

10-27-2024 Sunday Sermon Message

Devotional of the Week: Psalm 91:1-16

Scripture Text: Genesis 5:22-24

Scripture Title: **God Saves His Elect Before Tribulation**

Enoch is one of the most noteworthy characters in the Bible. Because he has the unique aspect of being the only person who has never seen death in 6,000 years of human history and will never die. Because of our sins, Jesus had a brief taste of death. But Enoch **was the only exception to the statement, "as it is appointed unto men once to die"** (Hebrews 9:27). He was suddenly gone. The Bible says that God took him.

The Bible testifies that Enoch lived a life pleasing to God and lived by faith:

"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)

Enoch would not have received much attention before Mudselah was born. He did not walk with God until the birth of his first son. But after Mudselah was born, his life changed. The name Mudselah has a great meaning in Hebrew. **"When He Dies, It Will Be Sent"**

He must have prayed deeply to understand the meaning of Mudselah's name. Mudshelah begat Lamech, and Lamech had a son named "Noah." "When he dies, it will be sent" was the judgment of the Flood. After Enoch realized this, he began to live a life pleasing to God, and after walking with God for 300 years, he was taken up to heaven. After God gave birth to Mudselah, God realized the judgment of God that would come upon the world in the future, so he repented and walked with God. Finally, God took him to heaven before the tribulation.

Through the Old Testament, we can know God's will to save a very small number of people who believe in Him in fear before the tribulation.

The Bible testifies that Noah was the only one who found grace in God's eyes among the many people who lived at that time. At that time, God regretted that

He had made man on the earth, and this made his heart grieve.

Finally, God decided to judge all the people living on the earth with a flood and told Noah to build an ark, and not a single one except his family members could escape judgment. Noah walked with God and built the ark as God had instructed him for 120 years, and was saved from the judgment of the flood and was saved by floating on the flood. Before the tribulation, God saved him and his family.

God has chosen a small number of believers in each age to prepare those who will live forever in the new heavens, the new earth, and the New Jerusalem. The Apostle Paul, who understood this knowledge of the mystery, testified:

"Having made known unto us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure which he hath purposed in himself:

¹⁰ That in the dispensation of the fulness of times he might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven, and which are on earth; even in him:"(Ephesians 1:9-10)

God planned to judge Sodom and Gomorrah and appeared to Abraham in human form with two angels. At this time, God promised his wife, Sarah, that she would have a son, and sent two thousand hours to Sodom to judge them by fire and to save Abraham's nephew Lot from that judgment. The Bible testifies that Lot was a righteous man:

"And turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah into ashes condemned them with an overthrow, making them an ensample unto those that after should live ungodly;

⁷ And delivered just Lot, vexed with the filthy conversation of the wicked:

⁸ (For that righteous man dwelling among them, in seeing and hearing, vexed his righteous soul from day to day with their unlawful deeds;)

⁹ The Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptations, and to reserve the unjust unto the day of judgment to be punished:"(2 Peter 2:6-9)

Finally, God planned to take the Church of God, the bride of Christ Jesus, to heaven before the Tribulation.

The Apostle Paul testified of this fact to the Thessalonian saints:

"Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness.

⁶ Therefore let us not sleep, as do others; but let us watch and be sober.

⁷ For they that sleep sleep in the night; and they that be drunken are drunken in the night.

⁸ But let us, who are of the day, be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love; and for an helmet, the hope of salvation.

⁹ For God hath not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ,

¹⁰ Who died for us, that, whether we wake or sleep, we should live together with him."(1 Thessalonians 5:4-10)

He also gave detailed testimony about the time and timing of the rapture of the Church of God:

"Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition; Let no man deceive you in any way. for the day does not come,"(2 Thessalonians 2:3)

The apostle John foresaw in Holy Spirit what would happen in the day of the rapture. He also foresaw the beginning of the Great Tribulation when the Antichrist appeared after the rapture of the Church of God:

" After this I looked, and, behold, a door was opened in heaven: and the first voice which I heard was as it were of a trumpet talking with me; which said, Come up hither, and I will shew thee things which must be hereafter.

² And immediately I was in the spirit: and, behold, a throne was set in heaven, and one sat on the throne.

³ And he that sat was to look upon like a jasper and a sardine stone: and there was a rainbow round about the throne, in sight like unto an emerald....And I saw when the Lamb opened one of the seals, and I heard, as it were the noise of thunder, one of the four beasts saying, Come and see.

² And I saw, and behold a white horse: and he that sat on him had a bow; and a crown was given unto him: and he went forth conquering, and to conquer."(Revelation 4:1-3; 6:1-2)

God said through the twenty-four elders that He would make the raptured saints kings and priests and that they would reign on the earth:

"And they sung a new song, saying, Thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof: for thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation;

¹⁰ And hast made us unto our God kings and priests: and we shall reign on the earth."(Revelation 5:9-10)

The saints who were raptured to heaven before the Tribulation will come down to the earth with the Lord to judge the world and reign together in Christ's millennial kingdom. The psalmist prophesied of what would happen in Christ's millennial kingdom:

" All the ends of the world shall remember and turn unto the Lord: and all the kindreds of the nations shall worship before thee.

²⁸ For the kingdom is the Lord's: and he is the governor among the nations.

²⁹ All they that be fat upon earth shall eat and worship: all they that go down to the dust shall bow before him: and none can keep alive his own soul.

³⁰ A seed shall serve him; it shall be accounted to the Lord for a generation.

³¹ They shall come, and shall declare his righteousness unto a people that shall be born, that he hath done this."(Psalm 22:27-31)

Amen! Hallelujah!