

#13 FORUM POST ON THE FIRST RESURRECTION & THOUSAND YEARS REIGN

Dear All,

Friends, it's been daunting in my mind about this subject, and will not mislead anyone who participates, into falsehood.

To Al-Mighty GOD alone be all Honor, Glory and Praise in Jesus Mighty name for ever and ever. Amen.

Let's begin, for these 24 elders in Heaven are probably the 'patriarchs of Israel', do you all agree or disagree?

Is there any Biblical reference it is them and they have been taken up already?

And do the 'patriarchs' of the Old Testament result to 24 of them by count?

We read 'Enoch' and 'Elijah' were taken up alive in the same 'body', and too 'Moses', who with 'Elijah' appeared to meet Jesus in the New Testament

When scripture in the New Testament read, 'Flesh and blood shall not inherit the Kingdom of GOD'.

Salvation for the remission of sins was achieved in the New Testament.

And at the 'first resurrection', the dead in Christ shall rise and the living and remain, shall be 'changed' to the Heavenly body before 'taken up'.

'For all have sinned and fallen short of the Glory of GOD', for the 'patriarchs of Israel' are included too.

Let's reason, 'Enoch' was 'taken up' when the Law not given yet and sin is not recorded, therefore his body not included in sin and death.

But 'Elijah' was during the time of the Law and sin is being recorded, including his, how come 'bodily defiled', he's 'taken up'?

Probably exempted because the Law have daily rituals, where an Israelite's remission of sins is paid at the end of day, and he have complied.

Hence, satan and the angel of 'death' have no power over his 'body' and 'soul' since his sins are

forgiven and taken away for the day.

Therefore when he's taken up his 'body' and 'soul' have been found 'pure' by chance, another way to put it, if i may?

Thank you and shalom in the name of Jesus Christ.

F_____

Dear F_____,

Christ's New Covenant teachings are taught using "spirit" words (**John 6:63**). Spirit words carry meanings that are different than how man's wisdom defines them (**1Cor 2:13**).

The number 2 and number 12 are spirit words. The number 2 means the witness of God. In this world, they are the converted Elect. The number 12 means the Kingdom of Heaven. The spirit word "24 elders" is understood as 2 x 12 which means that the 24 elders represent all the Elect who dwell in the Kingdom of Heaven.

When Christ said that flesh and blood cannot inherit the Kingdom of Heaven, He is talking about the inheritance that the Elect will receive upon their resurrection. At that time, they will have their spiritual bodies and will then rule with Him over the earth (the lost) in the final age.

Also, the first resurrection is talking about the spiritual resurrection that occurs within each Elect person when they are converted. At that time, the believer's state of being will change from the "earth" to "heaven". The earth is where unconverted babes dwell. Heaven is where the converted Elect dwell. The change is not a physical change of location. The change reflects the person's state of being when it changes from being a child of the devil into being a child of God. This is conversion. If a person does not experience the first resurrection before they die, they were not chosen to be one of the Elect and will not receive an inheritance upon their bodily resurrection from the grave that occurs at the end of this age.

Joe

F_____ did not respond but another member did.

Dear FaithWillDo,

What nonsense! You're not using common sense! No Christian can be resurrected before they die. We follow in the footsteps of our Lord Jesus - note that he was resurrected after he died, not before! Resurrection is an awakening from death; death means a real physical, human body death, not some vague definition on how or what a person thinks at any given point in their life. All Biblical references to the resurrection are about the resurrection of dead people - dead and

buried.

1 Thessalonians 4:13-17 WEB

(13) But we don't want you to be ignorant, brothers, **concerning those who have fallen asleep**, so that you don't grieve like the rest, who have no hope.

(14) For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with him those **who have fallen asleep in Jesus**.

(15) For this **we tell you by the word of the Lord**, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will in no way precede those who have fallen asleep.

(16) For **the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with God's trumpet. The dead in Christ will rise first**,

(17) then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air. So we will be with the Lord forever.

The first resurrection is a future event, when Jesus will return for the Church, his bride. Those Christians that have died and been sleeping in death for up to 2,000 years, will then be resurrected, all at the same time, and they will immediately be caught up to meet Jesus, and they will spend the rest of eternity with Jesus; so to say that we must experience the first resurrection before we die is clearly contradictory to the Scriptures.

When a person is converted they are begotten again by God; that is not a resurrection.

Acts 24:15 WEB

(15) having hope toward God, which these also themselves look for, that **there will be a resurrection of the dead, both of the just and unjust**.

Philippians 3:8-11 WEB

(8) Yes most certainly, and I count all things to be a loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus, my Lord, for whom I suffered the loss of all things, and count them nothing but refuse, that I may gain Christ

(9) and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own, that which is of the law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which is from God by faith;

(10) that I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, **becoming conformed to his death**;

(11) if by any means I may attain to the resurrection from the dead.

2 Timothy 2:16-18 WEB

(16) But shun empty chatter, for it will go further in ungodliness,

(17) and those words will consume like gangrene, of whom is Hymenaeus and Philetus;

(18) men **who have erred concerning the truth, saying that the resurrection is already past,** and overthrowing the faith of some.

K

Dear K _____,

You are confusing the spiritual resurrection with the bodily resurrection from the grave. They are two separate events.

The spiritual process of conversion is what gives a new birth to an individual. Conversion will cause a spiritually dead person (all mankind) to become a spiritually alive person. This event will happen to all the Elect prior to their physical deaths. In Rev 20:5-6, it calls the conversion of the Elect the "First Resurrection". It is not the same event as the bodily resurrection from the grave which will come at the end of this age.

The spiritual events of the First Resurrection are presented in chapter 19 beginning with the Marriage of the Lamb, followed by the Marriage Supper of the Lamb where Christ feeds His new Bride His "truth" (Bread and New Wine). The Marriage Supper is followed by judgment. This judgment is "like" the Day of the Lord (as Peter said in 2Pet 3:8) but is a little different and it applies only to the Elect. This judgment is called the Thousand Years. The Thousand Years is a spirit word and does not mean a literal amount of time as man's wisdom understands it.

During the Thousand Years, the newly born child of God (the Bride) will reign with Christ over their own judgment. This judgment will remove and destroy all the spiritual impurities within the person so that they are governed solely by the Holy Spirit. This judgment causes the death of the child of the Devil who the person used to be. This judgment is presented in Rev 19:11-21. After the Thousand Years is finished, the person will be converted and will be spiritually resurrected. This spiritual event that just took place within the person is called the First Resurrection. It is synonymous with conversion.

The bodily resurrection from the grave is presented later in Rev 20:11-15.

You should not confuse these two resurrections as being the same event.

After the bodily resurrection from the grave occurs, the people (the goats) who remain spiritually dead will begin their time of judgment in the Lake of Fire. During this time of judgment, the Elect (the Bride) will reign with Christ a second time. This second time of judgment is also called the Thousand Years.

During both times of the Thousand Years, the Elect will reign with Christ in judgment over the children of the Devil.

This verse applies:

Ecc 6:6 Yea, though he live a thousand years twice told, yet hath he seen no good: do not all go to one place?

During both times of the Thousand Years (twice told), Christ and His Bride will judge the children of the Devil and will see "no good". Also, during both Thousand Years, the children of the Devil will go to "one place" - the Lake of Fire for destruction.

Joe

Dear FaithWillDo,

FaithWillDo said:

You are confusing the spiritual resurrection with the bodily resurrection from the grave. They are two separate events.

That is a false man-made (up) philosophy - it is not Biblical. Show us where in the Bible it mentions anything about a "spiritual resurrection". This is what Paul taught concerning the (one and only) resurrection of Christians - 1 Corinthians 15:35-44 WEB:

(35) But someone will say, "How are the dead raised?" and, "With what kind of body do they come?"

(36) You foolish one, that which you yourself sow **is not made alive unless it dies.**

(37) That which you sow, you don't sow the body that will be, but a bare grain, maybe of wheat, or of some other kind.

(38) But **God gives it a body even as it pleased him, and to each seed a body of its own.**

(39) All flesh is not the same flesh, but there is one flesh of men, another flesh of animals, another of fish, and another of birds.

(40) There are also celestial bodies, and terrestrial bodies; but the glory of the celestial differs from that of the terrestrial.

(41) There is one glory of the sun, another glory of the moon, and another glory of the stars; for one star differs from another star in glory.

(42) So also is the **resurrection of the dead**. The body is sown perishable; it is raised imperishable.

(43) It is sown in dishonor; it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness; it is raised in power.

(44) **It is sown a natural body; it is raised a spiritual body**. There is a natural body and there is also a spiritual body.

(50) Now I say this, brothers, that flesh and blood can't inherit God's Kingdom; neither does the perishable inherit imperishable.

(51) Behold, I tell you a mystery. We will not all sleep, but we will all be changed,

(52) **in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we will be changed.**

(53) For this perishable body must become imperishable, and this mortal must put on immortality.

To be resurrected you must be dead. God will give resurrected Christians a spiritual body - they will not have their decayed human bodies, or dust, changed into a human body.

FaithWillDo said:

The spiritual process of conversion is what gives a new birth to an individual. Conversion will cause a spiritually dead person (all mankind) to become a spiritually alive person.

Conversion is not a birth, it is a begetting. The birth is the resurrection from being dead. 1 Peter 1:23 ASV:

(23) having been begotten again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, through the word of God, which liveth and abideth.

1 John 3:9 ASV

(9) Whosoever is begotten of God doeth no sin, because **his seed abideth in him**: and he cannot sin, because he is begotten of God.

Many translations mistranslate it as born rather than begotten, but the Greek word is the same and has to be interpreted according to the context. A seed is used to beget, not to give birth, and having God's seed abiding in us means that we have not yet been born again! We are not born again until after we have died, as Paul explained above.

FaithWillDo said:

This event will happen to all the Elect prior to their physical deaths. In Rev 20:5-6, it calls the conversion of the Elect the "First Resurrection".

No it doesn't! There is no mention of conversion in Revelation 20:4-6 (WEB), and it is referring to events after their physical deaths:

(4) I saw thrones, and they sat on them, and judgment was given to them. I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded for the testimony of Jesus, and for the word of God, and such as didn't worship the beast nor his image, and didn't receive the mark on their forehead and on their hand. They lived and reigned with Christ for a thousand years.

(5) The rest of the dead didn't live until the thousand years were finished. This is the first resurrection.

(6) Blessed and holy is he who has part in the first resurrection. Over these, the second death has no power, but they will be priests of God and of Christ, and will reign with him one thousand years.

Those sitting on the thrones in heaven are the resurrected Church - they have already died and been resurrected, they have already been given an immortal spirit body so that they can no longer die ("Over these, the second death has no power").

FaithWillDo said:

The spiritual events of the First Resurrection are presented in chapter 19 beginning with the Marriage of the Lamb, followed by the Marriage Supper of the Lamb where Christ feeds His new Bride His "truth" (Bread and New Wine).

You're adding to the Word of God. It does not say that.

FaithWillDo said:

The Marriage Supper is followed by judgment.

It does not mention judgement. It is describing the start of God's reign:

Revelation 19:6 WEB

(6) I heard something like the voice of a great multitude, and like the voice of many waters, and like the voice of mighty thunders, saying, "Hallelujah! For **the Lord our God, the Almighty, reigns!**

Revelation 19:15 WEB

(15) Out of his mouth proceeds a sharp, double-edged sword, that with it he should strike the nations. He will **rule them with an iron rod**. He treads the wine press of the fierceness of the wrath of God, the Almighty.

The Greek word *poimainō* is translated as 'rule', but literally it should be translated as he will be their shepherd. Strong's says it means "to tend as a shepherd", and the Mounce Concise Greek-English Dictionary says "to feed, pasture, tend a flock". Darby more correctly translates it as:

(15) And out of his mouth goes a sharp two-edged sword, that with it he might smite the nations; and he **shall shepherd them with an iron rod**; and he treads the wine-press of the fury of the wrath of God the Almighty.

The chapter ends describing a war between the beast and his false prophet, and those that they had deceived, who came up against the Messiah and his army. The Messiah of course wins the war.

FaithWillDo said:

This judgment is called the Thousand Years. The Thousand Years is a spirit word and does not mean a literal amount of time as man's wisdom understands it.

This war occurs before (or at the beginning) the 1,000 years of Christ's reign. The words "thousand years" is not "a spirit word". It is literally referring to a period of 1,000 years.

FaithWillDo said:

During the Thousand Years, the newly born child of God (the Bride) will reign with Christ over their own judgment. This judgment will remove and destroy all the spiritual impurities within the person so that they are governed solely by the Holy Spirit. This judgment causes the death of the child of the Devil who the person used to be. This judgment is presented in Rev 19:11-21. After the Thousand Years is finished, the person will be converted and will be spiritually resurrected. This spiritual event that just took place within the person is called the First Resurrection. It is synonymous with conversion.

I've never read such nonsense before! Judges don't judge themselves! Paul tells us that we will judge the world (of mankind) and angels - 1 Corinthians 6:2-3 WEB:

(2) **Don't you know that the saints will judge the world?** And if the world is judged by you, are you unworthy to judge the smallest matters?

(3) **Don't you know that we will judge angels?** How much more, things that pertain to this life? and Jesus said to his twelve disciples, Matthew 19:28 WEB:

(28) Jesus said to them, "Most certainly I tell you that you who have followed me, in the regeneration when the Son of Man will sit on the throne of his glory, you also will sit on twelve thrones, **judging the twelve tribes of Israel.**

No where is it mentioned that the saints will judge themselves or each other.

This is going off on a tangent from this topic (the "24 elders in heaven"), so I think enough has been said on your unusual misunderstandings of Scripture. I'll stop discussing it with you now.

K_____

Dear K_____,

Scripture is written in "another language". This language uses spirit words which have meanings that are different than what man's wisdom teaches. Since babes are spiritually blind, they cannot understand this language - and purposefully so.

Due to a babe's inability to understand the spiritual teachings of the New Covenant, they will fall prey to Satan and will become apostate.

Isa 28:9 Whom shall he teach knowledge? and whom shall he make to understand doctrine? them that are weaned from the milk, and drawn from the breasts (the converted Elect). 10 For precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, and there a little: 11 For with stammering lips and another language (spiritual language) will he speak to this people. 12 But the word of the LORD was unto them (babes who draw milk) precept upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, and there a little; that they might go, and fall backward, and be broken, and snared, and taken (by Satan).

Falling away has happened to all the babes who have entered the church since Paul's departing. (Acts 20:29-31).

I will now respond to one of your comments.

You said:

To be resurrected you must be dead.

That is a true statement and applies to both the spiritual resurrection and the bodily resurrection

from the grave.

Consider this scripture below:

John 11:21 Then said Martha unto Jesus, Lord, if thou hadst been here, my brother had not died. 22 But I know, that even now, whatsoever thou wilt ask of God, God will give *it* thee. 23 Jesus saith unto her, Thy brother shall rise again. 24 Martha saith unto him, I know that he shall rise again in the resurrection at the last day. 25 Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: 26 And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die. Believest thou this?

In Christ's conversation with Martha, Martha is speaking of the bodily resurrection from the grave. However, when Christ responds to her, He is speaking about the spiritual resurrection (the First Resurrection).

Here is how I know this:

When a person is converted, they will have faith and will believe in Christ. This happens while the person is physically alive. After the person is converted, they will then be spiritually resurrected (First Resurrection). At that time, they will go from being spiritually dead to being spiritually alive.

In verse 26, Christ says to Martha that after a person has been made spiritually alive and believes, the person will never die. That is true because a converted person can never spiritually die again after having been converted due to Christ's sacrifice on the cross. If Christ was speaking of being "physically" alive and believing, His statement about the person never dying would be false. Why? Because all believers who make a confession of faith are going to still physically die someday.

I experienced the First Resurrection in 2005. That is when I was spiritually resurrected and began believing in Christ. At that time, I was physically alive. But since physical death was passed down from Adam, I know that I am still going to physically die someday. That is true in spite of having just been made spiritually alive by Christ.

Rom 5:12 Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned:

Because I am going to physically die someday, I still need the bodily resurrection from the grave so that I don't perish.

Can you now see that there is a spiritual resurrection and a bodily resurrection?

Consider this: When a converted believer is bodily resurrected from the grave, their name will be found in the Lamb's book of Life because they are spiritually alive. For the people who are not converted and who remain spiritually dead, their names will not be found in the book of Life. This is true because they were never made spiritually alive by experiencing the First Resurrection before they physically died.

Since you no longer want to continue our discussion, there is no need for you to respond.

Joe

Another member responded:

Dear FaithWillDo,

I don't know where... in the world you are getting your interpretation of the "*first resurrection*", but what you are saying ain't... it.

The "*first resurrection*" is about the one taught in Revelation 20. It is about the FUTURE LITERAL RESURRECTION that will only occur on the day of Christ's future coming...

John 6:40

40 And this is the will of Him That sent Me, that every one which seeth the Son, and believeth on Him, may have everlasting life: **and I will raise him up at the last day.**

KJV

Now there was... a partial resurrection of 'some' of the saints on the day of Christ's death on the cross. But that was not the final resurrection that is still yet to happen on the day of Christ's future coming.

Thus Apostle Paul only 'hinted' to the idea of 'spiritual' raised, like in Romans 6, but never to mean a literal resurrection. When Paul spoke of the resurrection, he always referred to the future resurrection on the day of Christ's future return.

D _____,

Dear D _____,

The spirit phrase "last day" is when the spiritual resurrection occurs within a person. The spiritual resurrection is the First Resurrection.

The First Resurrection is also said to occur when the "end of the ages" comes upon a person:

1Cor 10:11 Now all these things happened to them as types, and have been written for our admonition, upon whom the end of the ages are come.

The "end of the ages" comes upon a person when they are being converted. If the person is one of the Elect, the end of the ages will come to them before they physically die.

The verse you quoted from John 6:40 is not a teaching on the bodily resurrection from the grave. The bodily resurrection from the grave occurs at the literal of this age and does not occur on the "last day".

If the First Resurrection which is being taught in Rev 20:5-6 is the bodily resurrection from the grave, then what do you believe is the resurrection that is shown in verses 11-15 of that same chapter? Are they the same event? Certainly not.

The First Resurrection is the spiritual resurrection and the resurrection shown in verses 11-15 is the bodily resurrection of all mankind - including the Elect. Those who "stand" before the throne are the sheep/Elect. They can stand before the throne because they are converted and have experienced the First Resurrection. The goats are the ones who did not experience the First Resurrection and who will not be found in the book of Life.

You are missing the truth of Christ's spiritual teachings - most of which are teaching on the spiritual events that led up to a person's moment of conversion. The moment of conversion is the First Resurrection and it occurs on the last day.

If a person does not experience the First Resurrection, the last day and the end of the ages prior to their physical death, they will not be found in the Lamb's book of Life. They will be resurrected to judgment because they are still spiritually dead.

Joe

Another member responded about Enoch and Elijah:

Dear FaithWillDo,

I disagree...

For when 'Enoch' and 'Elijah' were taken up to Heaven, they did not have a change of body.

i believe the 'patriarchs of Israel', together with Enoch and Elijah, are already there in Heaven as the 24 elders.

The scripture specifically writes, only the dead in Christ shall rise and those who are living and

remain, together they'll be 'changed' before taken up.

Apparently it's referring to those after Christ who is the 'firstfruit of resurrection', whom will be taken at the 'first resurrection'.

Not the 'patriarchs of Israel', sorry no thank you, and GOD bless you in Jesus name.

F_____

Dear F_____,

To believe that Enoch and Elijah never died is to deny many other teachings of scripture.

Scripture teaches that death passed down from Adam to all men and that includes both Enoch and Elijah who were sinners just like all of Adam and Eve's offspring are.

Rom 5:12 Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned:

If Enoch and Elijah never died because of their sins, then this scripture is wrong, too:

Eze 18:4 Behold, all souls are mine; as the soul of the father, so also the soul of the son is mine: the soul that sinneth, it shall die.

Enoch and Elijah are both in the grave waiting for the "better resurrection" that the OT faithful will receive at the end of this age.

Heb 11:35 Women received their dead raised to life again: and others were tortured, not accepting deliverance; that they might obtain a better resurrection:

Because the OT faithful were justified by their faith, they will experience a better resurrection - but that resurrection has not occurred yet. When it does, the OT faithful will be made "perfect" by Christ's work of conversion with the help of the Elect.

Heb 11:40 God having provided some better thing for us, that they without us should not be made perfect.

Paul even says that Christ is the firstborn from the dead so that He will have preeminence in all things.

Col 1:18 And he is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all things he might have the preeminence.

At this time, Christ is the only person who has been bodily resurrected from the grave. Everyone else is dead and in the grave just as Paul explained in 1Thes 4:13-18. Paul told the Thessalonians to comfort one another with the hope of the coming resurrection from the grave. If anyone was already resurrected from the grave and in heaven, Paul would have said so in that portion of scripture.

You said:

For when 'Enoch' and 'Elijah' were taken up to Heaven, they did not have a change of body.

Your statement above is contradicted by this scripture:

1Cor 15:50 Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; neither doth corruption inherit incorruption.

If Enoch and Elijah did not have a change of body, how can they be in the Kingdom of Heaven since they would still have bodies of corruption (flesh and blood)?

The bottom line is that Enoch and Elijah were both sinners. And because of their sins, they both died like all sinners do. To this day, they remain in the grave waiting for the bodily resurrection with the other OT faithful who likewise died.

Joe

Dear FaithWillDo,

What a waste of 'quotes'?

Just quote the scripture where Enoch and Elijah died and buried, thank you.

F_____

Dear F_____,

God's Word is NEVER a waste. This is a blasphemous statement.

Concerning Elijah, when he was transported into the heavens in a chariot of fire, he did not die nor did he leave the earth. He was transported to another location. How do we know? Because of what chapter 21 of 2Chronicles says:

2Ch 21:4 Now when Jehoram had taken over the kingdom of his father [Jehoshaphat] and made himself secure, he killed all his brothers with the sword, and some of the rulers of

Israel also.

2Ch 21:14 Then a letter came to him from Elijah the prophet saying, “Thus says the LORD God of your father David, ‘Because you have not walked in the ways of Jehoshaphat your father and the ways of Asa king of Judah...”

Elijah sent a letter to Jehoram several years after he was transported to another location on earth in the chariot. This was also well after Elisha had taken up Elijah's ministry. Elijah was not taken up to heaven in a chariot nor did he die at that time. Though no specific scripture states when Elijah did die, he obviously lived for many more years after his chariot ride.

As for when Elijah appeared with Christ and Moses on the mountain, that event was only a vision. Moses and Elijah were not really there.

Concerning Enoch, here are the verses:

Gen 5:23 And all the days of Enoch were three hundred sixty and five years: 24 And Enoch walked with God: and he *was not*; for God took him.

You have to read into this scripture things it does not say to believe that Enoch did not die when God took him. The reason why many people do though is because of what is said in Heb 11:5:

Heb 11:5 By faith Enoch was translated (G3346) that he should not see death; and was not found, because God had translated (G3346) him: for before his translation he had this testimony, that he pleased God.

However, the verse above is poorly translated. The translation of the Greek phrase "metatithēmi" (G3346) is where the misunderstanding occurs.

Heb 11:5 is the only place in scripture that translates the Greek phrase "metatithemi" as "translated". In English, it seems to mean that Enoch was changed from a physical body into a spiritual body, and therefore, did not ever die. But this understanding cannot be true because it is contradicted by many other scriptures - some of which I presented to you in my previous post.

Let's look now at another place in scripture where the Greek phrase "metatithemi" is used and where it is translated better:

Acts 7:16 And were carried over (G3346) into Sychem, and laid in the sepulchre that Abraham bought for a sum of money of the sons of Emmor the father of Sychem.

In Heb 11:5 concerning Enoch, the writer was only saying that Enoch was transported by God to another location so that he could avoid being killed. God did this for Enoch because He was pleased with Enoch's testimony that he made to a certain group of people. But evidently, this group of people was offended by Enoch's testimony and sought to kill him as a result.

If you look at the statements about the other OT faithful in that chapter, it is common for the writer of Hebrews to mention certain significant events in their lives, too. The statement about Enoch is no different.

This correct understanding of verse 5 is confirmed eight verses later in Hebrews.

In verse 13, it clearly says they the OT faithful who were mentioned in verses 4-12 "all died in faith". This includes Enoch. Enoch died just as all men eventually do.

Heb 11:13 These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off, and were persuaded of them, and embraced them, and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth.

Enoch was not translated to heaven and never died as you and others believe.

Everyone who has ever lived & died (except for Christ) is still dead in the grave waiting for the bodily resurrection that will occur at the literal end of this present age. To believe otherwise conflicts with many scriptures.

Joe

Dear FaithWillDo,

I don't buy your 'theory' and 'scripture references' that doesn't add up.

When Elijah's time was up and passed his 'mantle' to Elisha, GOD had Elisha as HIS prophet to address things to Israel.

Elijah was no longer in the picture anymore, looks like you've got 'time' and 'incident' wrongly.

F_____

Dear F_____,

I can't help you if you won't accept scripture as your source of truth. This is my last post to you.

Joe