

JAMES AND JOHN

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The name James is a shortened version of Jacob. There are four persons in the New Testament called James:

(1) James, Son of Zebedee - Luke 5:10; Mark 1:19-20; Mark 3:17; Luke 9:51-56; Mark 10:35-45; Matthew 20:20-28; Luke 22:24-27; Acts 1:13; Acts 12:2.

(2) James, Son of Alphaeus – a Jew from Galilee – Matthew 10:3; Mark 3:18; Luke 6:15; Acts 1:13.

(3) James, the father or brother of Judas Iscariot – Luke 6:16; Acts 1:13.

(4) James, the uterine brother of Jesus Christ – Matthew 13:55; Mark 6:3; Luke 8:19-20; John 7:1-9

This was the James who wrote the Epistle titled **James**.

In our study, we are looking at James and John, the sons of Zebedee. These brothers were called by Jesus Christ to be His disciples. They were given an appellation by Him, an alias, “Sons of Thunder”. (Mark 3:17; Luke 9:51-56) Our study will look at the calling of James and John, the character of James and John and their ministry when Christ was on the earth, and after He died and rose from the grave.

THE CALLING OF JAMES AND JOHN

Matthew 4:18-22; Mark 1:16-20; Mark 3:13-19; Luke 5:1-11; Luke 6:12-16

James and John were ordinary fishermen. They worked in the family business headed by their father, they probably supplemented their main income by also working part time for Simon Peter. However, when Jesus called them, they were convinced that salvation was the most important goal in life, soul -winning was the most important business, and serving Jesus Christ was the most important service in life. For these reasons they committed themselves to Jesus and served Him fully.

- **Conviction**
- **Commitment**
- **Service**

THE CHARACTER OF JAMES AND JOHN

Mark 3:17; Luke 9:51-56; Mark 10:35-45; Matthew 20:20-28; Luke 22:24-27

- 📖 Christ's armour-bearers
- 📖 Focused on seats in the kingdom of heaven
- 📖 Probably tempestuous and fiery by nature or when occasion demands

THE MINISTRY OF JAMES AND JOHN

James and John, along with Simon Peter formed the inner core of Jesus's disciples:

- 📖 They were present at the raising of Jairus's daughter – Matthew 9:18-26; Mark 5:21-43; Luke 8:40-56

- ✚ They witnessed the transfiguration – Matthew 17:1-13; Mark 9:2-13; Luke 9:28-36; 2Peter 1:17-18
- ✚ They were with Christ in the garden of Gethesmane – Matthew 26:36-46; Mark 14:32-42; Luke 22:40-46
- ✚ John stood at the foot of the cross; saw the empty tomb – John 19:25-27; John 20:1-10
- ✚ They were in the room when the risen Lord appeared to His disciples – John 20:19-25
- ✚ They were on the mount of Olive when the Lord ascended to heaven – Matthew 28:16-20; Acts 1:1-11
- ✚ They were in the upper room when the Holy Ghost came – Acts 1:12-14; Acts 2:1-4
- ✚ John was with Peter when the first miracle of healing after the departure of Christ took place! Acts 3:1-9
- ✚ James was the first apostle to be killed for his faith in Christ – Acts 12:2
- ✚ John lived until he was probably a hundred years old. He wrote the gospel account named after him, three epistles and the book of Revelation.