

Enoch and Country Living

As God's commandment-keeping people, we must leave the cities. **As did Enoch, we must work in the cities but not dwell in them.**—[Evangelism, 78, 79 \(1899\)](#). CL 30.4

When iniquity abounds in a nation, there is always to be heard some voice giving warning and instruction, as the voice of Lot was heard in Sodom. Yet Lot could have preserved his family from many evils, had he not made his home in this wicked, polluted city. All that Lot and his family did in Sodom could have been done by them, even if they had lived in a place some distance away from the city. **Enoch walked with God, and yet he did not live in the midst of any city, polluted with every kind of violence and wickedness, as did Lot in Sodom.**—[Evangelism, 79 \(1903\)](#). CL 30.5

He [Enoch] **did not make his abode with the wicked. He did not** locate in Sodom, thinking to save Sodom. **He placed himself and his family where the atmosphere would be as pure as possible.** Then at times **he** went forth to **the** inhabitants of **the** world **with his** God-given message. Every visit **he** made to **the** world was painful to him. **He** saw and understood something of **the** leprosy of sin. After proclaiming **his** message, **he** always took back **with** him to **his** place of retirement some who had received **the** warning. Some of these became overcomers and died before **the** Flood came. But some had lived so long in **the** corrupting influence of sin that they could **not** endure righteousness. They **did not** retain their purity of faith, but returned to their former customs and practices.—[Manuscript 42, 1900](#).

The cities must be worked. The millions living in these congested centers are to hear **the** third angel's message. This work should have been developed rapidly during **the** past few years. A beginning has been made, for which we praise God. **Outpost centers are being established, from whence, like Enoch of old, our workers can visit the cities and do faithful service.**" [THE REVIEW AND HERALD, July 5, 1906](#)

The complete plan in regard to the purchase of **the** Hill Street property was not laid before me till my last visit to Los Angeles. I was then taken to see this property, and as I walked up **the** hill in front of it, I heard distinctly a voice that I well know. Had this voice said, "This is **the** right place for God's people to purchase," I should have been greatly astonished. But it said, "Encourage no settlement here of any description. God forbids. My people must get away from such surroundings. This place is as Sodom for wickedness. **The** place where my institutions are established must be altogether different. Leave **the** cities, and **like Enoch come from your retirement to warn the people of the cities.**" [MANUSCRIPT RELEASES, VOL. 1, PAGE 250](#)