



Sunday, January 30, 2022

Pastor Don Denyes

Intro to Hebrews 11:5-6

Without faith it is impossible to please God. There are people in the world today who do not believe that and would try to persuade you that it isn't true. There are people who argue that it doesn't matter what you believe, as long as you love others, then that is pleasing to God. They would have you believe that doctrines and beliefs are just weapons wielded by religious leaders who are eager to maintain their power.

Yet the great irony in this is usually the people making the argument would have you hang on their every word or Tweet. They would have you *believe* that faith is not required in order to please God. They would have you believe that people of faith rarely please God through their works.

We must not succumb to these lies, but remain committed to the truth as it is revealed in Scripture. The truth is that faith is required to please God. What God wants is for us to walk *with Him*, not just *in His ways* (as though that were possible without faith). He wants us to know Him, to love Him, to obey Him. It's all tied to who He is, what He has done for us in Christ, and what He will do in bringing about the consummation of His kingdom.

Context

The Genesis account of Enoch is situated in the long line of death notices in Genesis 5. Life outside the garden was hard. The curse was that man would return to dust, and so we have. Adam died, then one-by-one his descendants died, leaving behind a trail of reminders of our fall from grace. But Enoch serves as something of an interruption in the story. He walked with God, and then God took him (Gen. 5:24). There is great mystery surrounding this verse, but suffice to say, living a life of faith, which is pleasing to God, will never end in death.

Read and Reflect *(Use this section to write down any thoughts you had on the sermon. Make sure to note any questions you had about something in the passage or in the sermon.)*

Read Gen. 5:21-24; Heb. 11:5-6

“Taken”

His Story

- He was a father

- He walked with God

His Secret

- He walked by faith

- Faith pleases God

Discuss

- 1) Read Gen. 2:16-17; 3:1-6. Pastor Don started here by talking about the necessity of a right perception of God. Based on these verses, what is a right perception of God? And how did Adam and Eve have a wrong perception?

- 2) What does it mean to “walk with God”?

- 3) Pastor Don also shared the insight from G. Campbell Morgan, “If you love, you have to hate.” What does that mean? Is that true?

- 4) What do you think it looks like to “please God” with your life? Is that something you think about regularly?

- 5) Why do you think faith is pleasing to God (v. 6)?