

# The Apostles and Followers of Jesus Christ

## Peter (Simon Peter)

- Background – Fisherman from Galilee; brother of Andrew.
- Calling – Called by Jesus while fishing; became leader of the Apostles.
- Achievements – First to confess Jesus as the Messiah; preached at Pentecost; key leader in Jerusalem and Rome.
- Death – Martyred in Rome, crucified upside down.

## Andrew

- Background – Brother of Peter; fisherman.
- Calling – First disciple to follow Jesus.
- Achievements – Introduced Peter to Jesus; spread the Gospel in Greece and Asia Minor.
- Death – Martyred on an X-shaped cross.

## James (Son of Zebedee)

- Background – Brother of John; fisherman.
- Calling – Called by Jesus with his brother John.
- Achievements – Part of Jesus' inner circle; witnessed the Transfiguration.
- Death – Beheaded by King Herod Agrippa.

## John

- Background – Brother of James; “the disciple whom Jesus loved.”
- Calling – Followed Jesus early in ministry.
- Achievements – Wrote the Gospel of John, letters, and Revelation; cared for Mary, mother of Jesus.
- Death – Died of old age, the only Apostle not martyred.

## Philip

- Background – From Bethsaida.
- Calling – Personally called by Jesus.
- Achievements – Brought Nathanael to Jesus; preached in Asia Minor.
- Death – Martyred in Hierapolis.

## Bartholomew (Nathanael)

- Background – From Cana in Galilee.
- Calling – Introduced by Philip.
- Achievements – Preached in India, Mesopotamia, and Armenia.
- Death – Martyred, tradition says flayed alive.

## Matthew (Levi)

- Background – Tax collector.
- Calling – Left his tax booth to follow Jesus.
- Achievements – Wrote the Gospel of Matthew; preached in Ethiopia and Persia.
- Death – Martyred, possibly in Ethiopia.

## Thomas (Didymus)

- Background – Known for doubting until he saw the risen Christ.
- Calling – One of the Twelve.
- Achievements – Took the Gospel to India; strengthened believers with his testimony.
- Death – Martyred in India.

## James (Son of Alphaeus)

- Background – Called “James the Less.”
- Calling – One of the Twelve.
- Achievements – Preached in Syria and possibly Egypt.
- Death – Martyred in Jerusalem.

## Thaddeus (Jude, Son of James)

- Background – Also called Lebbaeus.
- Calling – One of the Twelve.
- Achievements – Preached in Mesopotamia and Persia.
- Death – Martyred in Beirut with Simon the Zealot.

## Simon the Zealot

- Background – Former Zealot revolutionary.
- Calling – One of the Twelve.
- Achievements – Preached in Persia.
- Death – Martyred with Thaddeus.

## Judas Iscariot

- Background – Treasurer of the disciples.
- Calling – One of the Twelve.
- Achievements – Betrayed Jesus for 30 pieces of silver.
- Death – Took his own life after the betrayal.

## Paul (Saul of Tarsus)

- Background – Pharisee; persecutor of Christians.
- Calling – Converted on the road to Damascus.
- Achievements – Apostle to the Gentiles; missionary journeys; wrote many New

Testament letters.

- Death – Beheaded in Rome under Nero.

## Mary Magdalene

- Background – Delivered by Jesus from seven demons.
- Calling – Devoted follower.
- Achievements – Witnessed the crucifixion; first to see the risen Christ; called the “Apostle to the Apostles.”
- Death – Believed to have lived her later years in Ephesus or France.