

SUNDAY SCHOOL MATERIALS FOR ADULTS

LESSON 3



*Contend
for the faith
which was
once delivered
to the saints
Jude 1:3*

ENOCH THE PROPHET

Scripture Text: Jude 14

In this verse, Jude went back into the Book of Genesis to illustrate truth in his day. This time he used *Enoch . . . the seventh from Adam*. He told us that Enoch was a prophet (this is the only Scriptural account of this fact), and he equated his prophesy with the judgments that apostates will receive.

MEMORY VERSE: *By faith Enoch was translated that he should not see death; and was not found, because God had translated him: for before his translation he had this testimony, that he pleased God (Hebrews 11:5).*

A Biblical Type

Enoch also, the seventh from Adam. This phrase shows that Jude was careful to identify whom he was speaking of because there was another Enoch: the son of Cain, the murderer. The Hebrew name *Enoch* means, “dedicated, disciplined, and well regulated,” which shows that if an individual wants to walk with God, he must be dedicated to Him. The Holy Spirit must be allowed to discipline and direct his life.

What significance does the expression *the seventh from Adam* hold? When we think of Adam, we immediately think of the fall of man, of sin, and of death. **Romans 5:12** says, “By one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin.” **Romans 5:14** declares that “death reigned from Adam to Moses.” **1 Corinthians 10:11** states that “all these things happened unto them for [our] ensamples,” or as one translation says, “by way of type.”

Webster’s New World Dictionary defines the word *type* as “a person, a thing, or an event that represents or symbolizes another, especially another that is to come.” What is the lesson in this type? Seven, biblically, denotes perfection and completeness. Beginning with Adam, six generations were subject to sin and death, but with the *seventh from Adam* something happened. *Enoch*, who was perfect, “was translated that he should not see death” (**Hebrews 11:5**). He was taken out of this world never again to be exposed to sin and death. He is now enjoying irrevocable eternal life.

So it is in this Gospel dispensation. Men have been exposed to sin and death from the first period of time, but at the end of the seventh and last period of time, those who are perfect, those who have walked with God, will be taken at the Lord’s coming and will be forever removed from the power of sin and death to enjoy eternal life.

The Prophecy of Enoch

Prophesied of these. Some have difficulty with the fact that Jude quoted from a book that is not recorded as part of the accepted Scriptures. (The quote in **verse 15** is from *Enoch* 1:9.) Remember, “holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost” (**2 Peter 1:21**). Often they spoke from writings that their audience was familiar with. (Paul quoted Grecian poets to the Greeks on Mars’ Hill.) Because a writing is not found within the Scriptures does not mean that it has no merit. Many truths were derived from other writings. The fact that they were quoted in the New Testament is proof that they were authentic. What is incorporated there is just the amount that the Lord wanted to be in the Scriptures.

Consider the prophecy of *Enoch*. **Genesis 5:21** says that he begat Methuselah. Methuselah lived to be the oldest man in the Bible, living 969 years (**Genesis 5:27**). His long life is a type that represents the Lord’s longsuffering with man. God is “not willing that any should perish” (**2 Peter 3:9**). The name *Methuselah* literally means, “When he is dead, it shall be sent.” In giving this name to his son, *Enoch* was prophesying. He knew of the coming Flood and God’s judgment upon the people living then. Therefore, Jude cited *Enoch* as he spoke of the fate of apostates to let them know that their fate would be very similar to those people.

SUNDAY SCHOOL MATERIALS FOR ADULTS

LESSON 3

Are You Ready for Eternity?

Behold, the Lord cometh. What is the message in these words? Concerning apostasy, Jude was trying to emphasize that we should live with the thought of the Lord's coming on our minds at all times. If those who have been making a profession of religion really had eternity on their minds, they would be living much differently.

There is more than just this time world to consider. One day time will be no more. That which we believe, teach, and live must be able to withstand the shock of Judgment Day. **2 Corinthians 5:10** says, "We must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ." We need to make our decisions and moves carefully and prayerfully, based on the fact that *the Lord cometh!* If we will do this, then everything will take on a more serious purpose. To avoid the ultimate end of apostasy, we need to be living and walking according to truth so that we can say, "Even so, come, Lord Jesus" (**Revelation 22:20**).

JUST A THOUGHT

If you will live as you ought, with the Judgment in view, you will not need to review what you do!