

GENESIS 5: ADAM'S DESCENDANTS

I. OVERVIEW

- A. Author reiterates the creation of Man by God
 - i. He is created in God's likeness
 - a. Instead of God's image
 - b. The serpent promised Eve she would be like God when she ate
- B. 10 generations are listed from Adam to Noah
 - i. They follow a similar pattern
 - a. Each man lived a certain number of years
 - I. Then fathered a son
 - b. Then he lived a certain number of years longer
 - I. While fathering other sons and daughters
 - c. Then gives the total number of years lived
 - I. And then he died
 - C. Chapter ends with Noah fathering three sons
 - i. Shem, Ham and Japheth

II. HERE BEGINS A NEW SECTION OF THE BOOK: THE GENEALOGY OF ADAM

- A. Adam – man
- B. Seth – appointed
- C. Enosh – mortal man
- D. Kenan – nest/dwelling or sorrow
- E. Mahalalel – praise of God or blessed God
- F. Jared – descend
- G. Enoch – dedicate/train up
- H. Methuselah – man of a dart or his death shall bring
- I. Lamech – uncertain, possibly despairing or lament
- J. Noah – rest

K. Many will translate the names of the ten patriarchs as saying: *Man is appointed mortal sorrow but the blessed God will descend and teach that His death will bring the despairing rest.*¹

III. EACH PATRIARCH LISTING FOLLOWS THE SAME FORMAT EXCEPT:

- A. Adam
- B. Enoch
- C. Noah

IV. ADAM

- A. Son in his own likeness
- B. In his own image
- C. Adam ate the fruit to become as the gods
 - i. Now he has a son in his own likeness and image
 - ii. Sin, fallen state

V. ENOCH

- A. He walked with God
 - i. God walked alone in the garden (Genesis 3:8)
- B. Then he was no more, for God took him
 - i. Hebrews 11:5 ***By faith Enoch was taken up so that he should not see death, and he was not found, because God had taken him. Now before he was taken he was commended as having pleased God.***
 - ii. First of two
 - iii. Where did he go?
- C. First prophet
 - i. Quoted by Jude
 - ii. Named son Methuselah – his death shall bring
 - a. Flood came as soon as Methuselah died
 - b. Methuselah lived the longest of all humans – shows God's mercy

VI. NOAH

- A. Out of the cursed ground – seed
- B. He will bring us relief from painful work and toil

¹ Anacioco, A. A. (2019, June 26). *Meaning Of The Names In Genesis 5*. Biblical Christianity. Retrieved April 2, 2023, from <https://biblical-christianity.com/tag/meaning-of-the-names-in-genesis-5>

C. Messiah figure

VII. AND HE DIED

- A. Only Enoch and Noah did not die in this chapter
- B. All men are under the curse of Adam
 - i. In his likeness and image

VIII. THOUGHTS ON GENEALOGIES

- A. Hebrew genealogies are often incomplete²
- B. They are written to make a point
 - i. Here there are 10 generations until destruction (flood) and new creation
 - a. Number 10 – law, wholeness, new creation, judgment, authority
 - i. 10 plagues, 10 commandments, 10 horns of the beast
- C. Many add up the ages of the patriarchs to arrive at an age of the earth
 - i. Incomplete genealogies mean this doesn't necessarily work

IX. POINTS TO JESUS

- A. The death of all these men show us a need for Someone to give us life
 - i. Their names potentially reveal a coming Savior whose death will bring life
- B. Noah's naming confirms the coming Seed
 - i. He will break the curse and bring rest

X. QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

A. How would you view death if you were to live for 900 years? -

B. What do the words “and he died” teach us?

² Guzik, D. (2018). *Study Guide For Genesis 5*. Blue Letter Bible. Retrieved April 2, 2023, from https://www.blueletterbible.org/comm/guzik_david/study-guide/genesis/genesis-5.cfm

C. What does Enoch's life teach us? What are we reminded of when we read that he did not die?

D. What is the significance of the length of Enoch's life?

E. What does Noah's name teach us about the purpose of the coming Messiah?

F. How do we find rest in Jesus? How does He bring us rest from our work and from the toil of our hands?

XI. FURTHER STUDY

A. What can we infer about the genealogy of Adam in the context of Genesis 4:26?

B. What is the significance of Enoch being the seventh generation from Adam?

C. Read Isaiah 65:17-20. How does Genesis 5 point to the age to come?

D. What does it look like to walk with God like Enoch did? See Micah 6:8; Malachi 2:6.
