

WHAT IN THE WORLD HAPPENED?

Same Family, Different Directions, Part 2

Open:

Audio clip of theme song for “The Adams Family.”

- Do you remember this old television show?
 - √ They’re creepy and they’re kooky, mysterious and spooky; they’re all together ooky, The Adams Family. Their house is a museum; when people come to see-em, they really are a scre-um; The Adams Family ...
 - √ Uncle Fester, Grandma, Lurch, Cousin Itt, Pugsley ...
 - √ Quite a cast!
- Having looked last week at Cain’s family tree (those who would leave the presence of the Lord), we turn our attention to another son of Adam through whom would come the “Promised Seed.”
 - √ If you could trace your roots back far enough, you would discover that those we will mention are part of your family ... though you may never have met them.
- Abel having been murdered before children were born, God would give Adam and Eve other children (**5:4**) and in **Genesis 4:25** Seth is mentioned.
 - √ Calculations to come will indicate Adam is 130 years old.
 - √ Did he and Eve wait to have more children after the tragic event of Cain murdering Abel?
 - √ Did God close the womb of Eve for a time? Allowing them time to recover from their grief?
 - √ It is likely that other children were born during this time (ex. Cain’s wife) but Scripture doesn’t record all these names ... what we have is a recording of the names of the sons through whom the “Promised Seed” would come.
 - √ Our list will include 10 generations, 10 patriarchs ... from Adam to Noah.

- (1) **A New Birth – Genesis 4:25-26 NKJV** ²⁵ And Adam knew his wife again, and she bore a son and named him Seth, “For God has appointed another seed for me instead of Abel, whom Cain killed.” ²⁶ And as for Seth, to him also a son was born; and he named him Enosh. Then men began to call on the name of the Lord.
- The name Seth means “appointed one.”
 - √ Just as David would be Jesse’s son chosen to be king ... Seth would be the son chosen to be the son that would make good God’s promise of a coming deliverer.
 - √ His name indicates that Adam and Eve recognized this.
 - Perhaps God tipped them off ... during one of the blood sacrifices at the Garden gate God said: This is the one!
 - We see faith and confidence in God: **Vs. 25 For God has appointed another seed for me ...**
 - √ Earlier, **4:1**, she said: **I have acquired a man from the Lord.**
 - √ She now takes herself out of the equation ... giving God all the credit.
 - √ Lessons are sometimes learned the hard way ... Cain had taught her that she could not bring about the godly Seed and Savior ... she was not in control of this.
 - √ No longer **I** just **God**.
- She had learned one of life’s most important lessons ... we cannot bring about our or someone else’s salvation ... we are totally dependent upon God.
- √ If eternal things are to be accomplished, if a ministry is to grow, if lives are to be transformed ... God must do it!
- * Seth has a son (**Vs. 26**) and his name is Enosh = frail, mortal.
- Why such a name? Perhaps by the time Seth has this son, he is aware of the fragileness of life ... man won’t live forever.

- √ Sooner or later death catches up with us.
- √ Repeated in **Chapter 5** “and he died” bearing out that Satan lied when he said: **You won’t die.**
- √ Death need not discourage us or depress us ... let it motivate us.
- √ Realizing we won’t live forever, should:
 - a) Help us prepare for the inevitable ... we know not when but we know death will come knocking one day.
 - b) Cause us to prioritize what is important ... people matter more than things.
 - c) Encourage us to take care of our bodies ... we don’t get our new one until we get to Heaven.

* As we get to the end of **Chapter 4** we see one group of people moving away from God and another group moving to God.

– **Chapter 4** closes with (**Vs. 26**) **Then men began to call on the name of the Lord.**

- √ God has always had His remnant. He keeps His promise.
- √ Their answer is our answer ... may we too begin to call on the name of the Lord with renewed fervor.

(2) A New Book – Genesis 5:1 NKJV This is the book of the genealogy of Adam.

– Herein is the first mention of “book” in the Bible.

- √ The first mention of “book” in the New Testament is **Matthew 1:1** “the book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ ...”
- √ The first book tells us of the origin of the first Adam (mankind); the second book speaks of the origin of the last Adam (Godman).
 - One reveals how we got in trouble, and the other how to get out of trouble.
- √ The fact that we have this document (historical record) lends credibility to the truth which becomes the root or foundation of what we believe.

- The fact that this same genealogical list is given in **1 Chronicles 1:1-4** and **Luke 3:36-38** further attests to the reliability of such a list.

- √ Questions are sometimes asked about the age of those mentioned ... we believe it to be accurate and can be explained by the perfect environment and climate of that day.
 - √ The age of mankind greatly decreased after the flood.
- I offer the following chart for clarification:

<u>Patriarch</u>	<u>Year of Birth</u>	<u>Age of Birth Next Patriarch</u>	<u>Year of Death</u>
Adam	1	130	930
Seth	130	105	1042
Enosh	235	90	1140
Cainan	325	70	1235
Maholaleel	395	65	1290
Zared	460	162	1422
Enoch	622	65	987 *
Methuselah	687	187	1656 *
Lamech	874	182	1651
Noah	1056	500	2006

* Enoch did not die but moves up to Heaven.

* Methuselah died in the year that the flood came.

- Adam lived until 930 ... but eventually the death sentence caught up with him.
- √ The only recorded death before Adam's was Abel's (except for the man Lamech of Cain killed).
 - √ Adam lived until Lamech, Noah's father ... 9 generations deep ... talk about large family reunions.
 - √ Noah was born 14 years after the death of Seth.
 - √ Enoch and Lamech were outlived by their fathers.

- The first two people that die went to Heaven ... if you include Enoch, that's three.
- Thus, God began to populate Heaven before Satan began to populate hell.

* Time will not allow us to unpack each verse ... I have selected a few.

➤ From a new birth, to a new book.

(3) A New Hope

Genesis 5:1b-5 NKJV ¹ ... In the day that God created man, He made him in the likeness of God. ² He created them male and female, and blessed them and called them Mankind in the day they were created. ³ And Adam lived one hundred and thirty years, and begot a son in his own likeness, after his image, and named him Seth. ⁴ After he begot Seth, the days of Adam were eight hundred years; and he had sons and daughters. ⁵ So all the days that Adam lived were nine hundred and thirty years; and he died.

– Adam was created after God's image ... Seth after Adam's image.

- ✓ We move from perfection to imperfection.
- ✓ Contrary to the evolutionist ... things aren't getting better.
- ✓ A fallen parent can do no more than beget a fallen child.
- ✓ Herein lies the doctrine of universal depravity. We are all born sinners in need of a savior.

Romans 5:12 NLT When Adam sinned, sin entered the world. Adam's sin brought death, so death spread to everyone, for everyone sinned.

✓ No wonder Jesus said to Nicodemus:

John 3:3 KJV You must be born again!

➤ This passage carries Adam's obituary ... as it does the others ... **They lived and they died.**

- √ Yet God kept His promise ... sin brings death but from the Seed of the woman would come One who would give us life.
- √ There is hope!

* Had we had time, we could talk about each one that came and went ... allow me to make a few observations:

- a) All persons mentioned here were believers.
 - They believed in His promise, God’s Word ... they looked for the coming Savior.
- b) All persons listed covered many generations but were from the same family.
 - The godly line was not broken.
 - Parents passed on the baton of faith.
- c) Some of the children listened to their parents but not all.
 - Cain and his gang and some of the children not listed on Seth’s side walk away from God.
 - The large number of godless people of that time would indicate many had rejected the truth.

→ A parent is to faithfully teach and model the truth, as a child reaches understanding they are responsible with what they do with the truth.

➤ Enoch teaches us that even if those around us don’t, it is possible to walk with God.

Genesis 5:21-24 NKJV ²¹ Enoch lived sixty-five years, and begot Methuselah. ²² After he begot Methuselah, Enoch walked with God three hundred years, and had sons and daughters. ²³ So all the days of Enoch were three hundred and sixty-five years. ²⁴ And Enoch walked with God; and he was not, for God took him.

- Whether the birth of his son made him more attentive to his responsibility or God tipped him off concerning some up-coming plans ... we cannot say for sure.

- √ The name “Methuselah” means: “When he is dead, it shall come or it will be sent.”
 - √ God may have given Enoch special revelation about the coming judgment.
 - √ If so, Enoch would have recognized the urgent need to walk with God and prepare others to meet Him.
- What is interesting is Methuselah’s claim to fame is He lived to be the oldest man ever ... 969 years.
- √ A demonstration of God’s patience with men.
- Prior to the coming judgment, Enoch disappeared ... went to Heaven to be with God.

Hebrews 11:5 NLT It was by faith that Enoch was taken up to heaven without dying—“he disappeared, because God took him.” For before he was taken up, he was known as a person who pleased God.

- √ Some believe this is a picture of the raptured “saint” ... taken out of this world before tribulation.

1 Thessalonians 4:16-17 NLT ¹⁶ For the Lord himself will come down from heaven with a commanding shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trumpet call of God. First, the Christians who have died will rise from their graves. ¹⁷ Then, together with them, we who are still alive and remain on the earth will be caught up in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. Then we will be with the Lord forever.

- Enoch got out of here alive but many theologians believe he and Elijah will be back ... they are the 2 witnesses that will be slain in the streets of Jerusalem that Revelation talks about.
- √ They will eventually die and be raised again.

* Had we more time, we could talk about Noah and the others ...

Close: What do we learn from the Adams family?

- It is possible to grow up in the same home and head out in different spiritual directions.
- Have you experienced the “new birth”? You, too, can call on the name of the Lord.

Romans 10:13 NLT For everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.

- God has given us an accurate book ... hold to the truths of Scripture ... the tide (culture) may rise and fall, but God’s Word like markers will keep you off the sand bars of life.
- What you need is hope ... God has not forgotten His promise.
 - √ It is possible to live a godly life in an ungodly world.
 - √ Live in such a way that you please God and become more alert as we get closer to the end of time!

➤ This completes Chapter 5. We will return to Genesis later ...

Message Notes
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