

A cosmic background featuring a view of Earth from space, showing the horizon and clouds. The Moon is visible in the upper center. The sky is filled with stars and the Milky Way galaxy, with a color gradient from blue to purple.

THE BOOK OF
GENESIS

ENOCH: A RAPTURE PREVIEW

GENESIS 5:21-32

- *Enoch*, the seventh from Adam in Seth's line, had the same name as Cain's son.
- *Lamech*, the seventh from Adam in Cain's line, had the same name as Noah's father.

Pre-Flood there were 2 Enochs and 2 Lamechs. This second Enoch "***walked with God***" and was a prophet of God.

ENOCH'S GREAT TESTIMONY

- The tiny little book of Jude reminds us Enoch preached against the godlessness of his generation in fearsome, thundering words. **Jude 14-15**
- The quotation in **Jude** seems to have been taken from ***The Book of Enoch*** contained in the pseudepigrapha.
- The early church fathers—Justin Martyr, Clement of Alexander, Origen, and Tertullian
- The Book of Hebrews—**Hebrews 11:5-6**

ENOCH AND ELIJAH

Twenty-five centuries later, another prophet, Elijah, was similarly taken into heaven without dying. **2 Kings 2:11**

- The translation of these two saints is a type of the translation promised to those who are alive and trusting in Christ when the trumpet sounds for the Rapture of the Church. **1 Thessalonians 4:13-18;**
1 Corinthians 15:22-53
- But only Elijah will be coming back, as far as **Rev. 11:3** is concerned, as one of the two witnesses. **Mal. 4:5-6**

METHUSELAH AND LAMECH

It is interesting that Methuselah's life, in effect, was a symbol of God's mercy in forestalling the coming judgment of the Flood.

- It is fitting that his lifetime is the oldest in the Bible, speaking of the extensiveness of God's mercy—His longsuffering—that none should perish. **2 Peter 3:9**
- But it is also true the year that Methuselah died, the Flood came and Lamech and all like him perished.

NOAH

The antediluvian line culminates in *Noah*, whose name means “rest,” and his three sons, Shem, Ham, and Japheth.

- At Noah’s birth, his father Lamech prophesied of a coming time when the curse would be removed through Noah! Through Seth would come Jesus.
- Peter no doubt had this prophecy in his mind when he spoke in his sermon in **Acts 3:21**.

SHEM, HAM, AND JAPHETH

Noah was 500 years old before any of these sons were born; talk about a late start!

- Evidently, all of Noah's older "sons and daughters" followed the ungodliness of the world and eventually perished in the Flood. Everyone except . . .
- "*Shem*" meaning "name," "*Ham*" meaning "warm," "*Japheth*" meaning "enlarged."
- And from this line would come the Messiah, who was, and is, and is to come! **Matt. 24:44; Rom. 11:25**