

The 12 Disciples of Jesus

R.U.S.H.



A BIBLE STUDY

KNOW WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT FAST

Their Lives, Ministries & Deaths.

DAVID HOBRATH

V. 25

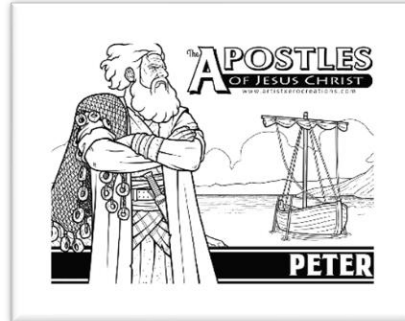
With love and respect to the men and women who bet their lives on the fact that Jesus was the Messiah. DH

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THE TWELVE DISCIPLES OF JESUS

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SIMON (AKA PETER, SIMON BAR JONA, CEPHAS)



He is always named 1st when multiple disciples are listed in his company. A married fisherman. He was from Galilee.

Josephus described the Galileans this way, "They were ever fond of innovation and by nature disposed to change and delighted in sedition. They were ever ready to follow the leader and to begin an insurrection. They were quick in temper and given to quarreling and they were very chivalrous men." The Talmud says this of the Galileans, "They were more anxious for honor than for gain, quick-tempered, impulsive, emotional, easily aroused by an appeal to adventure, loyal to the end."

Simon Peter, son of Jonas, was a fisherman who lived in Bethsaida and Capernaum. He did evangelistic and missionary work among the Jews, going as far as Babylon. He was a member of the Inner Circle and authored the two New Testament epistles which bear his name. Tradition says he was crucified, head downward, in Rome. Peter was martyred on a cross. Peter requested that he might be crucified head downward for he was not worthy to die as his Lord had died. Many attribute the Gospel of Mark to Peter because Mark was his disciple, and later, travelled with Peter as his interpreter. Peter never learned Greek, Mark filled the roll.

Buried in Rome.



Peters Basilica in
Vatican City
Rome, Italy
where he is buried.



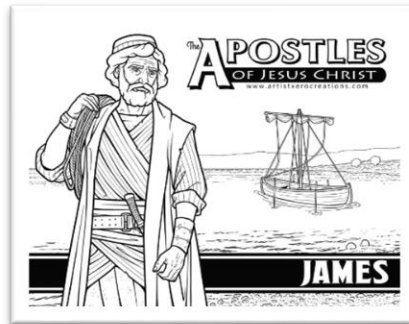
The box containing what's left of Peter's bone fragments.



Peter's Tomb

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JAMES THE ELDER. (AKA BOAGERNES, SON OF THUNDER, JAMES THE GREAT)



James, the Elder, Boanerges, son of Zebedee and Salome, brother of John the Apostle; a fisherman who lived in Bethsaida, Capernaum and Jerusalem. He preached in Jerusalem and Judea and was beheaded by Herod, AD 44. He was a member of the Inner Circle, so called because they were accorded special privileges. The New Testament tells us very little about James. His name never appears apart from that of his brother, John. They were an inseparable pair. He was a man of courage and forgiveness, a man without jealousy, living in the shadow of John, a man of extraordinary faith, the first of the twelve to become a martyr (Acts 12). Buried in Spain.



The end of the journey called
“Camino de Santiago” or also
“Camino de St. James.”

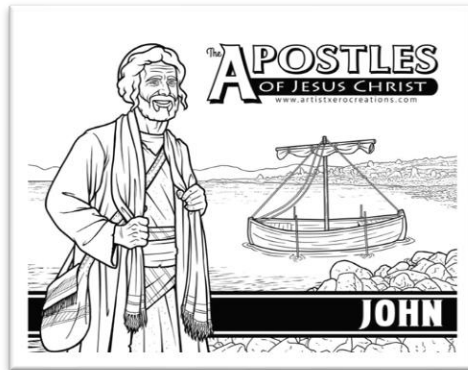
The Way of St. James, a pilgrimage
taken by millions tracing his
footsteps from France to Spain.



The Traditional site of James Tomb.

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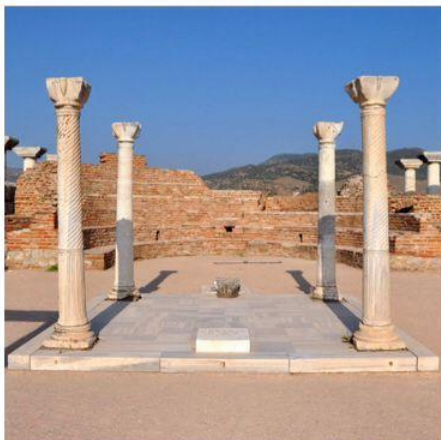
JOHN BOANERGES, SON OF ZEBEDEE AND SALOME, BROTHER OF JAMES. (AKA JOHN THE BELOVED, JOHN THE EVANGELIST, JOHN THE REVEALER, AND JOHN THE REVELATOR)



He was known as the Beloved Disciple. A fisherman who lived in Bethsaida, Capernaum and Jerusalem, he was a member of the Inner Circle. He wrote the Gospel of John, I John, II John, III John and Revelation. He was given the earthly responsibility for Mary the mother of Jesus at the cross in John 19, he prepared the upper room for the last supper and out ran Peter at the tomb when Jesus rose from the dead in John 20. He preached among the churches of Asia Minor. Banished to the Isle of Patmos, he was later freed and died a natural death in Ephesus, living with Timothy, and working in the churches there where Timothy was the Bishop in that region. Buried in Ephesus, Turkey.



The Tomb of John the Beloved in Ephesus.





The Prison Island of Patmos where John served his sentence of exile. He wrote the Book of Revelation here.

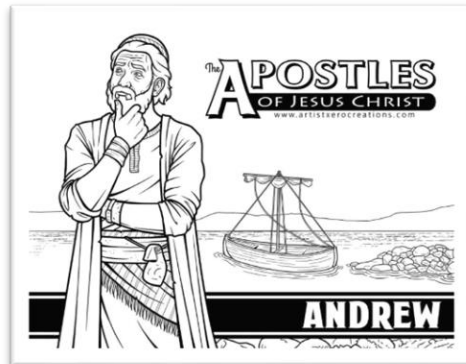


The Island prison's community room.



The Prison Monastery built in his honor.

ANDREW, THE BROTHER OF PETER, AND A SON OF JONAS. (AKA PROTOKLETOS, OR, FIRST CALLED)



He lived in Bethsaida and Capernaum and was a fisherman before Jesus called him. Originally he was a disciple of John the Baptist. Andrew brought his brother, Peter, to Jesus. According to tradition, it was in Achaia, Greece, in the town of Patra that Andrew died a martyr. When Governor Aepeas' wife was healed and converted to the Christian faith, and shortly after that the Governor's brother became a Christian. Aepeas was enraged. He arrested Andrew and condemned him to die on the cross. Andrew, feeling unworthy to be crucified on the same-shaped cross as his Master, begged that his be different. So, he was crucified on an X-shaped cross. Buried in Amalfi Italy.

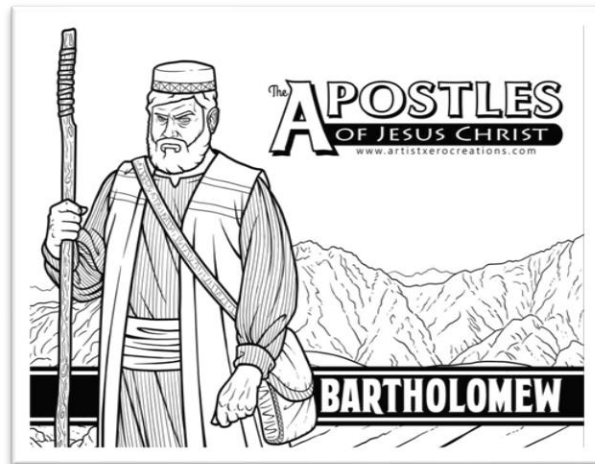


The Monastery housing Andrews remains on the Amalfi Coast in Italy.

The Crypt holding his body.



BARTHOLOMEW, SON OF TALMAI. (AKA NATHANIEL)



Lived in Cana of Galilee. Tradition says he was a missionary in Armenia. A number of scholars believe that he was the only one of the 12 disciples who came from royal blood, or noble birth. His name means Son of Tolmai or Talmai. Talmai was king of Geshur whose daughter, Maacah, was the wife of David, mother of Absalom. This would be a designation of that royal lineage.

Bartholomew's name appears with every list of the disciples. This was not a first name, however; it was his second name. His first name was Nathanael, whom Jesus called "An Israelite indeed, in whom there is no guile" (John 1:47). Tradition says that he preached in India, and Armenia, and his death seems to have taken place there. He died as a martyr for his Lord. He was flayed alive, his skin peeled off his body with knives.

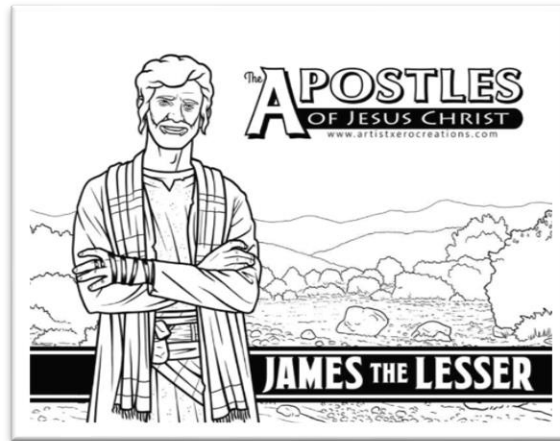
Buried in Rome.



The Basilica of Bartholomew located on the Tiber River in Rome that holds his body. His Tomb below.



JAMES SON OF ALPHEUS, (AKA JAMES THE LESS, JAMES THE YOUNGER) LIVED IN GALILEE. HE WAS THE BROTHER OF THE APOSTLE JUDE.



According to tradition he preached in Palestine and Egypt and was stoned to death in Egypt. James was one of the little-known disciples. Some scholars believe he was the brother of Matthew, the tax collector whose father also was named Alpheas. Tradition states he was crucified in Persia, near Sinai. He is often mistaken in literature with James the brother of Christ who pastored the main church in Jerusalem and wrote the Epistle of James, and also with James the Elder.

Buried in Rome together with Philip.



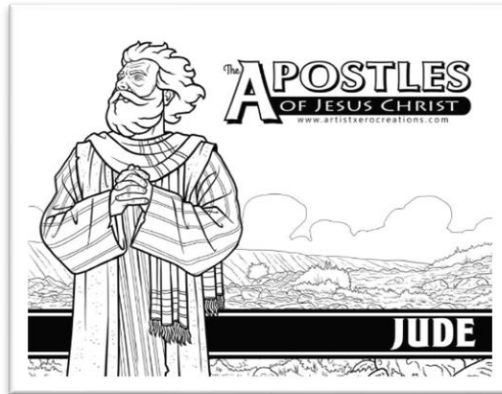
The Church of the Twelve Apostles in Rome,
The site of James remains and relics.

The Tombs of James the Less
And Philip.



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JUDE, (AKA THADDEUS, OR LEBBEUS), SON OF ALPHEUS. HE WAS A BROTHER OF JAMES THE YOUNGER.



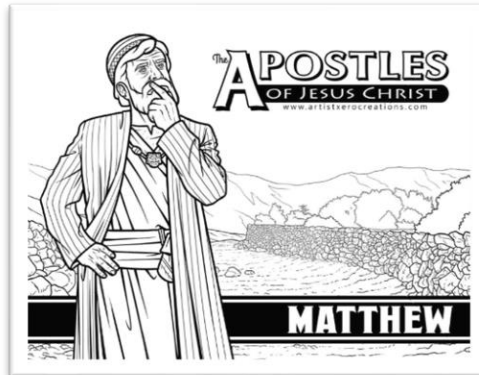
He was one of the least known Apostles and lived in Galilee. Tradition says he preached in Assyria and Persia and died a martyr in Persia. Jerome called Jude "Trinomious" which means "a man with three names." In Mark 3:18 he is called Thaddeus. In Matthew 10:3 he is called Lebbeus. His surname was Thaddeus. In Luke 6:16 and Acts 1:13 he is called Judas the brother of James. It is said that Jude went to preach the gospel in Edessa near the Euphrates River. There he healed many, and many believed in the name of the Master. He was killed with arrows at Ararat. Thaddeus also was called Judas the Zealot. Buried in Rome.

Jude's tomb in Rome.



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MATTHEW, (AKA LEVI, SON OF ALPHEUS) LIVED IN CAPERNAUM. HE WAS A PUBLICAN OR TAX COLLECTOR.



He wrote the Gospel that bears his name. He died a martyr in Ethiopia. It is likely that James the lesser, who was one of the twelve Apostles, was Matthew's brother, also the son of Alpheus. Although we know little about Matthew personally, the outstanding fact about him is that he was a tax collector. The King James Version calls him a publican, which in Latin is Publicanus, meaning engaged in public service, a man who handled public money, or a tax gatherer. Matthew was unlike the other Apostles, who were mostly fishermen. He could use a pen, and by his pen he became the first man to present to the world, in the Hebrew language, an account of the teaching of Jesus. It is clearly impossible to estimate the debt that Christianity owes to this despised tax gatherer. Matthew became the first man to write down the teachings of Jesus. His ministry was in Persia (Iran), Macedonia (Balkan Peninsula in southern Europe), Syria (east of Israel), Parthia (farther east from Persia), Media (Ancient area of modern Kurdistan), and Ethiopia (Horn of Africa). Buried in Sicily, then moved to Salerno, Italy.



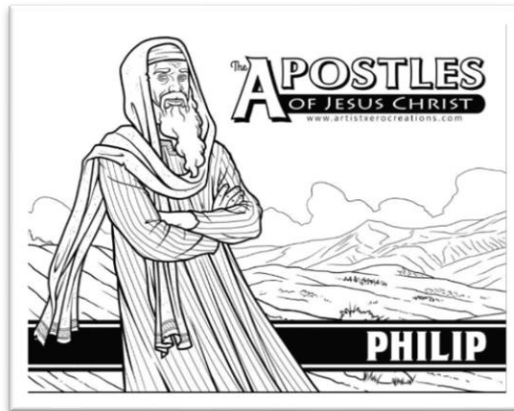
Inside Matthew's Church above.

Matthew's tomb below.



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PHILIP, HE CAME FROM BETHSAIDA, THE TOWN FROM WHICH PETER AND ANDREW CAME (JOHN 1:44). THE LIKELIHOOD IS THAT HE, TOO, WAS A FISHERMAN.



When Philip met Christ, he immediately found Nathanael and told him that "we have found him, of whom Moses ... and the prophets, did write." In Acts 6:5, we have Philip as one of the seven ordained deacons. Some say this is a different Philip. Some believe this is the Apostle. If this is the same Philip, then his personality came more to life because he had a successful campaign in Samaria. He led the Ethiopian eunuch to Christ (Acts 8:26). He also stayed with Paul in Caesarea (Acts 21:8) and was one of the major figures in the missionary enterprise of the early church. Tradition says that the disciple Philip preached in Phrygia and Scythia. He died a martyr at Hierapolis when he was crucified on a tall cross.

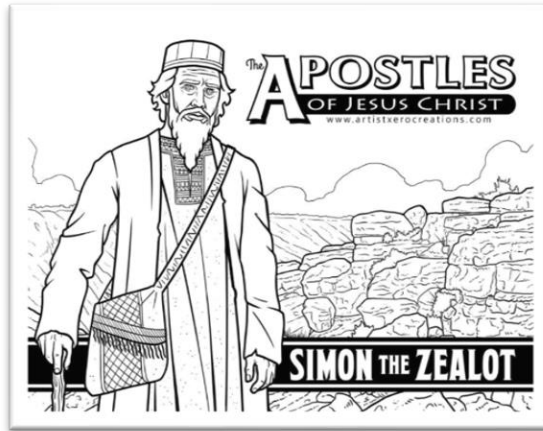
Buried in Rome with James the Less.



The original site of Philip's tomb in Hierapolis before he was relocated to Rome under Constantine.

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SIMON THE LESS, (AKA SIMON THE ZEALOT, SIMON THE CANAANITE OR SIMON ZELOTES), LIVED IN GALILEE.



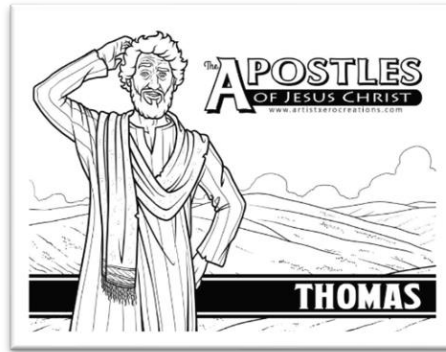
The Zealots were fanatical Jewish Nationalists who had heroic disregard for the suffering involved and the struggle for what they regarded as the purity of their faith. The Zealots were crazed with hatred for the Romans. It was this hate for Rome that destroyed the city of Jerusalem. Josephus says the Zealots were reckless persons, zealous in good practices and extravagant and reckless in the worst kind of actions. Simon Zelotes ministered in Persia, (modern day Iran), and was stabbed to death for refusing to worship the sun god. Buried in Rome.



Simon the Zelot's remains were moved to Peters' Basilica in Rome In the 1600's.

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THOMAS (AKA DIDYMUS, JUDAS THOMAS, DOUBTING THOMAS) LIVED IN GALILEE.



Sometimes called Judas, he was present at the resurrection of Lazarus. It is said that he was commissioned to build a palace for the king of India, he labored in Parthia, Persia, and India, suffering martyrdom near Madras, at Mt. St. Thomas, India.

Buried in India.



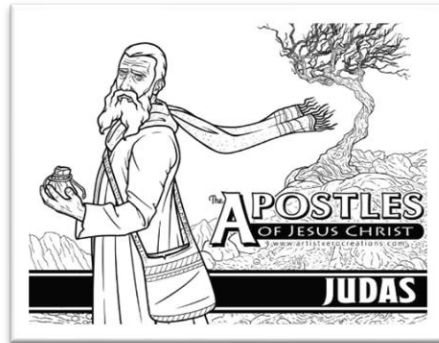
Thomas tomb in Chennai, India.



The Church holding his remains.

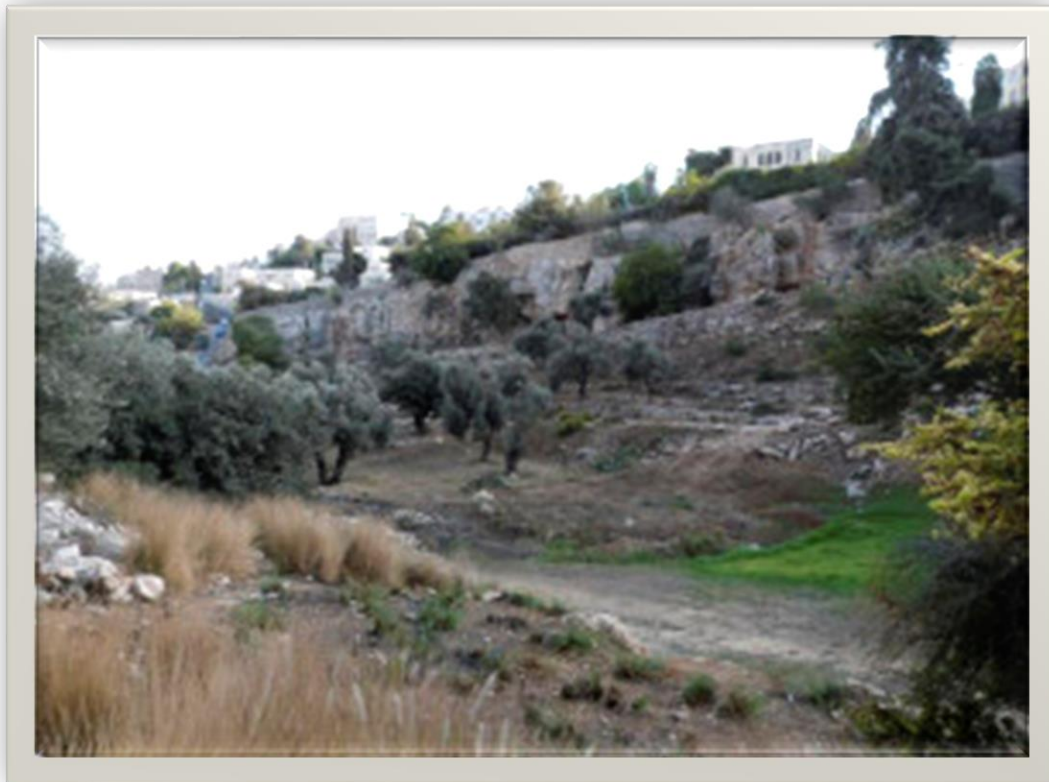
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JUDAS ISCARIOT, THE TRAITOR, WAS THE SON OF SIMON WHO LIVED IN KERIOTH OF JUDAH.



He betrayed Jesus for thirty pieces of silver and afterwards hanged himself. He was a Judean and the rest of the disciples were Galileans. He was the treasurer of the band and among the outspoken leaders. It is said that Judas was a violent Jewish Nationalist who had followed Jesus in hope that through Him his nationalistic fame and dreams might be realized.

Unknown grave, but tradition holds a spot since named "potters' field" pictured below, located in the Hinnom Valley in Israel.



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MATTHIAS WAS SELECTED TO REPLACE JUDAS AS RECORDED IN ACTS 1:15-26.

The other man who was also in consideration was named Joseph or Barsabas, and surnamed Justus. Lots were cast and eventually Matthias was chosen by the casting of lots. He, from then on, was numbered with the eleven apostles. The Bible says that Matthias was with Jesus from His baptism until his resurrection, and also in the upper room. Besides the book of Acts, Matthias isn't mentioned anywhere else in the Bible. Matthias spread the gospel on the shores of the Caspian Sea and Cappadocia (central Turkey). Jerome and the early Christian writers Clement of Alexandria and Eusebius of Caesarea attest that Matthias was among the 72 disciples paired off and dispatched by Jesus. He was martyred by crucifixion and, according to other legends, chopped apart. His ministry was so vast and lasting that Helena, mother of the Roman emperor Constantine the Great, 300 years later, transported Matthias' belongings from Jerusalem to Rome (Padua).

According to Greek sources, the remains of the apostle are buried in the castle of Gonio-Apsaros, Georgia.



Tomb of Matthias in Rome. (Santa Giustina-Padua, Italy.)

