was different, the temptations were the same **1 Corinthians 10:13**

**No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear *it*.**

- All temptations fall into three categories **1 John 2:16-17**

**For all that *is* in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—is not of the Father but is of the world. And the world is passing away, and the lust of it; but he who does the will of God abides forever.**

- Enoch chose to resist the temptations to move away from God and chose to walk with God
- Walking with God is a matter of our choices
- It is not about being more spiritual than others
- It is not about being more knowledgeable about the Bible than others

- It is not about being more holy than others
- It is about making choices that draw you closer to God
- Life is filled with choices – little seemingly unimportant ones to huge life-altering ones
- Every choice is a choice toward walking with God or walking the way of Cain
- The first step to walking with God is **Sanctify your Choices!**
- The word ‘sanctify’ means to set apart as holy unto God for His purposes
- It means that you look at every choice as something God can use for His glory, blessing others, and growing faith
- When I say every choice, I mean every choice – even choosing where you have lunch after church can be set apart to God
- What does that look like?
- Second step to walking with God – **Commune with God about your Choices!**
- The only person who can tell you how to choose in a way that draws you closer to God is God Himself
- We must bring our choices before Him
- Lunch – “Lord, the world may view my choice of where to have lunch as unimportant, but I know that every choice I make is important. Where can I take my family that best glorifies you, blesses them, and grows faith?”
- For me, that usually ends up choosing something that blesses others
- I rarely pick a restaurant that I want to go to
- The better you know God’s Word, the more you are able to commune with God regarding your choices
- Sometimes choices are not as simple as where to go to lunch and communing with God does not make it any clearer which way you should go
- The third step to walking with God – **Involve God’s people in the Choice!**
- In Paul’s first letter to the Corinthians he criticized them because they were suing each other

- A conflict arose between two people in the church and rather than bringing it to the church, they took it to a secular court **1 Corinthians 6:5**

**I say this to your shame. Is it so, that there is not a wise man among you, not even one, who will be able to judge between his brethren?**

- Listen, the bigger the choice you have before you – the more you need God’s people **Proverbs 15:22**

**Without counsel, plans go awry, but in the multitude of counselors they are established.**

- The fourth and final step to walking with God is **Do what you Believe Pleases God!**
- Walking with God is doing what pleases Him
- Whether you are choosing where to go to lunch
- Whether or not to bring your family to church during a pandemic
- Whether or not to relocate your family or change jobs
- What you choose is a choice to walk with God or to walk the way of Cain
- **Sanctify your Choices!**
- **Commune with God about your Choices!**
- **Involve God’s people in the Choice!**
- **Do what you Believe Pleases God!**
- Do those things consistently and more and more of your life will resemble Enoch’s
- Personally I can imagine no higher praise at the end of my life than ‘Rick walked with God’
- Choose today to walk a little closer to God!
- **Pray!**