

# The Book Of Enoch

#### Disclaimer:

This teaching in no way suggests that The Book of Enoch is part of the Bible or that it should be part of the Bible.

Many books and manuscripts exist that groups around the world would like to see become part of the Bible.

#### Deuterocanonicals

Judith Baruch Sirach 1 Maccabees 2 Maccabees Those books which are not considered part of most Protestant religion's canon are called Extra-Biblical.

**Book of Wars of the Lord** The Poets The Book of Jashar The Book of Jubilees The Book of Enoch Vision of the Prophet Sayings of the Wise The Gospel of Phillip The Gospel of Mary

#### One of the most popular of the extrabiblical books is The Book Of Enoch.

One of the main reason for this being - the early followers of Yahshua were aware of The Book of Enoch.

## Enoch is an excellent example of Jewish spiritual literature from the Second Temple era.

Exposure to such ancient worldviews allows modern readers of the Bible to develop a better, more well-rounded understanding of ancient writings.

Actually three different books have the name Book of Enoch. 1st Enoch (1 Enoch) 2<sup>nd</sup> Enoch (2 Enoch) 3<sup>rd</sup> Enoch (3 Enoch)

### Typically 1st Enoch is the book referred to when talking about the Book of Enoch.

### Let's briefly look at 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Enoch before we focus on our main topic of 1<sup>st</sup> Enoch.

2nd Enoch Origins are unknown. No consensus on when or where it was first published.

### Theories range from a 1<sup>st</sup> Century AD to 10<sup>th</sup> Century AD creation.

It describes the ascent of Enoch through ten heavens of an Earth-centered cosmos.

It goes on to rework, in a completely different style, the fifth chapter of Genesis and expands on the biblical stories of Enoch and Noah.

#### 3rd Enoch A Jewish apocalypse, written in Hebrew, from the 6th or 7th Century AD Babylonia.

#### It has been preserved by Rabbinic Judaism. 3rd Enoch is sometimes called "the Book of Palaces".

It is a first-person account of Rabbi Ishmael as he allegedly ascends the heavenly realm and visits six heavenly palaces.

In it, Enoch transforms into the angel Metatron (a second or lesser Yahovah).

#### Again 1st Enoch is the book almost always discussed or referenced when speaking of The Book Of Enoch.

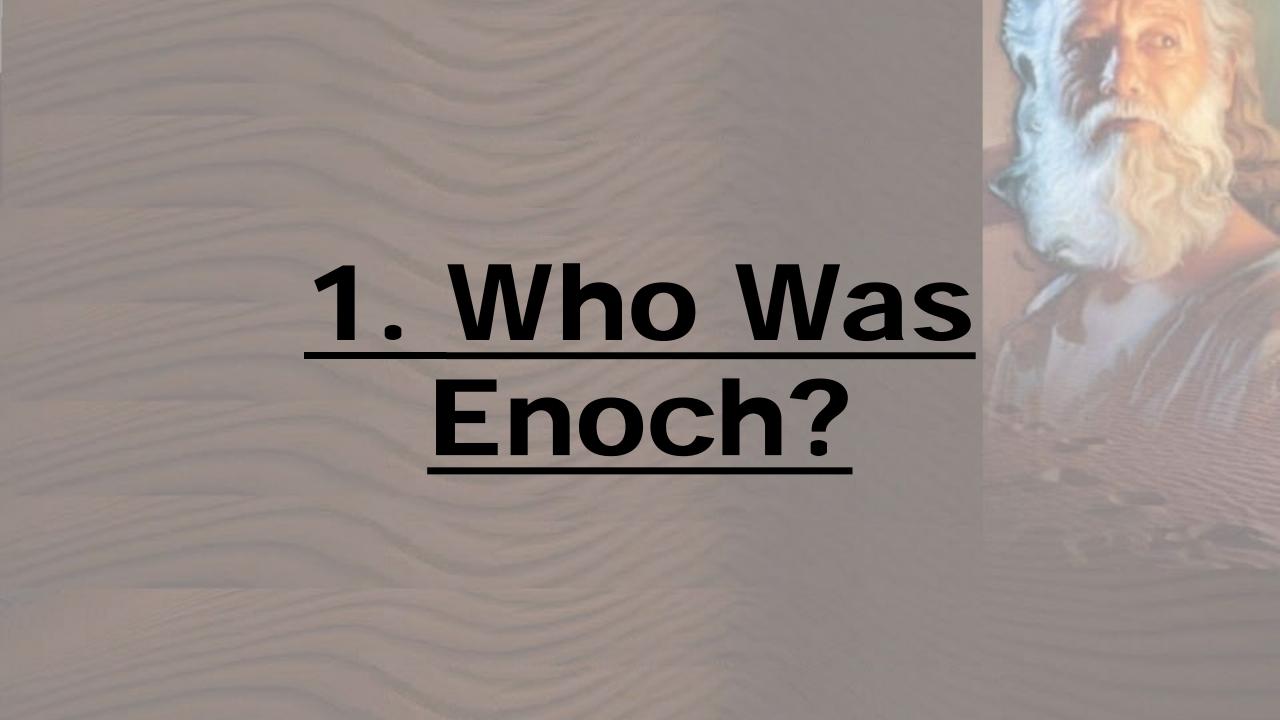
### Major themes found in the Book of Enoch:

#### The Expectation Of **A Messiah** A Final Judgment A Way To Salvation A Resurrection

#### Heavenly Visions Or Journeys Jewish-Apocalypticism The Son Of Man The Concept Of Hell

### Three Questions To Answer In This Teaching

#### 1. Who was Enoch? 2. What is the Book of Enoch? 3. What was the significance of The Book of Enoch to the followers of Yahshua?



Not much is known about Enoch. He was the great-great-greatgreat-grandson of Adam
He was the great-grandfather
of Noah. He was the father of Methuselah.

#### He "walked faithfully with God" and then was mysteriously taken away by God.

(Genesis 5:22-24) <sup>22</sup> After he begot Methuselah, Enoch walked with God three hundred years, and had sons and daughters.

23 So all the days of Enoch were three hundred and sixty-five years. 24 And Enoch walked with God; and he was not, for God took him.

This small mention in the book of Genesis spawned an entire book that continued to influence religious traditions for centuries to come.

#### Enoch was known as a man of faith who lived a life pleasing of Yahovah.

#### (Hebrews 11:5)

5 By faith Enoch was taken away so that he did not see death, "and was not found, because God had taken him"; for before he was taken, he had this testimony, that he pleased God.

#### So the question arises, did Enoch author the Book of Enoch?

Enoch was not the author of the Book of Enoch

Who was Enoch?

### How do we know Enoch didn't write this book?

The book contains anachronisms.
The book uses biblical passages
from Isaiah, Zechariah, and
Ezekiel written long after Enoch's
time.

Who was Enoch?

It mentions places like Mt. Sinai that Enoch would have no knowledge of. The grammar, syntax, and content identify the writings as not being concurrent with the time of Enoch. (Written in a Hellenistic world)

# Question 2: What is the Book of Enoch?

### The Book of Enoch is "pseudepigrapha".

# It is a text whose claimed author is not the true author.

The true author attributed the work to Enoch. Pseudepigraphal works were very common between 200 BC and 200 AD.

Pseudepigraphal works are not worthless. They can be helpful in getting an understanding of 1st Century Judaism and historical context of the New Testament.

The Book of Enoch was influential in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Temple period, and it appears the some New Testament authors were influenced by The Book of Enoch.

The Book of Enoch was written by several authors and pieced together over the last few centuries prior to Yahshua.

### Scholars considered it the most important Jewish writing that has survived from the Greco-Roman Period.

The Book was originally written in Aramaic, but it mainly survives through manuscripts written in an Ethiopic language called Ge'ez.

### Approximately 90 partial manuscripts of the Book of Enoch exist today.

The question arises as to whether the Book of Enoch we read today faithfully represents what was written in the 4<sup>th</sup> to 1<sup>st</sup> Centuries BC.

### 1st Enoch contains 108 chapters.

The chapters are divided into 5 sections and 2 appendices. These sections are often called Books.

The Book of Watchers (1st Enoch 1-36) The Book of Parables (1st Enoch 37-71) The Book of Luminaries (1st Enoch 72-82) **The Dream Visions** (1st Enoch 83-90)

The Epistle of Enoch (1st Enoch 91-105) The Birth of Noah (1st Enoch 106-107) Another Book By Enoch (1st Enoch 108)

### The sections do not appear in the Book of Enoch in the order they were written.

The books express a common worldview that characterizes the present world and age as evil and unjust, and one that is in need of divine judgment and renewal.

They focus on the common concern that a coming divine judgment will eradicate evil and injustice from the earth and will return the world to God's created intention.

### The Book of Enoch claims that it transmits divine revelation received by Enoch in ancient times.

The authors of 1st Enoch claim that Enoch ascended into Heaven (as we see in Genesis 5:22-24), was shown heavenly secrets; then descended from Heaven to transmit this revelation which is now written in the Book of Enoch.

## Let's summarize the 5 Books and 2 Appendices

### The Book of Watchers (1st Enoch 1-36)

# Composed in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Century BC. It is primarily an elaborate interpretation of Genesis 6:1-4.

(Genesis 6:1-4)

<sup>1</sup>Now it came to pass, when men began to multiply on the face of the earth, and daughters were born to them, 2 that the sons of God saw the daughters of men, that they were beautiful; and they took wives for themselves of all whom they chose.

3 And the LORD said, "My Spirit shall not strive with man forever, for he is indeed flesh; yet his days shall be one hundred and twenty years." 4 There were giants on the earth in those days, and also afterward, when the sons of God came in to the daughters of men and they bore children to them. Those were the mighty men who were of old, men of renown.

The story is about the rebellion of angels who are called Watchers. Yahovah will send the Flood to destroy them. The Watchers lusted after the women on earth, took them as wives, and had children who became giants (Nephilim).

The fallen angels then teach humans about magic and astrology, how to make weapons and jewelry, and promote violence and promiscuity among the people of the earth.

#### 1st Enoch 6:1-2

<sup>1</sup> And it came to pass, when the sons of men had increased, that in those days there were born to them fair and beautiful daughters. <sup>2</sup> And the Angels, the sons of Heaven, saw them and desired them. And they said to one another: "Come, let us choose for ourselves wives, from the children of men, and let us beget, for ourselves, children."

#### 1st Enoch 7:1-2

<sup>1</sup> And they took wives for themselves and everyone chose for himself one each. And they began to go into them and were promiscuous with them. And they taught them charms and spells, and they showed them the cutting of roots and trees. 2 And they became pregnant and bore large giants. And their height was three thousand cubits.

God commands his Archangels to warn Noah of the coming flood, destroy the Nephilim, and imprison the fallen angel Azazal.

God also commands the **Archangel Michael to** capture the fallen angels and bind them for 70 generations, after which, they will be judged.

1st Enoch 10:11-12 11 And the Lord said to Michael: "Go, inform Semyaza, and the others with him, who have associated with the women to corrupt themselves with them in all their uncleanness. 12 When all their sons kill each other, and when they see the destruction of their loved ones, bind them for seventy generations, under the hills of the earth, until the day of their judgment and of their consummation, until the judgment, which is for all eternity, is accomplished.

The Book of the Watchers goes on to state that Enoch ascended into heaven. In heaven, angels tell Enoch that he must go proclaim God's judgment against angels who have married human women.

Enoch goes to speak to the fallen angels, and they ask him to write a petition on their behalf, pleading for mercy so that Yahovah would spare them.

Enoch agrees to write the petition. As he is reciting the petition he has just written, he falls asleep and receives a vision from God.

In the vision, Enoch goes before the thrown of Yahovah. Yahovah tells Enoch to inform the angels that he has denied their petition.

Yahovah also tells the fallen angels that their children, the giants, would become evil spirits on earth.

The rest of the Book of the Watchers tells of how Enoch was taken by angels on a journey where heavenly secrets were revealed to him.

Chapter 22 describes what the afterlife is supposedly like and where the souls of the dead go-a mountain with four hollow chambers. Depending on how wicked or holy you were would determine which of the chambers you would go to.

Enoch is also taken to the Mountain of God, Tree of Life, New Jerusalem, Eden, and the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil.

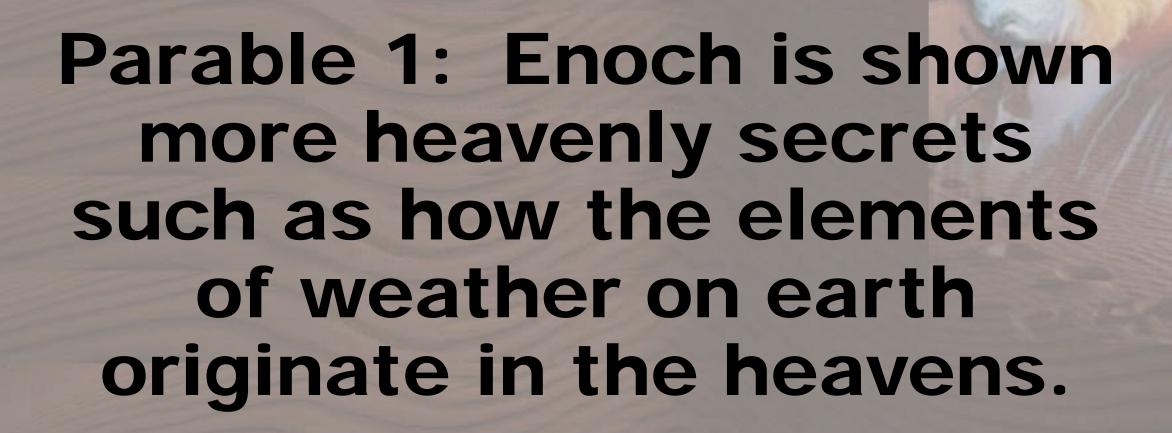
Enoch then journeys to the ends of the earth where he encounters great beasts, observes gates in the heavens where stars emerge, and sees other gates that serve as the sources of rain and wind on earth.

What is the Book of Enoch?

## The Book of Parables (1st Enoch 37-71)

### Composed in the 1<sup>st</sup> Century BC.

Consists of three parables given to Enoch.



Parable 2: Enoch is shown how a "Chosen One" will sit on a throne of glory and judge the deeds of the wicked people who have rejected God. Afterwards, he will come to earth to dwell with the righteous people.

Parable 3: Enoch sees a figure referred to as the "Son of Man". This "Son of Man" reveals secret treasures to righteous people of the Lord. The "Son of Man" is also referred to as "Chosen One".

1. And there I saw One who had a head of days (was old), And His head was white like wool, And with Him was another being whose countenance had the appearance of a man, And his face was full of graciousness, like one of the holy angels. 2. And I asked the angel who went with me and showed me all the hidden things, concerning that Son of Man, who he was, and whence he was, (and) why he went with the Head of Days.

3. And he answered and said unto me: This is the son of Man who hath righteousness, With whom dwelleth righteousness, And who revealeth all the treasures of that which is hidden, Because the Lord of Spirits hath chosen him, And whose lot hath the preeminence before the Lord of Spirits in uprightness forever. 1st Enoch 46:1-3

The Parable goes on to describe how the Son of Man/Chosen One will destroy sinners and strike down kings and rulers because they do not praise God.

The Parable then says that the Son of Man/Chosen One was named before the world was created and that he will be a light to the nations.

This Son of Man/Chosen One will be worshiped by all those who dwell on earth, and in his name, the righteous will have salvation. He will sit on God's throne and judge the wicked.
This judgment will usher in a world of peace.

At the end of the Book of Parables, Enoch is again taken up to heaven in the presence of the angels and the "Lord of Spirits". Michael, the archangel, reveals to Enoch more heavenly secrets. Enoch is taken to the "heaven of heavens" where he sees a fiery heavenly palace.

Enoch is greeted by God, the four archangels, and countless other angels. Enoch is greeted as this Son of Man figure.

# This is where 1st Enoch comes into fatal conflict with the Bible

13. And that Head of Days came with Michael and Gabriel, Raphael and Phanuel, thousands and ten thousands of angels without number. 14. And he (the angel) came to me and greeted me with His voice, and said unto me "This is the Son of Man who is born unto righteousness, And righteousness abides over him, And the righteousness of the Head of Days forsakes him not." 1st Enoch 71:13-14

What is the Book of Enoch?

## The Book of Luminaries (1st Enoch 72-82)

## Composed in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Century BC.

It is the earliest of the Enochic texts.

It describes Enoch's journey through the heavens with the guidance of an interpreting angel, Uriel.

This section focuses on explaining the astronomical laws governing the solar calendar favored by the sectarian communities that created and followed 1st Enoch.

This solar calendar was made up of 364 days - 12 months of 30 days each with one extra day in months 3, 6, 9, and 12.

# Obviously, this is not the calendar followed by 2<sup>nd</sup> Temple Jews or Yahshua.

What is the Book of Enoch?

## The Dream Visions (1st Enoch 83-90)

Composed in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Century BC. In The Dream Visions, Enoch tells his son Methuselah about two dreams concerning future events. The first dream is the world's destruction in the Flood of Noah.

The second dream is an allegorical telling of the history of humanity from Adam to the final judgment. This has become known as the "Animal Apocalypse".

In the allegory, humans are represented as animals, the fallen angels are represented as falling stars, and the archangels are represented as human beings.

# The dream concludes with a final judgment and God ushering in a new world of peace.

What is the Book of Enoch?

## The Epistle of Enoch (1st Enoch 91-105)

What is the Book of Enoch?
The Epistle of Enoch



In it, Enoch exhorts his sons to remain righteous in their wicked generation.

What is the Book of Enoch?
The Epistle of Enoch

Enoch then lists a series of woes against the wicked because they oppress the righteous.

It concludes with a reference to Enoch's books being given to the righteous during the end times.

What is the Book of Enoch?

### The Birth of Noah (1st Enoch 106-107)

What is the Book of Enoch?
The Birth of Noah

## This book describes the miraculous birth of Noah.

What is the Book of Enoch?
The Birth of Noah

When Noah was born, his face and hair are said to glow white. Noah immediately stands up from the hands of the midwife and praises the Lord.

What is the Book of Enoch?
The Birth of Noah

This frightens Noah's father, Lamech, who assumes Noah must be a child of one of the fallen angels. Lamech then begs his father, Methuselah, to speak to Enoch to learn the truth.

What is the Book of Enoch?
The Birth of Noah

**Enoch assures Methuselah** that Noah is in fact Lamech's son, and that Noah is just super holy, hence his glowing, and that Noah is to be called to preserve the human race.

What is the Book of Enoch?

## Another Book By Enoch (1st Enoch 108)

What is the Book of Enoch?
Another Book By Enoch

This is another exhortation by Enoch to his son, Methuselah, concerning God's judgment in the "End of Days".

What is the Book of Enoch?
Another Book By Enoch

Enoch tells his son to endure in his righteousness. Judgment will soon vindicate him and eradicate sin and the sinners who have troubled and oppressed him.

#### Canonicity Was The Book of Enoch written with divine inspiration and authority?

#### Historically, the Book of Enoch was never considered to be part of scripture.

#### The idea that the Book of Enoch should be part of the Bible is seriously lacking historical support.

Not even the sectarian communities that produced and followed The Book of Enoch considered it to be on the same level as The Scriptures.

As we have previously noted, several passages are directly counter to the Bible, destroying any chance for the entire book to be divinely inspired.

#### Question 3: What was the significance of The Book of Enoch to the followers of Yahshua?

It was pseudepigraphal literature that was popular in the 1<sup>st</sup> Century AD, and it had religious significance to certain sectarian communities in Judaism.

It was one of the books available to 1st Century man to read - parts of what it said were relevant to Yahshua's teachings.

It was not considered Divine revelation or authority - key concepts of The Book of Enoch are in direct conflict with what is written in the Bible.

### The Book of Parables identifies Enoch, not Yahshua, as the "Son of Man".

The Book of Luminaries supports a solar calendar.

#### The Book of Enoch parallels Messianic prophecies found in the Tanach, but Enoch and Yahshua can't both be the Messiah.

The Book of Enoch was not scripture, but provides insight into the differing expressions of the Jewish faith.

Given this, there is no reason to believe that the followers of Yahshua considered The Book of Enoch to have been divinely inspired.

#### Summary

Hopefully we've answered the following questions:

- 1.Who was Enoch?
- 2. What is the Book of Enoch?
- 3.What was the significance of The Book of Enoch to the followers of Yahshua?

Summary

The Book of Watchers The Book of Parables The Book of Luminaries The Dream Visions The Epistle of Enoch The Birth of Noah Another Book By Enoch

**Summary** 

There is no reason to believe that Yahshua or his followers considered The Book of Enoch to have been divinely inspired.

