

Church History and Evidences
Notes: What Happened to the Apostles?

I. The James' (and Jude)

- A. James, the son of Zebedee – Killed by Herod, Acts 12
- B. James the Less – Mk. 15:40 = The Lord's brother (along with Joses, Simon, and Judas – Matt. 13:55)
- C. If James the Lord's brother was an apostle, then he is the same as James the son of Alphaeus – See I Cor. 15:7, Gal. 1:19, Acts 1:13
- D. Letter of Jude written by another brother of Jesus? Apostle? – See Jude 1:1, Acts 1:13 (“brother of James” – KJV)
- E. Did not believe? John 7:5 possibly only Joses and Simon

II. The (13) Apostles (not including Iscariot)

- A. **Simon (Peter)** – Killed by Nero 66AD
- B. **Andrew** (brother to Peter) – Possibly preached in Russia, Asia Minor, and Greece where he is said to have been crucified in the city of Patras.
- C. **James** (son of Zebedee; “sons of thunder”) – Killed by Herod 44AD (Acts 12:2)
- D. **John** (son of Zebedee; “sons of thunder”) – The last apostle to die, he is considered to have been exiled to Patmos, during the persecutions under Emperor Domitian. According to Tertullian (in The Prescription of Heretics) John was banished (presumably to Patmos) after being plunged into boiling oil in Rome and suffering nothing from it. It is said that all in the audience of Colosseum were converted to Christianity upon witnessing this miracle. This event would have occurred in the late 1st century, during the reign of the Emperor Domitian, who was known for his persecution of Christians. He is said to have lived to an old age, dying at Ephesus sometime after AD 98.
- E. **Matthew** – Legend says he taught in Persia and Ethiopia.
- F. **Thomas** – Possibly preached in area east of Syria; legend says he preached as far east as India where he was killed by the spears of four soldiers.
- G. **Philip** – Legend says he preached in North Africa and then Asia Minor where he converted the wife of a Roman proconsul. In retaliation, the proconsul had Philip arrested and killed.
- H. **Bartholomew** – Legend says he went to India with Thomas, preached in Armenia, Ethiopia, and southern Arabia.
- I. **James** (son of Alphaeus) – Preached in Syria. Josephus recorded that he was stoned and then clubbed to death.
- J. **Lebbaeus (Thaddaeus; aka Jude or Judas**, the brother of James, and possibly Jesus) - According to tradition, Saint Jude suffered martyrdom about 65 AD in Beirut, in the Roman province of Syria, together with the apostle Simon the Zealot, with whom he is usually connected. The axe that he is often shown holding in pictures symbolizes the way in which he was killed. A plain ossuary marked with the inscription "Judas Thaddaeus" was

found in Kefar Barukh, Jezreel Valley, alongside fragments of four uninscribed ossuaries.

K. **Simon** the Canaanite (Matt. 10:4, Mk. 3:18) (aka Simon the Zealot; See Luke 6:15, Acts 1:13) – Purportedly preached in Persia and was killed after refusing to sacrifice to the sun god.

L. **Matthias** – Tradition says he went to Syria with Andrew and was killed by burning.

M. **Paul** of Tarsus – killed by Nero 66AD