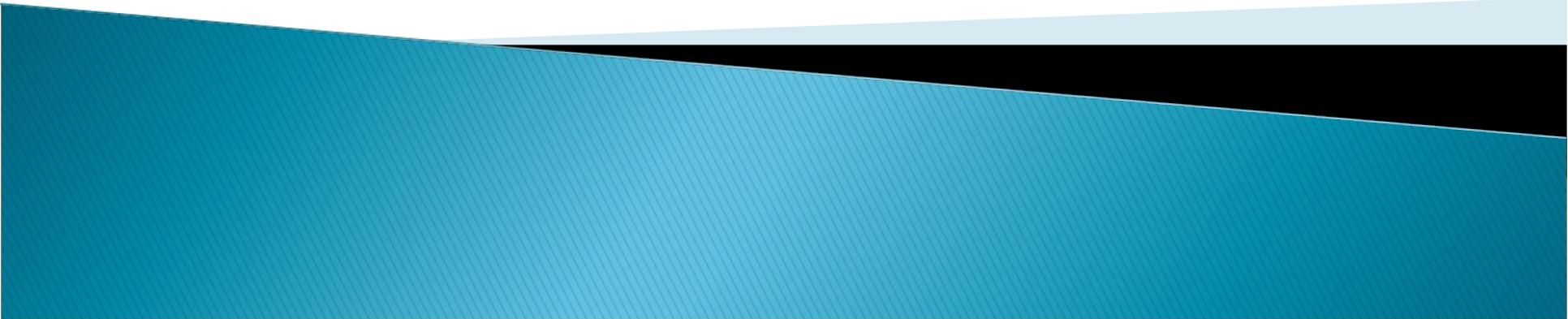


Heroes of Faith

THE DISCIPLES OF CHRIST



Peter

- ▶ Apostle to the Jews
- ▶ Original name Simon, trade: fisherman
- ▶ Born in Bethsaida and lived in Capernaum
- ▶ Andrew, his brother, introduced him to Jesus, John 1:40
- ▶ On first encounter Jesus called him with the name Cephas, which means rock, John 1:42
- ▶ On the 2nd encounter, Jesus said to him “I will make you fishers of men”. Luke 5:1–11

Peter

▶ Pre-Pentecost

- Naturally impulsive: Mathew 14: 22–33, John 18:10, Luke 9: 33
- Timid and cowardly: Mathew 14: 30, Mathew 26:69–74.
- At times slow to apprehend the deeper truths: Mathew 15:15
- Two great confessions of his faith: Mathew 16:16, John 6:69
- Faith tested: Mathew 26: 69–74, John 21: 1–3
- Reinstated by Jesus: John 21: 15–19

Peter

- ▶ Became the leader of the apostles after Jesus ascension
- ▶ Post Pentecost (in Jerusalem)
 - Bold in preaching the gospel: Acts 2, 4:1–12
 - Leader of the early church with 3000 repenting and getting baptized
 - Performed miracles: Acts 3:7, Acts 5:5, 10, Acts 5:15, Acts 9:34, 40
 - Courageous: Acts 5:29, 40–42
 - Primarily preached the gospel to Jews, Gal 2:9
 - Later realized that Gentiles can also receive salvation, Acts 10

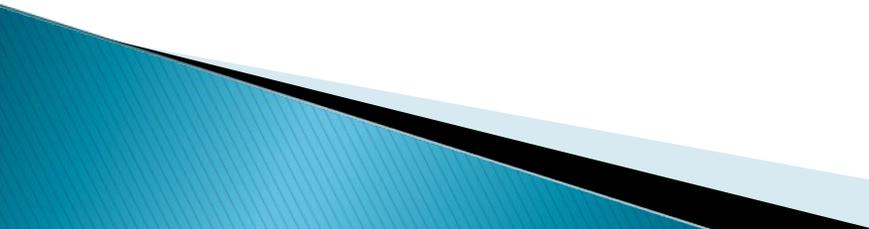
Peter

- ▶ Peter miraculously escaped the prison in Jerusalem, Acts 12
- ▶ Scholars think that he left Jerusalem and finally settled in Rome
- ▶ Other trips
 - Antioch: Gal 2:11
 - Corinth: I Cor 1:12
- ▶ Writings:
 - 1st Peter (encouraging Jewish Christians who are suffering)
 - 2nd Peter (warning church of false teachers and encouraged them to grow in faith)
 - helped Mark in writing the Gospel of Mark
- ▶ Martyred in 64 AD by crucifixion in Rome

Andrew

- ▶ Brother of Peter
- ▶ Trade: fisherman
- ▶ Originally a disciple of John the Baptist
- ▶ Later became a disciple of Christ when John the Baptist stated “Behold the Lamb of God” John 1:35–37
- ▶ Then introduced Peter to Jesus, John 1:41
- ▶ Introduced the boy with five barley loaves and two fish to Jesus to feed five thousand, John 6:8
- ▶ Brought a group of Greeks to Christ, John 12:20–22

Andrew

- ▶ Planted churches in Scythia (modern day Ukraine and southern Russia) and Achaia (modern day Greece)
 - ▶ Crucified on an X shaped cross in 69 AD in the city of Patros, Greece because he refused to stand before the tribunal ordered by the governor to stop him from preaching in the city
 - ▶ Patron saint of Russia and Scotland
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James, the son of Zebedee

- ▶ Also called James the Greater
- ▶ James along with his brother John was called to be the disciples of Christ
- ▶ Both are called the sons of thunder
- ▶ Came from a fishing village
- ▶ Family was relatively prosperous because there is reference in Mark to hired servants
- ▶ He was mentioned to be present on 3 occasions in the Gospels:
 - Resurrection of Jairus daughter
 - Jesus transfiguration
 - Garden of Gethsamamne before Jesus arrest

James, the son of Zebedee

- ▶ Believed to have traveled to Spain to preach the Gospel to the slaves there
 - ▶ He was beheaded in 44 AD by King Herod
 - ▶ He was the first apostle to have suffered martyrdom.
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James, the son of Alphaeus

- ▶ Also called James, the Younger or the Less
 - ▶ Native of Capernaum
 - ▶ Not much is known about his latter ministry
 - ▶ Secular records indicate that he may be the first bishop of syrian Church
 - ▶ He was stoned in Jerusalem for preaching Christ
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John, the son of Zebedee

- ▶ the beloved disciple, or the disciple whom Jesus loved, John 13:23
- ▶ Along with James were called sons of thunder, Mark 3:17
- ▶ Trade: fisherman
- ▶ Called by Jesus, John 1: 35–42
- ▶ John had a prominent position in the Apostolic body
 - Jesus' raising of Jairus's daughter (**Mark 5:37**),
 - Jesus' Transfiguration (**Matthew 17:11**),
 - Jesus' Agony in Gethsemani (**Matthew 26:37**).

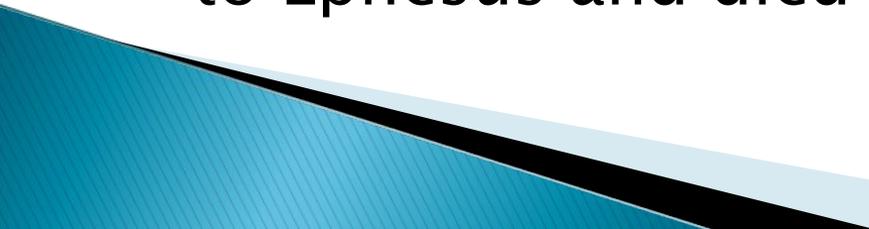
John, the son of zebedee

- At the Supper itself his place was next to Christ on Whose breast he leaned (**John 13:23, 25**).
- According to the general interpretation John was also that "other disciple" who with Peter followed Christ after the arrest into the palace of the high-priest (**John 18:15**).
- John alone remained near his beloved Jesus at the foot of the Cross on Calvary with the Mother of Jesus and took her into his care as the last legacy of Christ (**John 19:25-27**).
- After the Resurrection John with Peter was the first of the disciples to hasten to the grave and he was the first to believe that Christ had truly risen (**John 20:2-10**).

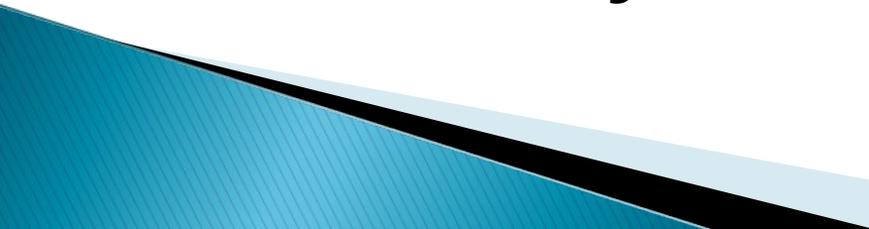
John, the son of Zebedee

- When later Christ appeared at the Lake of Genesareth John was also the first of the seven disciples present who recognized Him standing on the shore (**John 21:7**).
- After Christ's Ascension and the Descent of the Holy Spirit, John, together with Peter, played a prominent part in the founding and guidance of the Church.
 - We see him in the company of Peter at the healing of the lame man in the Temple (**Acts 3:1**).
 - With Peter he is also thrown into prison (**Acts 4:3**).
 - With Peter, he went the newly converted in Samaria and prayed for them and they received the Holy spirit (**Acts 8:14**).

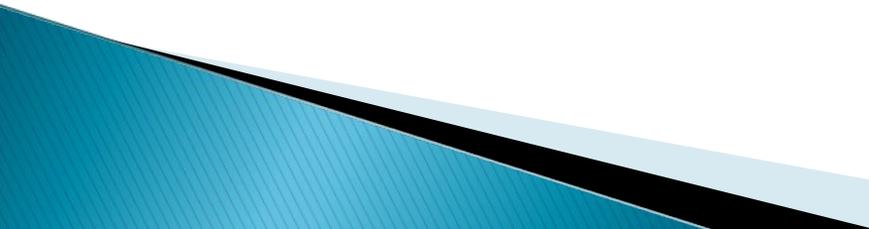
John, the son of Zebedee

- ▶ Traveled to Asia Minor to preach the Gospel and establish churches
 - ▶ Believed to have lived in Ephesus and wrote his gospel
 - ▶ During Domitian he was punished for the gospel by throwing him in a cauldron of oil, but he suffered no injury.
 - ▶ He was banished to exile in the island of Patmos, where he received the divine Revelation from God.
 - ▶ Some sources say that he came back from exile to Ephesus and died a natural death in 96AD
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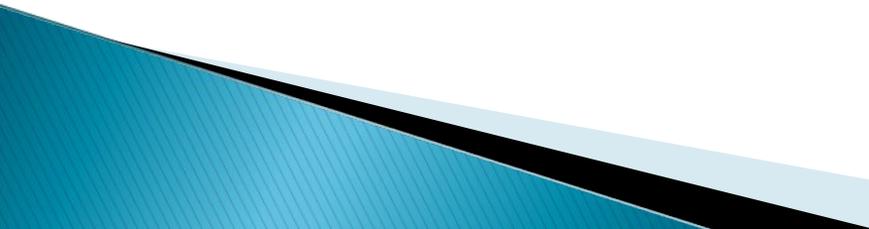
Philip

- ▶ Born at Bethsaida
 - ▶ Originally a follower of John the baptist and later became a disciple of Jesus, John 1:43
 - ▶ He immediately discovered Nathaniel and said “we have found Him of whom Moses and the prophets did write” and encouraged him to “come and see”
 - ▶ At times he had a pessimistic head and tries to solve the problem using human calculation. John 6:5–7
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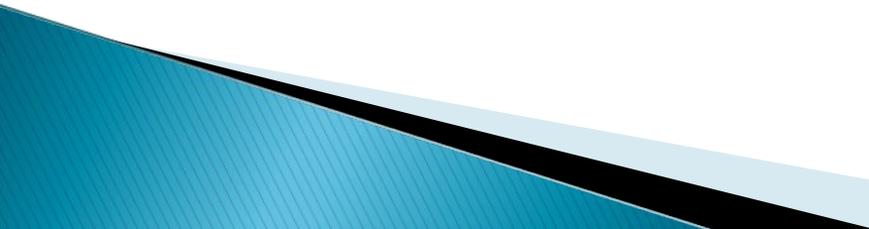
Philip

- ▶ Scholars are not sure if this is the same Philip who ministered to the eunuch from Ethiopia and then ministered in Samaria and Ceasaria
 - ▶ Philip is believed to have traveled to Greece, Phrygia and Syria
 - ▶ He was eventually martyred in Hierapolis, ancient city located in turkey in AD 80 during the reign of emperor Titus.
 - ▶ He was crucified with his head downward and then stoned to death.
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Bartholomew

- ▶ Also called Nathaniel
 - ▶ Introduced by Philip to Christ
 - ▶ Jesus' first words on meeting Nathanael were: "This man is a true Israelite... There is no guile in him."
 - ▶ After resurrection he is one of the fishermen that Jesus directs to a miraculous catch of fish.
 - ▶ He is supposed to have traveled to some of the very difficult areas of the world preaching the gospel including Central Asia.
 - ▶ Some records also indicate that he might have reached India as well.
 - ▶ Martyred: Skinned alive and then beheaded in 52AD
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Mathew

- ▶ Brother of James, the son Alphaeus
 - ▶ He was a tax collector before Jesus called him
 - ▶ Perhaps the best educated of all disciples
 - ▶ He wrote the gospel of Mathew
 - ▶ Remained in Jersualem for 15 years and then he traveled on many missionary journeys including Persia and Ethiopia
 - ▶ Tradition says that he was martyred in Ethiopia around 60 AD.
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Thomas

- ▶ Also called Didymus, mean twin (he may be the twin brother of James or Mathew)
- ▶ His nick name is doubting Thomas because he is known to focus on the worst in all things
 - Thomas afraid that Jesus might get killed on his journey to Bethany, John 11: 14–16
 - Doubted that Jesus had actually risen from the dead John 20: 24–29

Thomas

- ▶ Although Thomas was truly a doubter once he was given the facts, his loyalty and dedication was unsurpassed by any. Once Thomas believed in something you could not persuade him differently. Thomas felt they would all die by following Jesus to Bethany but he insisted they all go to stand by the side of the one they loved and followed. John 11;14-16
- ▶ It is believed that Thomas preached in Persia, Parthia and also in India.
- ▶ Thomas is credited with the founding of Christianity in India. Thomas is believed to be buried at Edessa and to have been killed with a spear by brahmins in 52AD.

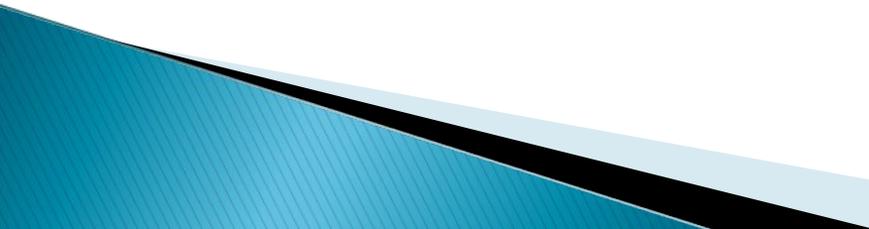
Simon the Zealot

- ▶ **Simon was called the Zealot before his coming to Christ, because he belonged to a particular sect of Jews called Zealots, who is known to be zealous for the purity of religion.**
 - ▶ **They were famous in the war against the Romans. They were main instruments in instigating the people to shake off the yoke of subjection; they assassinated many of the nobility**
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Simon, the Zealot

- ▶ **St. Simon, after his conversion, was zealous for the honor of his Master, and exact in all the duties of the Christian religion**
- ▶ **His missionary travels are not clear, but is believed to have traveled to Egypt, Cyrene, and Mauritania**
- ▶ **His death is said to have been procured by the idolatrous priests. Those who mention the manner of his death say he was crucified in Persia in 74 AD**

Judas, called Thaddeus

- ▶ Also known as Jude
 - ▶ Recorded only once in the New Testament in John 14:23
 - ▶ He may have preached in Assyria (eastern Iraq) and Persia (Iran), before joining with Simon the Zealot and being killed with him in Persia.
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Mathias

- ▶ He was possibly a disciple from the time of Jesus' baptism through to his death and resurrection
- ▶ Possibly one of the 72 sent out to preach and heal
- ▶ Matthias was chosen by prayer and the drawing of lots to replace Judas Iscariot as the twelfth apostle, Acts 1:15–26.
- ▶ No more is heard of him in the New Testament.
- ▶ He may have preached and been martyred in Ethiopia, Other traditions place him in Judea, and later Cappadocia (eastern Turkey) and the Caspian Sea area.