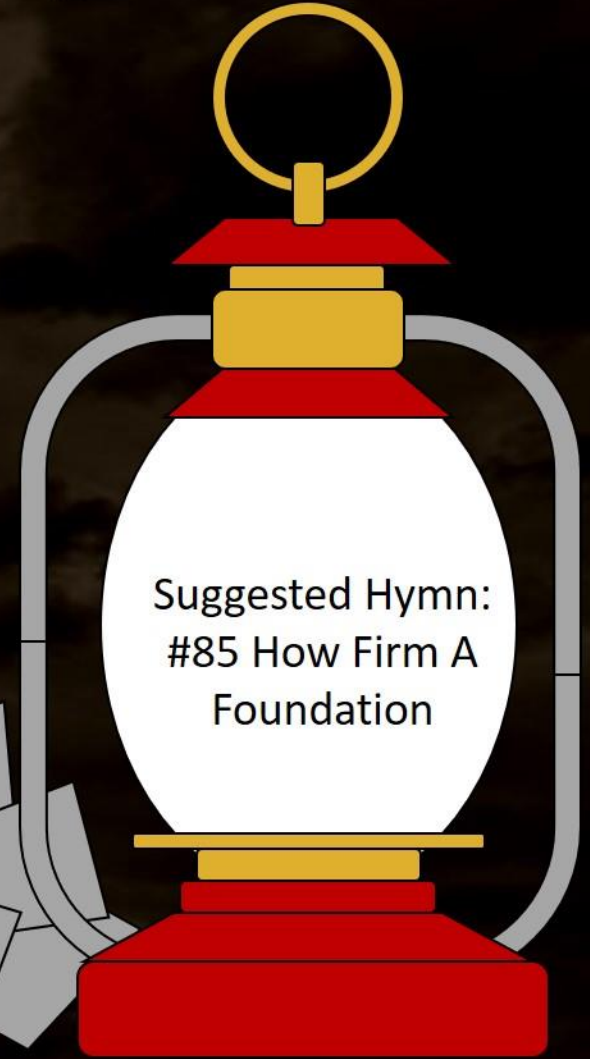
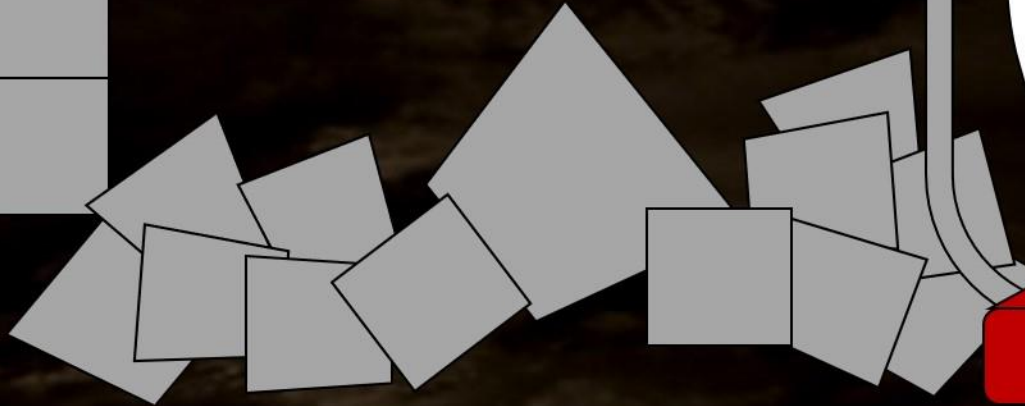
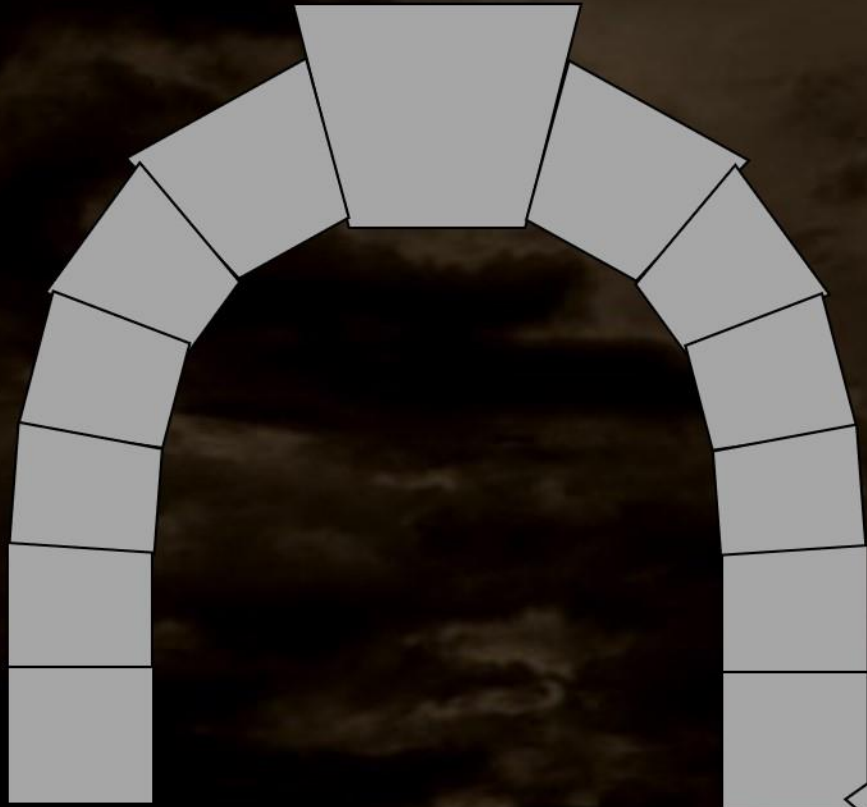


THE GREAT APOSTASY



Suggested Hymn:
#85 How Firm A
Foundation

THE MISSING PART



What happens when the chain of a bike is missing or broken?



ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS OF JESUS CHRIST'S CHURCH

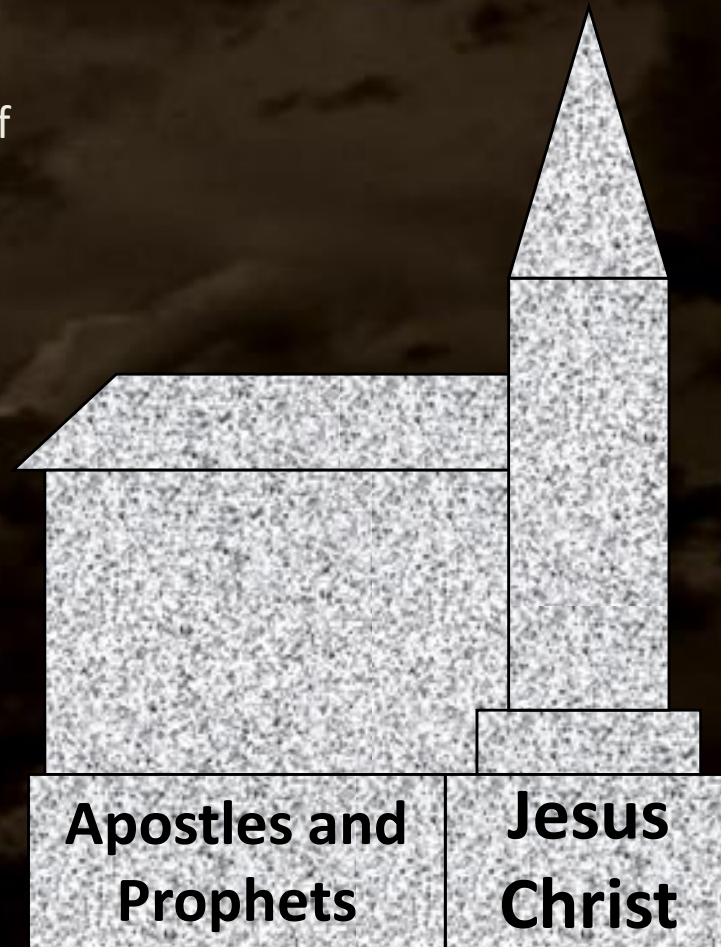
Those of the household of God:

And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner *stone*;

In whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord:

In whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit.

Apostles and prophets form the foundation of the Church of Jesus Christ.



APOSTLES AND PROPHETS



Jesus Christ gave His Apostles the authority to direct the Church and act in God's name for the salvation of His children.

“And he goeth up into a mountain, and calleth *unto him* whom he would: and they came unto him. And he ordained twelve, that they should be with him, and that he might send them forth to preach,”

Priesthood authority is necessary to receive the ordinances and covenants of salvation.

“The truths and doctrine we have received have come and will continue to come by divine revelation.



In some faith traditions ... doctrinal matters may become a contest of opinions. ...

But in the Church today, just as anciently, establishing the doctrine of Christ or correcting doctrinal deviations is a matter of divine revelation to those the Lord endows with apostolic authority”



Elder D. Todd Christofferson



The apostles and prophets establish correct doctrine through divine revelation.



BASIC DOCTRINE



Godhead



Plan of
Salvation



Atonement



Dispensation,
Apostasy, and
Restoration



Prophets and
Revelations



Priesthood and
Priesthood Keys



Ordinances and
Covenant



Marriage and
Family



Commandments

AFTER CHRIST'S DEATH

After Jesus Christ died, He was resurrected, and He ascended into heaven.

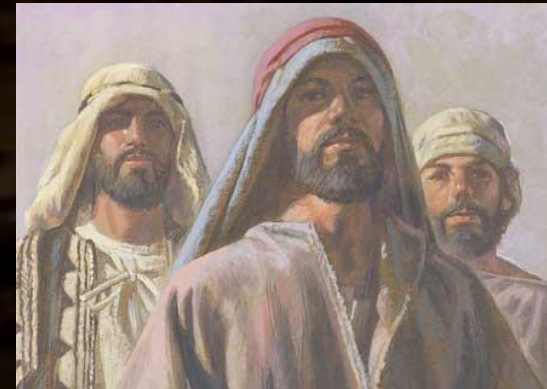
He was no longer physically present to lead the Church on the earth.

Even though He is not physically on the earth, Jesus Christ leads and guides His Apostles through revelation.

Under the leadership of His Apostles, the ancient Church spread quickly and thousands were baptized.

Congregations of Saints were formed throughout much of the Roman Empire.

Elders, bishops, deacons, priests, teachers, and evangelists (patriarchs) were called and given priesthood authority by the Apostles.



A FALLING AWAY--APOSTASY

Apostasy occurs when people turn away from the true doctrine of the gospel and reject the Lord's authorized servants.

Following the deaths of the Savior's Apostles, the principles of the gospel were corrupted and unauthorized changes were made in Church organization and to priesthood ordinances.



James was killed in Jerusalem by Herod. Peter and Paul died in Rome. Tradition holds that Philip went to the East. Much more than this we do not know.

“They scattered; they taught, testified, and established the Church. And they died for their beliefs, and with their deaths came the dark centuries of apostasy...

“The most precious thing lost in the Apostasy was the authority held by the Twelve—the priesthood keys. For the Church to be *His* Church, there must be a Quorum of the Twelve who hold the keys and confer them on others.”

Boyd K. Packer

THE LOSS OF THE PRIESTHOOD



“As the centuries passed, the flame flickered and dimmed. Ordinances were changed or abandoned. The line was broken, and the authority to confer the Holy Ghost as a gift was gone. The Dark Ages of apostasy settled over the world”

Boyd K. Packer

RESTORATION

The restoration of Jesus Christ's doctrine and authority was necessary to overcome the effects of the Great Apostasy

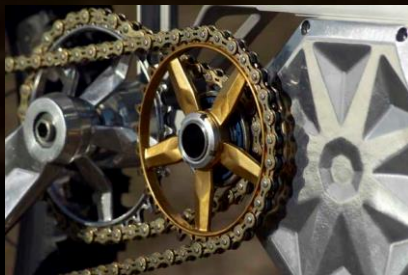


Why are apostles and prophets essential?

Why is priesthood authority needed in the Church?

How can we receive and maintain correct doctrine?

What role does revelation play in the Church?



BEFORE THE 2ND COMING OF CHRIST

A WARNING

“Now we beseech you, brethren, by the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, and *by* our gathering together unto him,

That ye be not soon shaken in mind, or be troubled, neither by spirit, nor by word, nor by letter as from us, as that the day of Christ is at hand.

Let no man deceive you by any means: for *that day shall not come*, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition;”

2 Thessalonians 2:1–3



Although there will not be another general apostasy from the truth, we must each guard against personal apostasy by keeping covenants, obeying the commandments, following Church leaders, partaking of the sacrament, and constantly strengthening our testimonies through daily scripture study, prayer, and service.

“God’s people have not always been worthy of the marvelous experience we have shared today. The Apostles, after the Ascension of Christ, continued to exercise the keys He left with them. But because of disobedience and loss of faith by the members, the Apostles died without the keys being passed on to successors.

We call that tragic episode ‘the Apostasy.’ Had the members of the Church in those days had the opportunity and the will to exercise faith as you have today, the Lord would not have taken the keys of the priesthood from the earth. So this is a day of historical significance and of eternal importance in the history of the world and to the children of our Heavenly Father.

“Now our obligation is to remain worthy of the faith necessary for us to fulfill our promise to sustain those who have been called. The Lord was well pleased with the Church at the beginning of the Restoration, as He is today. But He cautioned the members then, as He does now, that He cannot look upon sin with the least degree of allowance. For us to sustain those who have been called today, we must examine our lives, repent as necessary, pledge to keep the Lord’s commandments, and follow His servants.

The Lord warns us that if we do not do those things, the Holy Ghost will be withdrawn, we will lose the light which we have received, and we will not be able to keep the pledge we have made today to sustain the Lord’s servants in His true Church”

President Henry B. Eyring



Sources:

Related Videos:

The Great Apostasy (Wilford Woodruff's search for truth)
Foundation (1:45)



Elder D. Todd Christofferson (“The Doctrine of Christ,” *Ensign* or *Liahona*, May 2012, 86).

President Boyd K. Packer [“Little Children,” *Ensign*, Nov. 1986, 17].)

(“The Twelve,” *Ensign* or *Liahona*, May 2008, 84).

(“The Cloven Tongues of Fire,” *Ensign*, May 2000, 8).

President Henry B. Eyring (“The True and Living Church,” *Ensign* or *Liahona*, May 2008, 21).

Elder M. Russell Ballard of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles taught that even during times of darkness and apostasy, Heavenly Father does not turn His back on His children:

“In the relatively short span of years covered by the New Testament ... the people turned against Christ and His Apostles. The collapse was so great we have come to know it as the Great Apostasy, which led to the centuries of spiritual stagnation and ignorance called the Dark Ages.

“Now, I need to be very clear about these historically reoccurring periods of apostasy and spiritual darkness. Our Heavenly Father loves all of His children, and He wants them all to have the blessings of the gospel in their lives. Spiritual light is not lost because God turns His back on His children. Rather, spiritual darkness results when His children turn their collective backs on Him. It is a natural consequence of bad choices made by individuals, communities, countries, and entire civilizations. This has been proven again and again throughout the course of time. One of the great lessons of this historical pattern is that our choices, both individually and collectively, do result in spiritual consequences for ourselves and for our posterity” (“Learning the Lessons of the Past,” *Ensign* or *Liahona*, May 2009, 32).


The following slides were gathered through internet sources and Bible Dictionary King James Version

Some are traditional---what the world believes, opinions, or speculation

“James, the brother of John, we know was cut down in martyrdom after a very brief ministry. Our knowledge of the activities of others of the original twelve is clouded in mystery; that they were faithful is true, and indications point to the fact that all of the original twelve and also Paul, laid down their lives in martyrdom, except John the Revelator, and he was spared to continue his ministry until the second coming of our Lord, according to the revelation given to Nephi six hundred years before John’s birth.” Joseph Fielding Smith—*Questions and Answers* Vol. 4 pg. 100


Apostles of Christ

Peter

Apostle	Other known names	Family Facts	Unique characteristics	Death
<p>Peter</p> 	<p>Simon Cephus or Petros (stone or rock) given by Jesus Bar-jona</p>	<p>He was the son of a man named Jonah. His brother was Andrew</p>	<p>He was a fisherman by trade</p> <p>He was married</p> <p>He healed his mother-in-law</p> <p>Baptized by John the Baptist and one of his disciples.</p>	<p>According to tradition He was crucified upside down by his own request because he did not consider himself worthy to meet death in the same manner as the Lord. Tradition says: that they made Peter watch his wife be crucified.</p>


Apostles of Christ

Andrew

Apostle	Other known names	Family Facts	Unique characteristics	Death
<p data-bbox="397 347 555 382">Andrew</p> 	<p data-bbox="652 347 927 444">Name means: "manly"</p>	<p data-bbox="1049 347 1302 386">Son of Jonah</p> <p data-bbox="1049 461 1294 558">Brother of Simon Peter</p>	<p data-bbox="1401 347 1793 1243">Baptized by John the Baptist and one of his disciples. As a disciple of John the Baptist he met Jesus and then brought Peter to meet Jesus. He was one of the earliest called to be a disciple of Jesus Christ. He was a fisherman. Preached in the North (Ukraine)</p>	<p data-bbox="1824 347 2135 672">Tradition says Andrew was crucified in Patras, Achaia (current day Greece) A.D. 70</p> <p data-bbox="1824 746 2135 1239">The cross was positioned like an X and they bound him to it and he suffered for 2 days and preaching while he hung on the cross.</p>


Apostles of Christ

James

Apostle	Other known names	Family Facts	Unique characteristics	Death
<p data-bbox="397 311 524 347">James</p> 	<p data-bbox="652 311 945 404">Hebrew name: Jacob</p> <p data-bbox="652 479 988 572">He was given the name Boanerges</p>	<p data-bbox="1065 311 1378 404">His brother was John</p> <p data-bbox="1065 479 1370 515">Son of Zebedee</p>	<p data-bbox="1416 311 1786 803">He and his brother were called Boanerges, meaning “sons of thunder” Baptized by John the Baptist and one of his disciples.</p> <p data-bbox="1416 879 1786 1143">He was one of three chosen to be with our Lord on certain special occasions.</p> <p data-bbox="1416 1219 1760 1369">He was the writer of the Epistle of James</p>	<p data-bbox="1824 311 2104 518">Beheaded by King Herod Agrippa (Act 12:2) in Judea</p> <p data-bbox="1824 594 2066 801">First apostle martyred in early church times.</p>

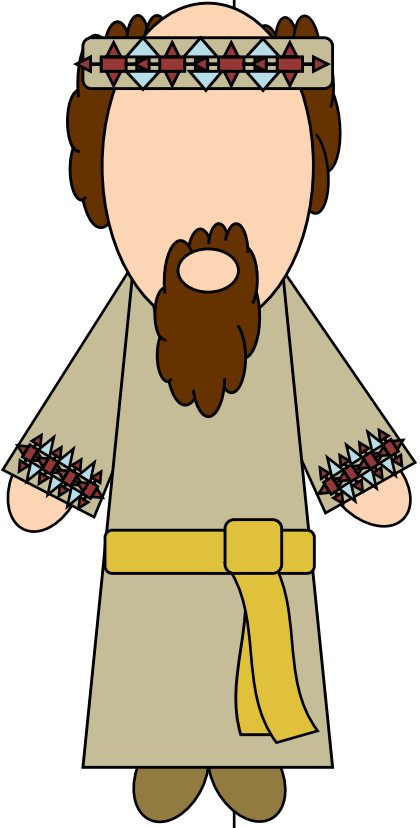
Apostles of Christ

John

Apostle	Other known names	Family Facts	Unique characteristics	Death
John	<p>Hebrew: Johanan Meaning "Jehovah's Gift"</p> <p>Also called: "John the Beloved"</p> <p>He calls himself "the disciple whom Jesus loved" or "that other disciple"</p> <p>From Jesus he received the name "Boanerges, "a son of thunder" .</p> <p>Writer of John, 1,2,3 John and Revelations</p>	<p>Son of Zebedee</p> <p>Brother of James</p> 	<p>Baptized by John the Baptist and one of his disciples.</p> <p>He was a fisherman.</p> <p>He was boiled in oil and escaped miraculously.</p> <p>He was sentenced to work in mines of Patmos, an island, while he wrote Revelations.</p> <p>He is mentioned frequently in latter-day revelation.</p>	<p>John did not die, but has been allowed to remain on the earth as a ministering servant until the Lord's second coming.</p> <p>however tradition says he moved to Turkey and died of old age</p>


Apostles of Christ

Philip

Apostle	Other known names	Family Facts	Unique characteristics	Death
<p>Philip</p> 	<p>Name comes from Greek: "Lover of horses"</p>	<p>He had 4 unmarried daughters who had the gift of prophecy (Acts 21:9)</p>	<p>He may have been a Jewish-Greek as he was approached by the Greeks in John 12:21</p> <p>He preached in Samaria. Then an angel told him to go to Gaza from Jerusalem where he taught a eunuch of great importance. He lived in Caesarea during Paul's 3rd mission.</p> <p>He preached in Turkey.</p>	<p>Tradition says: He was martyred in Hieropolis, Turkey</p>


Apostles of Christ

Nathanael--Bartholomew

Apostle	Other known names	Family Facts	Unique characteristics	Death
<p data-bbox="397 347 606 386">Nathanael</p> 	<p data-bbox="652 347 1021 615">Bartholomew From Hebrew meaning: "Gift of God" or "God Has Given"</p>	<p data-bbox="1110 347 1365 558">He was likely the son of a man named Tholomew</p> <p data-bbox="1110 632 1416 843">Friendship with Philip and he belonged to Cana in Galilee.</p>	<p data-bbox="1467 347 1786 1072">Nathanael is always mentioned along with apostles, but his associates mention him as Bartholomew. Preached in Armenia and India, Ethiopia, Arabia, Egypt, and Persia.</p>	<p data-bbox="1824 347 2117 786">Tradition says: Nathanael was skinned alive and beheaded in Northern Armenia, in a town called Derbent</p>


Apostles of Christ

Thomas

Apostle	Other known names	Family Facts	Unique characteristics	Death
Thomas	Didymus From the Greek meaning: "Twin"	Didymus may have been his surname		Tradition says: Thomas was stabbed with a spear near Madras south eastern coast of India

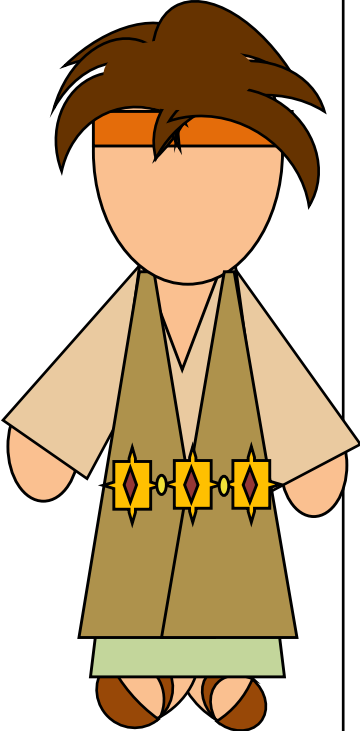
Apostles of Christ

Matthew

Apostle	Other known names	Family Facts	Unique characteristics	Death
<p data-bbox="402 347 588 386">Matthew</p> 	<p data-bbox="657 347 1075 444">Levi a word meaning: "gift of Jehovah"</p> <p data-bbox="657 515 1009 612">He was also called the Publican</p>	<p data-bbox="1116 347 1421 725">He was the son of Alphaeus, brother of James the less making him the nephew of James the less.</p>	<p data-bbox="1472 347 1676 444">Author of Matthew</p>	<p data-bbox="1829 347 2135 843">Traditions says: He was either killed in Ethiopia or Persia. Most people think he was killed by a sword in Ethiopia</p>


Apostles of Christ

James

Apostle	Other known names	Family Facts	Unique characteristics	Death
<p data-bbox="397 347 524 386">James</p> 	<p data-bbox="746 347 1072 615">Called “the less” to distinguish him from James who was the brother of John.</p> <p data-bbox="746 686 1072 843">English form of the Hebrew name Jacob.</p> <p data-bbox="746 915 1072 1015">Known as “James the Just”</p>	<p data-bbox="1110 347 1467 615">He was the son of Alphaeus, and Lebbeus, whose surname was Thaddaeus</p>	<p data-bbox="1559 347 1908 1129">Probably the writer of Epistle of James. He spent most of his time in Israel. And went on a mission to Egypt Nothing further is know of him, unless he is, as some think, the same as Son of Alphaeus. See bible dictionary</p>	<p data-bbox="1939 347 2137 558">Tradition says: he was killed in Egypt.</p>


Apostles of Christ

Jude

Apostle	Other known names	Family Facts	Unique characteristics	Death
Jude	<p>Hebrew form meaning: Judas. He is also called “not Iscariot” to distinguish him from the traitor Judas</p> <p>Arabic root (Lebbaeus)</p> <p>Arabic root (Thaddaeus)</p> <p>Hebrew root (Heart)</p>	<p>Is often times confused with the brother of our Lord.</p> 	<p>Writer of the epistle of Jude</p> <p>He preached in Assyria and Persia (which is Iraq and Iran)</p>	<p>Tradition says: He was killed in Persia</p>


Apostles of Christ

Simon


Apostle	Other known names	Family Facts	Unique characteristics	Death
Simon	<p>Called “The Canaanite”</p> <p>Called Simon Zelotes</p> <p>And “The Zealot”</p> <p>Hebrew word for Zealot was Kananim, this would explain the title, “Canaanite”</p> <p>Matthew and Mark call him “the Cananaean” (not Canaanite as in the King James Version.</p>		<p>He probably had been a member of the Hebrew group which advocated fierce allegiance to Israel and violent overthrow of Roman domination.</p> <p>He preached in Egypt and traveled to Persia (Iran)</p>	<p>Tradition says: He was hacked to death in Persia.</p>

Apostles of Christ


Judas Iscariot

Apostle	Other known names	Family Facts	Unique characteristics	Death
Judas	Called Iscariot, probably because he was from the village of Kerioth in the tribe of Judah.	He was the son of Simon 	He was the only one who was not a Galilean. Betrayed Jesus	Hung himself in Jerusalem

Apostles After Christ---Matthias

Apostle	Other known names	Interesting fact	Unique characteristics	Death
<p data-bbox="402 347 575 386">Matthias</p> 	<p data-bbox="652 347 1065 444">Name means: Gift of Jehovah</p>	<p data-bbox="1110 347 1480 1186">Because of the transgression of Judas the 11 needed to appoint another apostle. The leaders appointed two, Joseph called Barsabas, who was surnamed Justus, and <u>Matthias</u>. When they prayed, they knew in their hearts and the lot fell upon Matthias.</p>	<p data-bbox="1531 347 1854 1300">He was the person to fill the place of Judas. All that is known of him is that he was a disciple throughout the whole of our Lord's ministry. Tradition states that he preached the gospel and suffered martyrdom in Ethiopia*</p>	<p data-bbox="1895 347 2117 558">Stoned and beheaded (in Ethiopia)*</p>

Apostles After Christ---Paul

Apostle	Other known names	Family Facts	Unique characteristics	Death
<p data-bbox="402 347 486 382">Paul</p> 	<p data-bbox="657 347 996 672">Saul...a Pharisee Paul's Latin name is first mentioned in the beginning of his gentile ministry.</p>	<p data-bbox="1052 347 1238 786">He belonged to Tarsus, in Cilicia. He was a pupil of Gamaliel.</p>	<p data-bbox="1307 347 1900 1300">Early life: He was active in the persecution of Christians and took part in the martyrdom of Stephen. Saw a vision on the Road for Damascus which changed his current life. Baptized by Ananias, and retired to Arabia for 3 years. After returning to Jerusalem he was introduced to Peter and James. He retired to Tarsus and remained 6-7 years preaching in Syria and Cilicia. He took 3 missionary journeys and spent time in prison writing letters to the saints.</p>	<p data-bbox="1944 347 2142 839">Tortured and beheaded in Rome by Nero in probably in the spring of A.D. 65</p>