ENOCH, WHO WALKED WITH GOD

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**Enoch** is the first individual in recorded Bible history to prove his unity with eternal Life and thus overcome the greatest fear that besets mankind. He proved to be a myth the claim of mortal mind that death is supreme or inevitable. His example is outstanding, because in a few simple words the Bible shows clearly and explicitly how he accomplished this great achievement.

Enoch is mentioned four times in the Bible. His story is told in Genesis and in Hebrews. He is quoted by Jude in his epistle (verses 14, 15), and his name appears in the genealogy of Jesus in Luke (3: 37). The brief account of him in Genesis reads in part ([5:23, 24](https://concordexpress.christianscience.com/?query=And+all+the+days+of+Enoch+were+three+hundred+sixty+and+five+years%3A+and+Enoch+walked+with+God%3A+and+he+was+not%3B+for+God+took+him&book=tfccs.main.hb.kj)), "And all the days of Enoch were three hundred sixty and five years: and Enoch walked with God: and he was not; for God took him." The narrative in Hebrews tells us ([11:5, 6](https://concordexpress.christianscience.com/?query=By+faith+Enoch+was+translated+that+he+should+not+see+death%3B+and+was+not+found%2C+because+God+had+translated+him%3A+for+before+his+translation+he+had+this+testimony%2C+that+he+pleased+God.+But+without+faith+it+is+impossible+to+please+him%3A+for+he+that+cometh+to+God+must+believe+that+he+is%2C+and+that+he+is+a+rewarder+of+them+that+diligently+seek+him&book=tfccs.main.hb.kj)): "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. But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him."

This Biblical character of whom the account is so brief was apparently considered to be of importance by the writers of early Jewish literature. The all-important fact is that Enoch overcame death because he "walked with God."

Mary Baker Eddy writes in her textbook, "Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures" ([p. 214](https://concordexpress.christianscience.com/?query=If+Enoch%27s+perception+had+been+confined+to+the+evidence+before+his+material+senses%2C+he+could+never+have+%27walked+with+God%2C%27+nor+been+guided+into+the+demonstration+of+life+eternal&book=tfccs.main.sh)), "If Enoch's perception had been confined to the evidence before his material senses, he could never have 'walked with God,' nor been guided into the demonstration of life eternal." The gradual unfoldment of the understanding of God which must have preceded his great demonstration would of necessity appear in his daily life and would be expressed in orderly and scientific methods through which the age in which he lived could best be helped. Mrs. Eddy makes it clear that he had perception above and beyond the evidences of the material senses. Thus Enoch, through his continual communion with God, must have been actively engaged in forwarding the process of civilization.

The writer of the epistle to the Hebrews includes Enoch in his list of those who, through faith, wrestled with and overcame evil in its various forms; he saw that faith was essential for the annihilation of the claim of evil as a reality opposing God. The simple reasons that he gave for Enoch's conquest over death were, first, that he had faith, and, secondly, that he pleased God. In order to make any demonstration of the power of God, whether it be one of overcoming the belief in sin, in sickness, or in death, there must be faith in God: faith that is willing to acknowledge the power of Spirit and to give up the belief in matter and its modes of operation. It is not possible to cling to materiality and at the same time expect to overcome a difficulty through spiritual means.

Enoch had faith in God; otherwise he could not have walked with Him. He must have been willing to give up materiality, all belief in an intelligence apart from divine Mind, all sense of mortality, for the glorious understanding of immortality. No doubts, no worldly considerations, were allowed to dim his vision; he had faith because he communed with God; he had no fear of death because he walked with Life. "He was not" to the material senses, because he *was* with God. In other words, Enoch was awakened from this earthly dream to the birthless, deathless reality of his true being.

The name Enoch, which can be taken as an indication of his human life, means according to a Bible concordance "dedicated, or disciplined, and well regulated," pointing to a consecrated, self-controlled, and orderly life. Having before us the knowledge that Enoch had faith in God, such a life would point to adherence to divine Principle in his human affairs. Divine Principle is the first synonym for God in Mrs. Eddy's definition of Life on [page 468](https://concordexpress.christianscience.com/?query=Life+is+divine+Principle%2C+Mind%2C+Soul%2C+Spirit.+Life+is+without+beginning+and+without+end.+Eternity%2C+not+time%2C+expresses+the+thought+of+Life%2C+and+time+is+no+part+of+eternity.+One+ceases+in+proportion+as+the+other+is+recognized&book=tfccs.main.sh) of Science and Health. She writes in part: "Life is divine Principle, Mind, Soul, Spirit. Life is without beginning and without end. Eternity, not time, expresses the thought of Life, and time is no part of eternity. One ceases in proportion as the other is recognized."

Throughout Mrs. Eddy's writings divine Principle is frequently associated with the synonym Love, thus giving the true sense of divine Love, which has no trace of that which has so often been mistaken for love. The student of Christian Science learns that Love is Principle and Principle is Love. This fact eliminates any suggestion that divine Principle, Love, can be cold or indifferent and gives the sense of unlimited, incorporeal, ever-present good.

In Enoch's walk with God the qualities of Principle, which include integrity and orderliness, would have been evident in his relationship with his fellow men. The quality of integrity is one that is respected and admired by all right-thinking people. The quality of orderliness is not always considered an essential in human affairs; it is therefore an interesting one to consider.

Edmund Burke, a thinker, writer, and politician of the eighteenth century, wrote, "Good order is the foundation of all good things." Throughout the Bible the need for order is stressed, although the words used to express this quality vary. In the life of Christ Jesus there are several instances where a sentence denotes the orderliness of his proceedings. In the feeding of the five thousand he commanded the apostles to make the people sit down in an orderly way (Mark 6:39, 40). At the time of the stilling of the storm he was "asleep on a pillow" ([Mark 4:38](https://concordexpress.christianscience.com/?query=asleep+on+a+pillow&book=tfccs.main.hb.kj)), indicating an orderly settling down to rest. In his final victory, even at the moment of the greatest triumph over evil that humanity has ever witnessed, his orderliness is shown in the detail that the cloth which had been about his head was not carelessly cast aside, but was laid carefully in a place by itself.

The various biographies of the life of Mrs. Eddy stress the orderliness that characterized her personal affairs, her household, and the movement which she founded.

In Enoch's walk with God the wholeness and unity of God must have been revealed to him; therefore the meaning of each synonym for Life must have stood out clearly in the glorious light of revelation.

Those who walk with divine Mind manifest, or reflect, the quality of intelligence, this being evidenced in the expression of ideas. These ideas, flowing from the source of all good, have no beginning and no end. They are accepted and utilized by those who are spiritually ready to accept them. They are unlimited, the only limit being in the capacity of reception. They are ageless, the time of their appearing being regulated by mental preparedness and receptivity. Spiritual ideas emanating from Mind are forever present to be discerned by those who have sufficient understanding of divine Mind to recognize and demonstrate them in their daily lives for the benefit of mankind.

In the radiance and glow of the walk with Soul the pangs of loneliness are lost in the companionship of unselfed love. Frustration disappears and fruition appears, abundance replaces lack, warmth and tenderness displace the harshness and cruelty of materiality, as Soul enfolds us in everlasting Life. Soul lifts the dark shadow of grief and restores the joy of true communion. In an understanding of Soul is found all that age, which is an enemy, would claim to steal from us. Sight, hearing, power, are attributes of Soul; they are not to be found in matter, and Soul restores all that the material senses declare to be lost. The reflection of Soul is ageless, timeless, joyous individuality, which is revealed when one is companioned by Soul.

Those who walk with God in the understanding of Spirit learn that life is not a material process, which begins with birth and ends with death. They glimpse the continuity of all being, which constitutes ceaseless spiritual activity, into which materiality does not enter; they learn that there has never been any interruption of good in ever-present Life. The spiritual discernment of the unity of Life destroys the belief of life in matter, thus setting one free to see himself as the reflection of the perfection and beauty of Life.

Enoch is an example for all mankind, since ultimately all must awaken from the belief and dream of material existence to the reality of Life, divine Principle, Mind, Soul, Spirit. The only time to begin this awakening is now, and time has nothing to do with the process of awakening. The walk with God seems to begin in our human experience, but in reality, as stated in the definition of Life, time ceases in proportion as eternity is recognized. How then is the awakening to be accomplished? It can come only through individual salvation worked out in ceaseless striving to approximate the life and works of Christ Jesus, as explained in the teaching of Christian Science. It comes through the process of redemption: sin must be seen as nothing and exterminated; the belief in sickness must yield to a true understanding of perfection; death must be seen as an unreal shadow; and there must be constant communion with God, resulting in more consecrated lives.

Enoch did not walk with God or please Him in order to overcome death. No selfish purpose can have animated his thought. His human life gradually eliminated the belief in the reality of evil, until the glory of the allness of God filled his consciousness and time ceased for him in the recognition of Life.

In Revelation these words of promise are given to those who are striving to dedicate their lives to the service of God ([3:4](https://concordexpress.christianscience.com/?query=They+shall+walk+with+me+in+white%3A+for+they+are+worthy&book=tfccs.main.hb.kj)): "They shall walk with me in white: for they are worthy." In Mrs. Eddy's book "The First Church of Christ, Scientist, and Miscellany" we read ([p. 187](https://concordexpress.christianscience.com/?query=May+the+divine+light+of+Christian+Science+that+lighteth+every+enlightened+thought+illumine+your+faith+and+understanding%2C+exclude+all+darkness+or+doubt%2C+and+signal+the+perfect+path+wherein+to+walk%2C+the+perfect+Principle+whereby+to+demonstrate+the+perfect+man+and+the+perfect+law+of+God)), "May the divine light of Christian Science that lighteth every enlightened thought illumine your faith and understanding, exclude all darkness or doubt, and signal the perfect path wherein to walk, the perfect Principle whereby to demonstrate the perfect man and the perfect law of God."