

# Two Enochs

**Introduction.** When God created the world, He described it as “very good” (Genesis 1:31). Regrettably, that goodness did not last, for it was destroyed when Adam and Eve sinned. When Cain killed Abel and Cain received his punishment (4:11-16), all hope for humanity seemed lost. But God had told Satan that One would eventually “bruise thy head” (Genesis 3:15). With Enosh, the son of Seth, Adam and Eve’s third son, people began to call on or worship the Lord (4:25-26).

The phrase “claim to fame” means the reason someone or something is regarded as unusual or noteworthy. The respective claims of the two Enochs to fame make a useful comparison between the two branches of humanity, which are traced down to the families of warlike Lamech and godly Noah.

## ***I. The Two Enochs***

- A. The son of Cain (Genesis 4:17-24).
  - 1. This was a new beginning for Cain after his curse for killing Abel. The city, or permanent settlement, was not necessarily the first city or settlement.
  - 2. Cain’s city may be viewed as a “city of refuge” given to him by God to protect him and his descendants from blood revenge (cp. Deuteronomy 19:11-13).
  - 3. While the positive contributions to humanity, such as music and metal working, are described, more space is used detailing Lamech’s polygamy and boasting of vengeance.
- B. The descendant of Seth (Genesis 5:21-32).
  - 1. We know nothing of the rank or profession of Enoch. Two points of great interest characterize him: his holy life on earth and his glorious exit from earth.
  - 2. This seventh man from Adam did not walk in the way of the sinners of his corrupt age. His character and conduct were a distinct rebuke to the godless around him. Jude 14 tells us that Enoch functioned as a prophet, declaring God’s judgment on the unrighteousness of his time.

## ***II. Important Lessons***

- A. The major lesson between the two Enochs is the comparison of spirituality and carnality.
  - 1. Spirituality is a virtuous frame of mind that elevates and enlightens the soul (1 Corinthians 3:1; Galatians 6:1).
  - 2. Carnality is a worldly frame of mind that produces behavior focused on the baser, physical desires (Romans 7:14; 1 Corinthians 3:3).
  - 3. God created man to walk after the Spirit (Romans 8:5-9; Galatians 5:16-17), not after the flesh. Man walks after the Spirit when he follows God’s revealed will.
- B. Several comparisons will show the difference between these two competing ideas.
  - 1. Cain’s Enoch had a city named after him; Seth’s Enoch was looking for a city (Hebrews 11:5, 13-16).
  - 2. Cain’s Enoch had a family focused on worldly knowledge; Seth’s Enoch had family focused on God (cp. Genesis 6:8, 22; 7:5, 9, 16).

3. The work of Cain's Enoch (and his family) was destroyed in the Flood; the work of Seth's Enoch (and his family) was saved by the Flood (1 Peter 3:18-20).
4. Just before we learn about Cain's Enoch, Cain left the presence of the Lord (Genesis 4:16). When Seth is introduced, people began to call on the Lord (Genesis 4:26). As a result, Seth's Enoch walked with the Lord.
  - a) The wicked are "without God" (Ephesians 2:12), but Enoch must have been at peace with God, for two cannot walk together unless they be agreed (Amos 3:3).
  - b) Walking with God implies a steady progress in Enoch's course (Ephesians 4:1; 1 John 1:6-7. He did not walk for awhile and then stand still (cp. Philippians 3:14).
  - c) Although born a child of wrath, he became a child of grace — a friend of God, and each day found him more weaned from the world and more ripe for Heaven.
5. When Cain's Enoch died, he did not receive a reward; Seth's Enoch did not die, but went on to receive an eternal reward. It should invigorate you to know that your faith can cause you to receive the same eternal reward as Enoch (Hebrews 11:39-40).

**Conclusion.** What kind of legacy are we leaving to the people we have intimately associated with in the world? The legacy of Cain's Enoch was departure from the Lord, while the legacy of Seth's Enoch was faithfulness to the Lord. What have people seen in you and your family? Walk after the Spirit just as Enoch walked with God.