

Two words with the same meaning emphasize the final end of the false teachers. This is the epitome of the justice of God.

Darkness, or “*skótos*,” is talking about the horror of eternal judgment. That eternal judgment is not only fire, but also the absence of light – “the darkness of blackness.”

The “darkness of blackness,” meaning not only the fires of hell, but eternal separation from the light which is God. That is the gloom of hopelessness for eternity. That is the ultimate eternal place of Satan.

Satan has already been condemned to the lake of fire, and his fallen angels have been condemned with him. These false teachers who are destroying souls and spiritual lives may have money and great approbation in time, but in eternity they will have “darkness of blackness” – “*skótos*,” “*zóphos*.”

Blackout of the soul is a sick condition of the spiritual life, but it's not the blackness of darkness of eternal judgment.

So, what happens when a believer has nothing but false doctrine in the soul?

1. Objectivity is blacked out in every area of life. What replaces it? Emotion! Spiritual principles of Bible doctrine and rejection of authority are all blacked out.
2. What is replaced in the soul if there is no Bible doctrine or divine viewpoint? Negativity, confusion, instability, and frustration.
3. That's what happens to believers who follow, whether unbelieving false teachers or believing false teachers.

You know, some of the most subjective and destructive people in this world are believers whose souls are blacked out. Their thinking under the influence of evil is totally distorted.

In this thinking, the believer thinks no differently than the unbeliever who has rejected God and who has rejected divine establishment.

And so ends the metaphors of verse 13. Our expanded translation of Jude 13:

“Savage waves (false teachers who teach false doctrine) of the sea, splashing up like foam their own shame (they leave a trail of destruction in their wake); wandering comets (here today gone tomorrow), for whom the blackness (blackout of the soul) of the darkness (self-induced misery) has been reserved forever (darkness in the lake of fire).”

Jude now inserts a passage about a famous Old Testament character named Enoch.

Jude 14-16:

Verse 14: “Enoch, the seventh from Adam, prophesied about them: “See, the Lord is coming with thousands upon thousands of his holy ones,

Verse 15: to judge everyone, and to convict all of them of all the ungodly acts they have committed in their ungodliness, and of all the defiant words ungodly sinners have spoken against him.

Verse 16: These people are grumblers and faultfinders; they follow their own evil desires; they boast about themselves and flatter others for their own advantage.”

Jude previously pointed out that the apostates “were long beforehand marked out for this condemnation” (Jude 4; cf. v.6, 13).

Jude 14-16 reaffirms that truth, and the truth of all the other New Testament judgment passages that precede it. The passage first underscores the fact of an ancient prophecy by Enoch; then it suggests three certainties regarding God’s final judgement: (1) the Lord will come, (2) He will not come alone, and (3) He will come to execute judgment on deserving recipients.

In Genesis chapter five we see Enoch lived for 365 years. Enoch was the son of Jared and the father of Methuselah, as Genesis five points out.

What’s interesting is that nowhere else besides here (Jude 14) is Enoch specifically called the seventh descendant of Adam. He is seven generations removed from Adam.

Genesis 5:24 describes the character of Enoch it says, “Enoch walked faithfully with God; then he was no more, because God took him away.” (NIV)

Enoch was an example of an early generation of men who were believers, and they were communicators. This was something much more intimate with Godt indicates that it was not a distant relationship. Enoch had a very, very strong faith in God.

We can see Enoch was a man of great devotion and in Hebrews 11:5-6 it says:

Verse 5: “By faith Enoch was taken from this life, so that he did not experience death: “He could not be found, because God had taken him away.” For before he was taken, he was commended as one who pleased God.

Verse 6: And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that He exists and that He rewards those who earnestly seek him.” (NIV)

What’s interesting about Enoch in his walk with God is that through him, the knowledge of God was preserved for a civilization otherwise without the ability to know God.

How were the early human beings to know God when there was no Bible, no Old Testament at that time? Men like Enoch.

So, knowledge of God was communicated verbally by Enoch as he received it from God, walked with God. Enoch was getting direct revelation, or he was receiving it from angels who are God's messengers.

Enoch had a mission, and that mission was to communicate God's Word to those who could find it or have it in no other way. Enoch was their verbal Bible.

Then in Genesis 5:24 it says, “Enoch walked faithfully with God; then he was no more, because God took him away.” (NIV)

Hebrews 11:5: “By faith Enoch was taken from this life, so that he did not experience death: “He could not be found, because God had taken him away.” For before he was taken, he was commended as one who pleased God.” (NIV)

Enoch was taken directly to heaven and so it says, “because God took him away.”

This was the first occurrence of a person being translated into heaven (The second was Elijah in 2 Kings 2:11). This phenomenon occurred in the dispensation of the Gentiles:

Genesis 5:24: “Enoch walked with God; and he was not, for God took him.” (KJV)

This verse has been referenced and expanded in the New Testament by the writer of Hebrews. We will cite the King James Version because of a specific word used in the verse:

Hebrews 11:5: “By faith Enoch was translated (aorist passive indicative of “μετατίθημι” – “metatithēmi”: “to transpose, transport, transfer, translate”) that he should not see death; and was not found, because God had translated (aorist active indicative of “μετατίθημι” – “metatithēmi”) him: for before his translation (“μετάθεσις” – “metathesis”: to move from one place to another) he had this testimony, that he pleased God.” (KJV).

The definition of the English words, “translation” and “translate” are usually assumed to refer to the conversion of text from one language to another, for example, from Hebrew to English or from Greek to English. However, this term has other definitions. We will note definitions pertinent to the King James translation from four dictionaries that define the terms in Hebrews 11:5:

Translate: to remove or convey to heaven, as a human being, without death.
Translation: the removal of a person to heaven without subjecting him to death.!

! Noah Webster, *The American Heritage Dictionary of the English Language* (San Francisco: Foundation for American Christian Education, 1995; repr. Noah Webster, *An American Dictionary of the English Language* (New York: S. Converse, 1828), s.vv. “translate,” “translation.”

Translate: to change from one place to another. To remove to heaven—originally implying without death.²

Translation: transference; removal or conveyance from one person, place, or condition to another. Removal from earth to heaven, originally without death, as the translation of Enoch.³

Translate: to move from one place or condition to another; to convey (someone, typically still alive) to heaven.⁴

The Bible Knowledge Commentary, pages 35-36:

Besides providing the link between Adam and his times and Noah and his, this chapter (**Genesis 5**) has a motif that cannot be missed – **and then he died** (vv. 5, 8, 11, 14, 17, 20, 27, 31). If one were in doubt whether the wages of sin is death (Rom. 6:23), he need only look at human history.

In Enoch's case, the statement was not made—as it was with the other males in this genealogy – that he lived so many years and then died. Instead he **walked with God** (Gen. 5:22, 24). “Walk” is the biblical expression for fellowship and obedience that results in divine favor. Enoch's walk lasted 300 years. No doubt his walk would have continued, but God took him away (v. 24) – he did not die.⁵

Let's get some additional information on Enoch and our upcoming passages:

1. In our upcoming passages we will see that Jude is referring to earlier verses in the Letter of Jude. He is referring to the false teachers, the flouters of spiritual authority, the revilers, the brute beasts, the hidden reefs, the waterless clouds, the dead and uprooted trees, the wild ocean waves, and the wandering stars headed for eternal blackness.
2. Even before the flood, Enoch (Genesis 5:21-24) prophesied that the Lord would come to judge such false teachers.

² Webster's New Collegiate Dictionary, 2d ed. (Springfield, Mass.: G & C Merriam Co., Publishers, 1953), s.v. “translate.”

³ The Oxford English Dictionary (New York: The Oxford University Press, 1971), s.v. “translation.”

⁴ The New Oxford American Dictionary (New York: Oxford University Press, 2001), s.v. “translate.”

⁵ The Bible Knowledge Commentary, Old Testament, Editors John F. Walvoord and Roy B. Zuck. 2004 by Cook Communications Ministries.

3. By citing Enoch, Jude underscored the motivation behind God's judgment on apostasy while also reinforcing the certainty of it.
4. Even though this prophecy is not recorded in the Old Testament, the Holy Spirit inspired Jude (cf. 2 Timothy 3:16; 2 Peter 1:20-21) to use it because it was familiar, historically valid, and supported his overall thesis.
5. Jude extracted the quote from the pseudepigraphal⁶ book of 1 Enoch, with which his first-century readers were well acquainted.
6. This book was part of the written history and tradition of the Jewish people, and rabbinical allusions to it were not uncommon.
7. Though he was not the author of the book, Enoch's message was passed down through oral tradition until it was finally recorded in what was called 1 Enoch.
8. Like other books such as The Book of Jubilee, The Testament of the Twelve Patriarchs, and The Assumption of Moses (which Jude quoted from in v.9), this book was not part of the Old Testament canon; yet since it was accurate, it was acceptable for Jude to use it to bolster his argument.
9. None other than the apostle Paul occasionally followed the same pattern (of citing nonbiblical sources to make a legitimate spiritual point) in his teaching (cf. Acts 17:28; 1 Corinthians 15:33; Titus 1:12).
10. Enoch was a hero to the Jewish people because, like the prophet Elijah later (2 Kings 2:11-12), he went to heaven without dying.
11. Although it was not included in the biblical record until the book of Jude, Enoch's prophecy is the earliest human prophecy found anywhere in Scripture. (The only earlier prophecy recorded in the Bible was made by God in Genesis 3:15.)
12. In fact, Enoch's message predated the words of Moses, Samuel, and other Hebrew prophets by many centuries.

⁶ "pseudepigraphal" – spurious or pseudonymous writings, especially Jewish writings ascribed to various biblical patriarchs and prophets but composed within approximately 200 years of the birth of Jesus Christ. (Oxford Online Dictionary)

Let's get some information on the book of Enoch:

The quote in Jude 14 (“**Enoch, the seventh from Adam, prophesied about them:**”) is found no other place in the Bible.

This quote comes from the book of Enoch, which is apocryphal literature. It is the longest surviving Jewish apocryphal writing. It was written prior to 110 BC, so it's an old, old book. It was a work that was well known by early Christians and by Jews alike in the time of Jude.

So, they would have been aware of such a prophecy that Jude used. This was not an unknown prophecy; it simply did not come from the Old Testament.

Jude 14a introduces us to Enoch: “**Enoch, the seventh from Adam, prophesied about them:**” This is a very old prophecy as you can see. Adam was still alive when Enoch was born.

Let's get a few more points so we know who Enoch is. How did people even know about God? How did they know about Christ? Who was Christ in the time? How did they understand Christ? What was salvation? How did they learn these things?

1. Enoch was an example of a man who was a believer and a communicator.
2. Through Enoch, the knowledge of God was preserved. Preserved for a civilization otherwise without the ability to know God. Preserved to his generation and to many generations to come.
3. Knowledge of God was communicated verbally by Enoch.
4. In that time Enoch, who walked with God, was a communicator of the doctrine of God that was necessary for these people to grow up to know salvation.
5. “With God” indicates a continual relationship with God. This was a very close relationship. Enoch was a great man of the Lord in the early lineage of mankind.
6. He taught Bible doctrine, and he was central to the early generations of man as far as divine revelation is concerned.

7. We know Enoch was transferred to Heaven without dying. This happened only one other time to another great man of the Old Testament, Elijah. These two men were transferred without tasting death at the end of God's plan for their lives.

What did the transfer of Enoch teach those left behind?

1. It was a confirmation to people at the beginning of biblical history. What confirmation?
2. It was a confirmation that God is the God of the living.
3. It confirmed that death is not the end. It's just a new residence for believers. That should be comforting to you as well. Death is not the end, it's the beginning of a future new residence. A residence that is beyond our understanding.
4. Enoch's direct transfer clearly indicates that Old Testament believers would finally dwell with God in Heaven. All Old Testament believers would join Enoch, and they knew it.
5. Enoch was a confirmation that there is life in heaven with God after one passes from this mortal life.
6. Old Testament Saints will be a part of our heavenly existence. So, we will reside in Heaven with Moses, with Elijah, with Enoch, with David, and with all the Old Testament heroes.

So, the message of Enoch's dramatic experience is: Enoch's transfer was a gospel message to the unbelievers in the time of Enoch.

This gospel message of salvation was an example of what happens to believers who are saved.

Jude 14b: "See, the Lord is coming with thousands upon thousands of his holy ones,

Verse 15: to judge everyone, and to convict all of them of all the ungodly acts they have committed in their ungodliness, and of all the defiant words ungodly sinners have spoken against him.