



## *CBC Studies:* *“The Apostle’s Martyrdom”*



### IN THE APPROXIMATE ORDER OF DEATH

**1st: James Son of Zebedee** the brother of John, was the first of the disciples to die. In Acts 12 King Herod arrested James and had him beheaded by the sword in Jerusalem around **44 AD**.

**2nd: Philip** was scourged, thrown into prison, and then crucified in **54AD**.

**3rd: Matthew the Tax Collector** was slain with a halberd (an axe, a hook, and a pike at one end of a long wooden shaft) in the year **60 AD**.

**4th: Simon (Peter)** asked to be crucified upside down because he felt unworthy to die in the same manner as Jesus. He died at the hands of Emperor Nero around **64 AD**.

**5th: Andrew** was crucified in **60 AD**. Like his brother Peter, Andrew felt unworthy to die the same way as Jesus so he was tied to a cross in the shape of an X rather than a T. The X-shaped cross is now called St. Andrew’s Cross. While crucified, he preached for two days until he died.

**6th: Paul** says in I Corinthians 15: “And last of all (Jesus) was seen of me also, as of one born out of due time. For I am the least of the apostles... not meet to be called an apostle...”

Paul was beheaded as part of the executions of Christians ordered by the Roman emperor Nero following the great fire in the city in **64 AD** about the same time as Peter.

**7th: Simon the Zealot** was stabbed with a sword and then crucified in Samaria in **65AD**.

**8th: James Son of Alphaeus (*Jesus’ half brother*)** was still preaching in Jerusalem and facing violent opposition from the Jews at the age of 94. They eventually beat him and threw him from the pinnacle of the temple– at least 60 ft high. This was also likely where Satan took Jesus many years before and told Him to jump off. After James hit the ground, the Jews saw that he was still alive so they bashed his brains out with a club in **66AD**.

**9th: Bartholomew (*Nathaniel*)** Idolators beat him severely and then flayed him alive with a whip in **71AD**.

**10th: Thomas** was stabbed with spears on July 3, **72 AD**.

**11th: Thaddaeus** Luke refers to Judas as “Judas son of James,” effectively replacing the name Thaddeus. John specifically mentions Thaddeus, calling him “Judas (not Iscariot)” making a distinct identity from Judas Iscariot. His preaching against idolatry incited the religious leaders and they responded by beating him to death with clubs and hacking him with an axe in **72AD**.

**12th: Matthias** This is the disciple who replaced Judas Iscariot who betrayed Jesus and then hung himself. Matthias was stoned to death and beheaded in **80AD**.

**13th: John (brother of James and “the disciple whom The Lord loved”)** The Romans brought John into a coliseum and immersed him in a barrel of boiling oil but John emerged from the ordeal unharmed which led to the conversion of the entire coliseum to Christianity. In the mid-90s AD, John was exiled to the island of Patmos where he received the visions recorded in the Book of Revelation. John eventually died a natural death as an elderly man around **100AD**. He was the only one of the disciples that did not experience death from martyrdom.