

More Answers to Questions from the message on Enoch Walking with God given 4.26.20. Answered by Doug Rutt

Where in the Bible does Jesus talk about the wind that you mentioned?

The passage is in John 3:1-8. The passage reads like this.

“Now there was a man of the Pharisees, named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews;²this man came to Jesus by night and said to Him, “Rabbi, we know that You have come from God as a teacher; for no one can do these signs that You do unless God is with him.” ³Jesus answered and said to him, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God.”

*⁴Nicodemus *said to Him, “How can a man be born when he is old? He cannot enter a second time into his mother’s womb and be born, can he?” ⁵Jesus answered, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. ⁶That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷Do not be amazed that I said to you, ‘You must be born again.’ ⁸The wind blows where it wishes and you hear the sound of it, but do not know where it comes from and where it is going; so is everyone who is born of the Spirit.”*

I love this conversation with Nicodemus because Jesus is helping him understand that just because something is not visible and/or does not make sense to our finite minds does not mean they are not true. God’s wisdom and ways far exceed ours. I trust in a God I cannot see and I trust He is preparing a heaven I cannot see. The wind is the daily reminder of something I cannot see, but is no doubt real.

Would you please share how the 365 years of Enoch is equivalent to 30 years of our present lives.

The average lifespan of those who lived From Adam to Noah (excluding Enoch because of his unusual departure) was 911 years. Therefore Enoch was only alive on earth 40% of what was normal. The average lifespan of an American man is 76 according to <https://www.statista.com/statistics/274513/life-expectancy-in-north-america/>.

If you multiply 76 by 40% you end up with 30.4. Therefore Enoch’s 365 years are equivalent to 30 years in our present time.

How do I know I am walking with God?

How can I start to walk with the Lord. I have faith, but do not feel as though I am walking with God.

These are great practical questions overflowing from the fact that Scripture records that Enoch walked with God. Walking with God involves a few steps:

1. The beginning step is placing faith in Jesus Christ to save you from the wrath of God you deserve because of your sin. Faith in Jesus involves admitting you are a sinner, believing that His death on the cross paid your penalty, and receiving His forgiveness as a gift. Many people believe that beginning a walk with God starts with “cleaning up” their life, but this is impossible. We could never be good enough for a Holy God. That would require perfection, and no one live perfectly. Even if we could begin living perfectly, how would we deal with the guilty of our past sins? The substitutionary death of Jesus, the perfect son of God, is the only way the guilt of our sin could be paid. So ask yourself, have I ceased trusting in my own efforts to become a better person and trusted in Jesus to be my Savior?
2. When you trust Jesus to be your Savior, you become a child of God. You are no longer your own. You belong to God. As such, you place yourself under His leadership and the authority of His Word. He speaks to you and directs you through His Word, and you speak to Him as your Father through prayer. When you have trusted in Jesus as Savior AND you are living in obedience to His Word, you are walking with God.
3. If you have trusted Jesus as your Savior, but are not living in obedience to His word, you are not walking with God. You are still His child, but not walking with Him. As a child of God you BEGIN WALKING WITH GOD AGAIN through confession of your sin. Confession to God means that you admit you have disobeyed your Father, seek His forgiveness, and place yourself again under His authority. Confession restores the walk. This is why the Bible calls no believers infants. They are children who need to learn to walk. Growing in my walk with God means that I am increasingly choosing to live under His authority and wisdom each day.

In summary, you know you are walking with God when you have trusted Him as your Savior and are living under the authority of His Word. Because we often rebel and pursue our own way, confession to God must be a regular part of our prayers to the Lord.

We should not fear death, but should we fear the process?

First, let me acknowledge that it is natural to fear death. This is why the promise to believers in Jesus that death has lost its sting for those who are in Christ is such a gift from God! I think it is also important to acknowledge that it is possible to not fear death, but then some time later “fear death” again. Why? Because it is a matter of faith that allows me not fear death and our faith is not static. It is something that we must continue to exercise.

So what about fearing the process of death? For some the process of death is slow and painful, and for others it is quick and without warning. We don't get to choose the process, but we can choose to trust the Lord for whichever road He chooses for us. I

am reminded that the Scripture promises “Perfect love cast out all fear”. This means even the fear of the process of my death. Does God love you? More than you can imagine. He loves you fully and perfectly! The evidence is in the giving of His son Jesus on your behalf. Romans 8 declares that if He has given us His son will He withhold any good thing from you? The answer is a resounding “No!”. The chapter closes with an marvelous declaration that nothing (including a process of dying) will separate us from the love of God. Whatever the process, it is passing through the loving hands of my heavenly Father and therefore I have nothing to fear. I appreciate the perspective of Matthew Henry who declares that all that happens in life is “the ripening of me for heaven”