

Walking with God Pilgrim Youth Institute, July 31, 2020

Genesis 5:21-24 What is he best remember for?

Enoch's Message **Jude 14 and 15.**

Who were *these? At first glance they seem to be sinners... people out there... but let's go to **Jude 1:3-5.**
Where is the battle of good and evil, right and wrong, light and darkness being fought?

Right here, in my own mind and heart.

So many people today can say the right words and maybe even project (*almost*) the right image.
Yet... something isn't quite right, something is lacking. **What is it?**

Walking with God...

- 1. Do you walk with God?**
- 2. Is there a cost in walking with God?**
- 3. Why do you walk with God?**

1. Do you walk with God?

I am not asking do you "feel" like you walk with God? But do you walk with God? What are the facts of your life? What does the evidence of facts indicate?

Isaiah 33:14-16 Micah 6:6-8

A life of action. A life of doing. A life of being. (*We as humans are so inclined to the seeming realities of feelings: and they so endlessly get us in trouble. The Christian life is not so much one of feeling as it is knowing and being.*)

I see people that grew up in "Christian settings" bemoaning the fact of how hard it is for those who grow up in the world to truly yield all. They leave the connotation that it is so much harder for someone who grew up that way. Is this really the way it is?

Is desiring attention and/or admiration less sinful than fornication? (*Aren't they part of the same path?*)
Is loving the praise, commendation, and admiration of friends any different than getting a high of drugs.
Is a consistent and unfought battle of doubt and fear more acceptable than an unbelieving atheist?

Is God dishonored by a woman having a way low neckline and skimpy skirt yet glorified by one who makes a cape dress to accent her body and uses bright colors or extras to attract attention to herself.

Will God travel with me in my \$40,000 truck that I have customized to my desires and tastes but look sorrowfully at the delusional rich man with his yacht in the San Francisco Bay and a Bentley in his garage?

Is the path God walks on wide enough for an Anabaptist full of attitudes and pride?
Yet is that path too narrow for the man who sues his neighbor and the lawyer who helps him?

James 2:10 and 11

Thank God, life is a process of growth and maturing! Yet, **Can two walk together unless they are agreed?**
Do I agree with God? Do I value what God values? Do I have time for what God would have time for?

2. Is there a cost in walking with God? *What do you say?*

There is a concerted effort to minimize the cost of walking with God, what many of those preaching this gospel fail to realize is that a minimizing of the cost on my part ends up depreciating the price Christ paid.

Did you know God is jealous of you? What price has He paid? Is His jealousy warranted?

His is a jealousy of being crowded out, regulated to secondary in importance.

Exodus 34:12-17 Deuteronomy 4:23, 24

Do we serve the same God the Israelites did? Does He ask any less today?

2 Corinthians 11:2 and 3

Luk 14:25-33 Christ counsels those seeking to follow Him to count the cost.

Building a "tower". Fighting a war.

Just as walking with a close friend requires saying "no" to many other things, so walking with God requires letting go of anything that would be a distraction.

Walking with God is very expensive... For us to walk with God, He must be all to us.
Not ½, not ¾, not 90%, not 99.9%, but ALL.

Can we expect God to be happy with any less than what a marriage partner desires?

Our walk with God will be of no more value to us, than what we have sacrificed for it.

Practical Points...

Invest in a daily Bible Study and prayer time. Don't stop there! Walk with God at all times.

Give to others. Give what you have!

3. Why do you walk with God?

Why are you a Christian?

What motivated you to ask God into your life? What brought you to the place saying, "I am a sinner?"

Sometimes in listening to things shared in our churches, one could very easily think that serving God is the smart choice, the path to a successful and happy life, and the decision of intelligent and rational people...

To be clear, it is all this and ever so much more when eternity is in focus, but in the realities of time, it is actually quite different. Guess where I am right now? In time! It can seem like anything but a smart choice. It can and will appear as anything but successful and happy.

1Co 15:19 If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men most miserable.

Why do I walk with God?

Why do you walk with God?

(The amazing thing about this all? It is not the amount of sin, but the amazing grace of God.)

No matter how much or how little you have sinned, you need God just as much as I did and do...

Walk with Him!

(Not in fearfulness and dread. But, walk in reverence and awe: that He could love a sinner like me!)

As God walked with His perfect creation in the garden of Eden, His desire is to walk with you, with me.

Isaiah 57:15 Do you walk with Him?