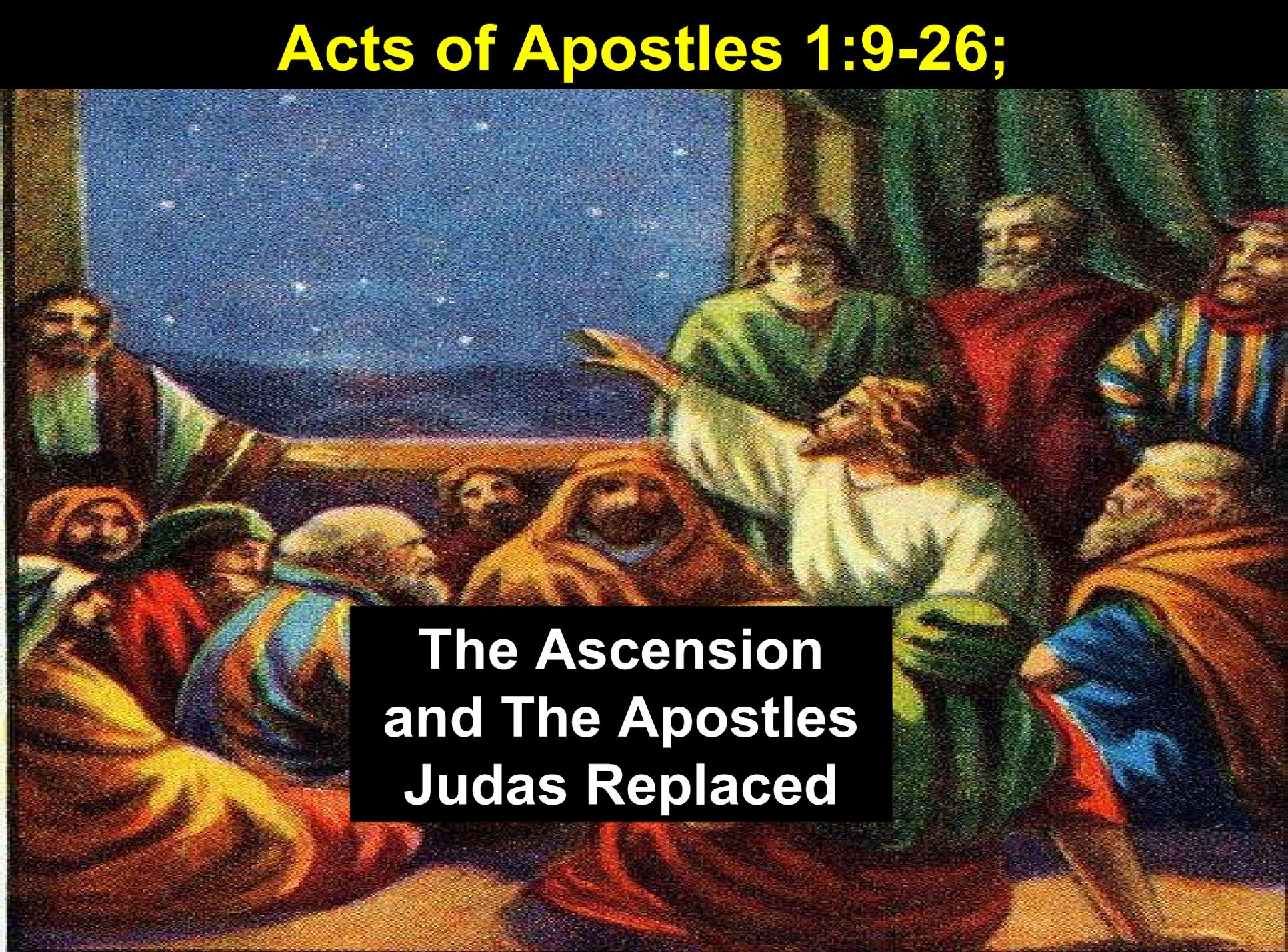


Acts of Apostles 1:9-26;



**The Ascension
and The Apostles
Judas Replaced**

² Acts of Apostles 1:9-26;

We continue our study of Acts, chapter 1.
Jesus gives the Apostles, and through them,
to all the Lord's body, **our “marching orders.”**
We call these orders **“The Great Commission.”**

The Apostles **must wait for the Power** that will
enable them **to preach this new unwritten covenant**
and **back up their words with the miraculous signs**
that will **confirm the message** to their hearers.

Acts of Apostles 1:12-26; PREPARATIONS & REPLACEMENTS.

The last words of Jesus in Luke 24; were a command to return to Jerusalem and to wait for the coming of the Holy Spirit. This section tells us what happened while they were waiting.

Acts 1:1-11;	Acts 1:12-14;	Acts 1:15-26;
Jesus prepares the Apostles	With God's help the 11 Apostles chose another to become an Apostle	
Jesus Identifies the task	The 120 followers come together	One is chosen to complete the 12
Promising	Praying	Replacing
Period of 40 Days	Period of 10 Days	

The events recorded in this section took place during the 10 day interval between the ascension of Jesus into heaven and the coming of the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost.



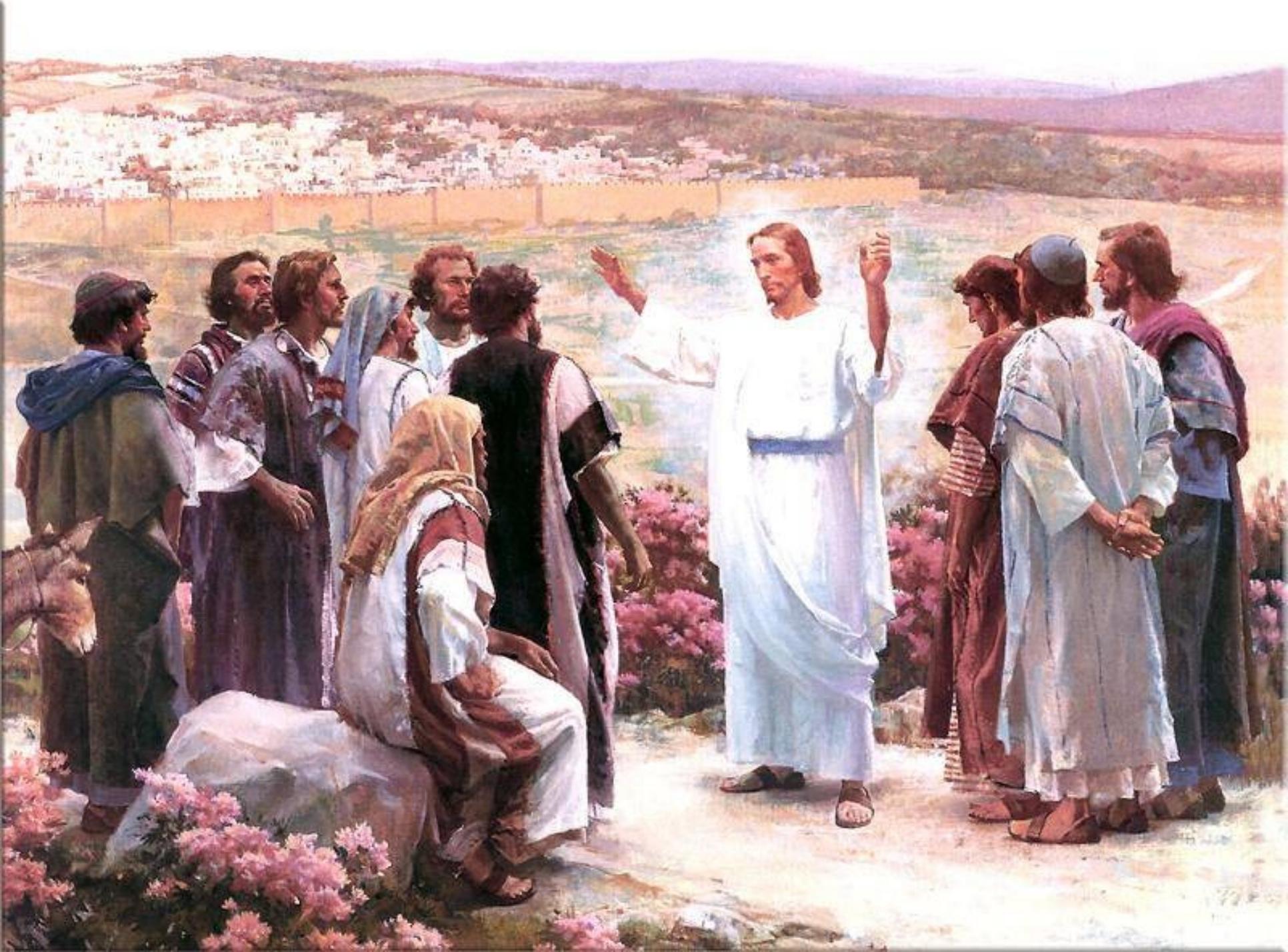
12 Tribes' Names on High Priest's Breastplate.

Acts of Apostles 1:9-26;

Before they can go out into the whole world **in the power and under the guidance of the Holy Spirit**, there is one item of business they must take care of.

They must **let God choose** between the **two other men that are qualified to be an Apostle**.

So that there would be **the symbolic twelve** to represent **the twelve tribes** who symbolized all God's people, now **to be a holy spiritual nation, God's New Kingdom, the church, New family of God**.



THE GREAT COMMISSION!

Jesus' command sending **the apostles** into the entire world to be **His witnesses** and teaching others to carry on the **preaching of the gospel message** has been called "**The Great Commission.**"

This **command**, or a version of it, is also found at the end of each of the three synoptic gospels, **Matthew, Mark and Luke.**

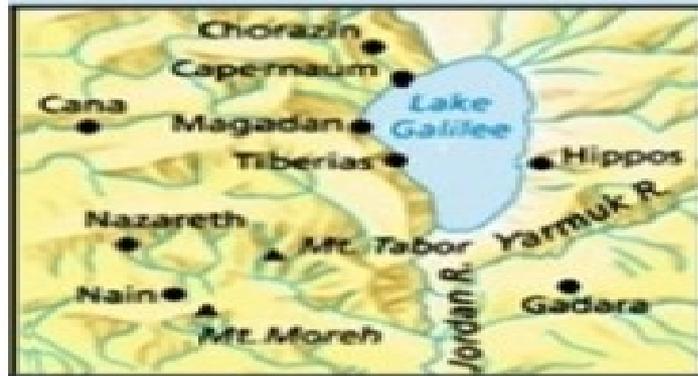
Acts of Apostles 1:9-26;

JESUS' PLAN.

The pattern specified:- Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria and then to **the entire world**, is a statement that lays out **the plan of the Book of Acts as well as the procedure for the spread of the gospel.**

The spread of gospel and the growth of the Church:- Kingdom began small and like the mighty mountain in Daniel's vision, it grew to fill the whole earth.
(Daniel 2:34-35, 44;)

Palestine in New Testament Times



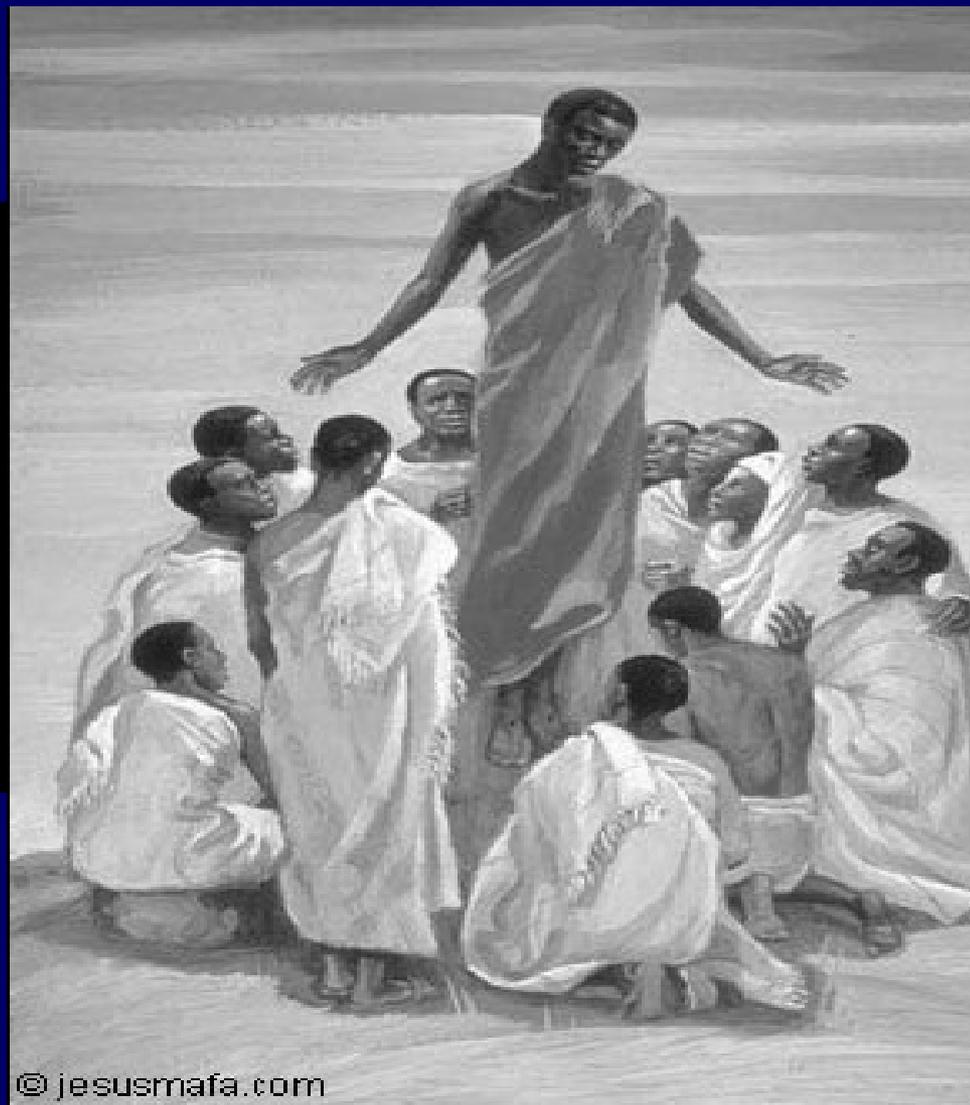
Acts of Apostles 1:9-26;

The ASCENSION of the CHRIST.

Mark. 16:19;

Luke. 24:49-50;

Acts. 1:9-11;



Acts of Apostles 1:9-11;



9 After he said this, He was taken up before their eyes, and a cloud hid Him from their sight.

10 They were looking intently up into the sky as He was going, when suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them.

Acts of Apostles 1:10;

TWO MEN / ANGELS.

They brought a message that obviously came from God. Luke used a similar description, in Lk 24:4; and John in 20:12;

John 20:12; She saw two white-robed angels sitting at the head and foot of the place where the body of Jesus had been lying.

Acts of Apostles 1:10;

Apostles as **MEN of GALILEE**

Same description used in chapter 2:7;

**The Angels’
Message.**

“He’s gone!”

“He’s coming back!”



Acts 1:9; “After Jesus said these things, he was lifted up. While the apostles were watching, Jesus went into a cloud; they couldn’t see him anymore.”

Seven Glorious Truths beyond all question.

HE IS the ascended **LORD**. Acts 2:36;

HE IS the ascended **MEDIATOR**.

John 10:7-8; 12:44-46; 14:6; 14:13-14;

HE IS the ascended **ADVOCATE** of man before God.

John 14:26; 15:26; 16:7; 1 John 2:1,2;

HE IS the ascended Son of God who **CAME** “out of heaven to save man” John 3:31-34; 6:33; 7:25-31; 8:23; Hebrews 7:25;

HE IS the ascended **HIGH PRIEST** of God.

Hebrews 2:17-18; 1 John 2:1,2;

HE IS the ascended **HIGH PRIEST** who is touch with the feelings of our infirmities. Hebrews 2:15-16;

HE IS the ascended **MESSIAH** who makes intercession for US. Rom 8:31-39;

Acts 1:9; “After Jesus said these things, he was lifted up. While the apostles were watching, Jesus went into a cloud; they couldn’t see him anymore.”

Psalms 68:4; Sing to God, sing praises to His name;
praise Him who rides on the clouds,
By His name YAH, And rejoice before Him.

Psalms 104:3; build your palace on the waters above,
making the clouds your chariot,
gliding on the wings of the wind.

Mark 16:19; So then, when the Lord Jesus had spoken to the apostles He was **received up into heaven** and sat down at the right hand of God. Lk 24:51;

Heb 4:14; But Jesus the Son of God is our great High Priest who has **gone to heaven itself** to help us; therefore let us never stop trusting him.

Heb 9:24; 1Pet 3:33;

Acts of Apostles 1:11;



"Men of Galilee," they said, "why do you stand here looking into the sky? **This same Jesus**, who has been taken from you into heaven, **will come back** in the same way you have seen him go into heaven."



EVERY EYE WILL SEE HIM.



Jesus' ascension was visible
to this little band of witnesses.

The angels told them Jesus would return visibly
some day. Revelation 1:7 tells us:-

Look, he is coming with the clouds, and **every eye
will see him**, even those who pierced him;
and all the peoples
of the earth will mourn because of him.

Acts 1:11; “who also said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand gazing up into heaven? This same Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will so come in like manner as you saw Him go into heaven.”

SIGNIFICANCE OF THE ASCENSION!

**That Jesus is accepted, approved,
and welcomed into Heaven.**

He sits at the Right Hand of God.

(Acts 2:34; 7:55; 20 times in NT.)

**He is enthroned as King of kings
and Lord of lords.**

(Revelation 19:16;)

He is reigning over His kingdom Now.

(Col 1:13-14; Eph 5:23-24; Rev 1:6-9;)

Acts 1:11; “who also said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand gazing up into heaven? This same Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will so come in like manner as you saw Him go into heaven.”

What is the significance of “in the same way,” speaking of Christ’s return?

It is VISIBLE:- Some say today that Christ’s return will be invisible.

A cloud! - Rev 1:7; 1 Thess 4:16-17;

Angels! - Matt 25:31; 2 Thess 1:7-9;

Bodily form! - Phil 3:20-21; 1Jn 3:2;

**There will be no secret “rapture”
or invisible second coming of Jesus.**



**“When He comes again it will be with a great noise
and every human being who has ever been on
this earth, living or dead, will arise in new bodies,
look up and see Him in all His glory.”**

1 Thess 4:13-18; Jhn 5:28 & 29; 1 Cor 15; Phil 3:21; 1 Jhn 3:2;

Acts of Apostles 1:9-26;
Jesus had to return to heaven to:-
Send the HOLY SPIRIT
to empower the the APOSTLES.

John 16:7;

Jesus had to return to heaven to:-
Reign as KING on the THRONE
of His ETERNAL KINGDOM.

Dan 7:13-14; Acts 2:32-36;

Jesus had to return to heaven to:-
Present His ATONING BLOOD
as the ONCE for ALL sacrifice for SIN.

Heb 9:12-14, 24-27; 1 Cor 15:24-26;

Acts of Apostles 1:9;

Jesus had to return to heaven to:-

Be the Christian's

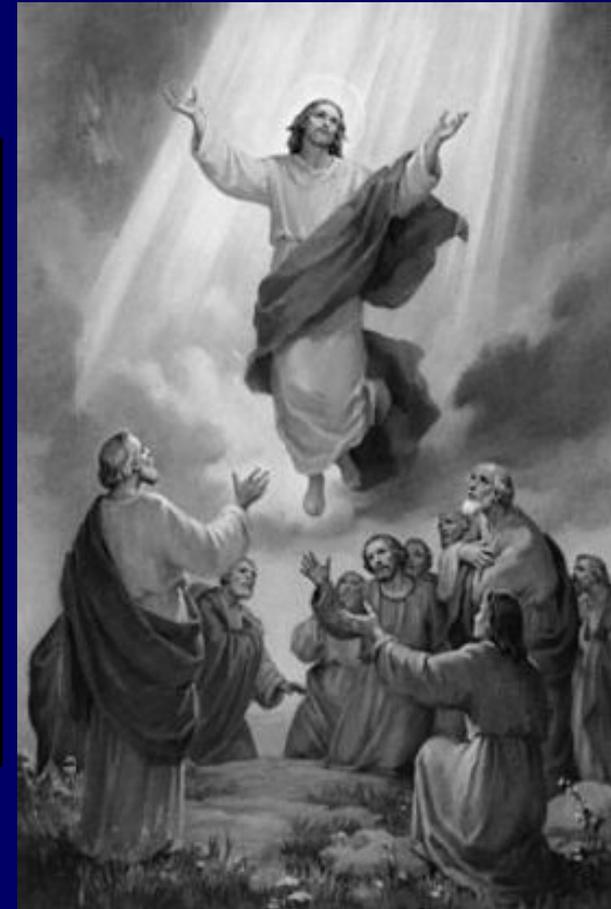
ADVOCATE and INTERCESSOR.

Heb 4:14-16; 1 Tim 2:5; 1Jn 2:1-2;

Acts 1:11; “who also said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand gazing up into heaven? This same Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will so come in like manner as you saw Him go into heaven.”

Jesus had to return to heaven to:- Return again.

**John 14:1-2; John 14:28;
Matt 16:27; Matt 24:27;
Matt 25:31-32; Matt 26:64;
Luke 12:40; 1 Cor 4:5;
1 Thess 4:16; Thess 5:2;
2 Tim 4:1; 2 Pet 3:4;**



**Acts of Apostles 1:11;
SIGNIFICANCE OF THE ASCENSION!
That the Atoning Work of Jesus
on earth is DONE.**

Redemption.
(Hebrews 9:12-15;)

Resurrection.
(Rom 1:4; 8:34; 1 Cor 15:3-4;)

**Acts of Apostles 1:11;
SIGNIFICANCE OF THE ASCENSION!
That the Work of Jesus
in Heaven is BEGINNING.**

Intercession!

(Romans 8:34; Hebrews 7:25;)

Mediation!

(1 Timothy 2:5; Hebrews 9:15;)

Advocate!

(1 John 2:1;)

Summary!

Acts 1:9;

Jesus ascended into a cloud.

Acts 1:10;

**Two men stood by the Apostles
as they looked up.**

Acts 1:11;

**Angels announced that
Jesus would come again.**

View of Temple from Ascension Mount.

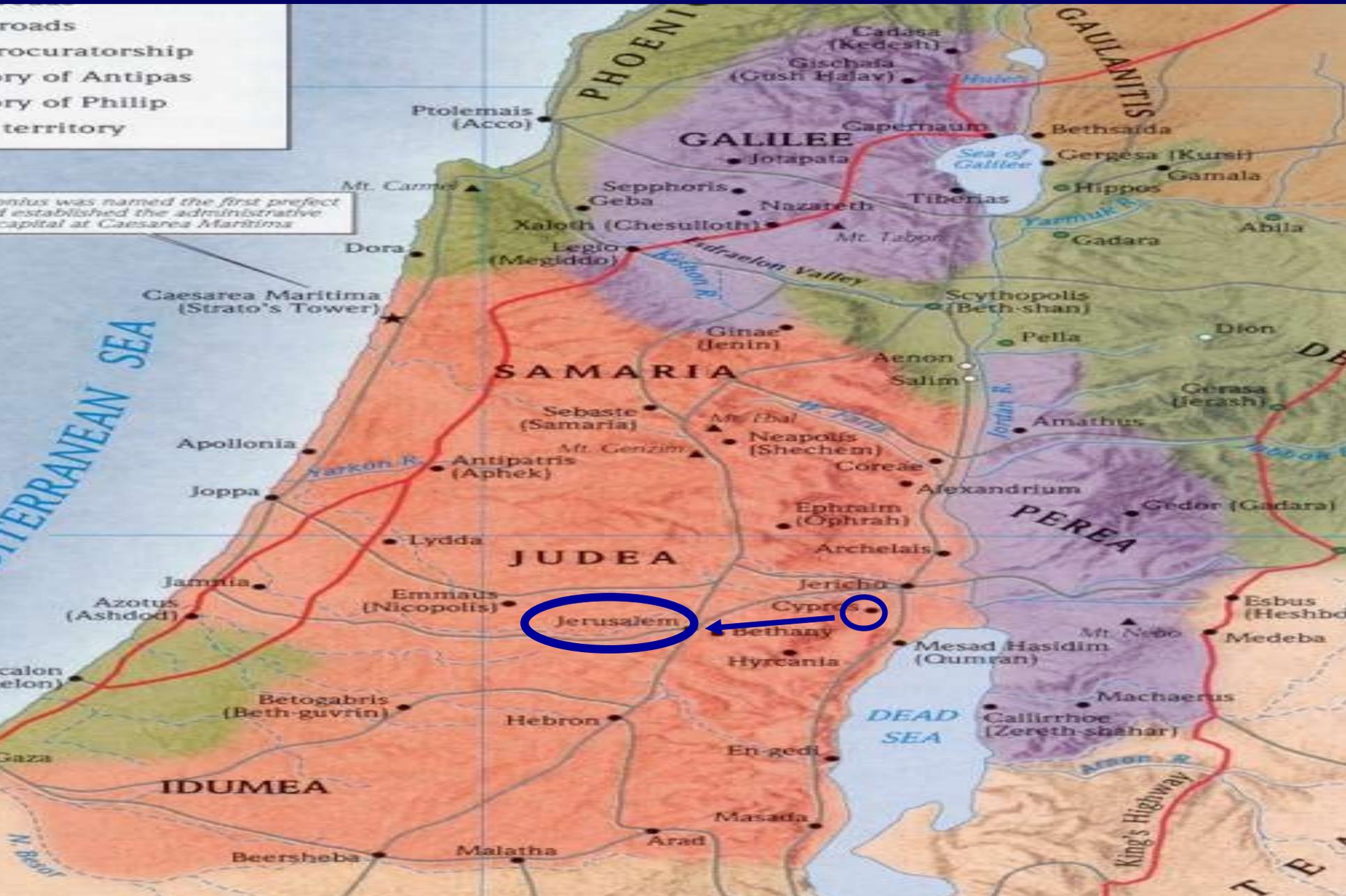
THE APOSTLES PREPARATION. (1:12-26;)

APOSTLES IDENTIFIED. (1:12-14;)

Another APOSTLE APPOINTED. (1:15-26;)



29 **Acts 1:12;** “They were at the Mount of Olives when this happened, so now they walked the half mile back to Jerusalem .”



Acts 1:12; “They were at the Mount of Olives when this happened,
so now they walked the half mile back to Jerusalem .”

The Apostles had been told to **wait for the Power of the Holy Spirit** to come upon them **in Jerusalem.**

Why Jerusalem? Isa 2:3;

Many peoples will come and say,
"Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD,
To the house of the God of Jacob;
That He may teach us concerning His ways
And that we may walk in His paths.
**For the law will go forth from Zion
And the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.**

Large upper room in Jerusalem.



Acts 1:12; “They were at the Mount of Olives when this happened, so now they walked the half mile back to Jerusalem .”

Why Judea? Matt 2:5-6;

“So they said to him, In Bethlehem of Judea, for thus it is written by the prophet:

But you, **Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,**
Are not the least among the rulers of Judah;
For out of you shall come a Ruler
Who will shepherd My people Israel.”

Micah 5:2; “But you, **Bethlehem Ephrathah,**
Though you are little among the thousands
of Judah, Yet out of you **shall come forth to Me**
The One to be Ruler in Israel, Whose goings forth
are from of old, From everlasting.”

Acts 1:12; “They were at the Mount of Olives when this happened, so now they walked the half mile back to Jerusalem .”

Why Samaria?

They were enemies of the Samaritans, so why them?

John 4:9; “Then the woman of Samaria said to Him,
How is it that You, being a Jew,
ask a drink from me, a Samaritan woman?
For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans.”

Luke 9:51-54;

Eph 2:14; “He Himself is our peace,
who has made both one, and has broken down
the middle wall of separation.”

APOSTLES IN JERUSALEM.

Acts 1:12-14;

“Then the apostles returned to Jerusalem from the hill called the Mount of Olives, a Sabbath day’s walk from the city. When they arrived, they went upstairs to the room where they were staying.”

The ascension of Jesus had taken place within full view of the city of Jerusalem. The Mount of Olives is located on the east side of the city and is only separated from the city by the narrow Kidron Valley.

Mount of Olives near Jerusalem! **MOUNT OF THE ASCENSION!**



Mount of Olives near Jerusalem! **MOUNT OF THE ASCENSION!**

So we learn that the Mount of the Ascension was the Mount of Olives, a little less than a half-mile from Mount Zion, the temple area of Jerusalem.

The upper room was also on Mount Zion.

The Sabbath Day's Walk, the maximum distance allowed to be walked on the Sabbath Day, was about 2,000 cubits (Exod 16:29; Num 35:5; Joshua 3:4;), about 3,000 feet or 0.56 of a mile.

The rabbi's concluded that if you limit your travel to this particular distance, then **you haven't really gone out.**

Acts 1:12; "They were at the Mount of Olives when this happened, so now they walked the half mile back to Jerusalem."



Acts 1:13; “The apostles entered the city. They went to the place where they were staying; this was in an upstairs room. The apostles were: Peter, John, James, Andrew, Philip, Thomas, Bartholomew, Matthew, James (of Alphaeus), Simon (known as the Revolutionary), Judas (of James).”

“When they had entered the city, they went up to the upper room where they were staying;”

“that is, Peter and John and James and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James the son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas the son of James.”

“They were all together. They were constantly praying with the same purpose. Jesus' brothers, some women, and Mary (the mother of Jesus) were also there.”

Acts 1:12; “They were at the Mount of Olives when this happened, so now they walked the half mile back to Jerusalem .”

**How did this experience
of the Apostles on the
Mount of Olives contrast
with their last trip to this place?**

THE SAME UPPER ROOM? Mark 14:15; Luke 7-13;



41 **Acts 1:13;** “When they had entered {the city,} they went up to the upper room where they were staying;”

An upper room was usually quieter, larger, more private with better ventilation.

Notice that this was THE upper room.

The upper room where the apostles were staying was probably the same upper room where they had eaten the Last Supper with Jesus (Luke 22:7-13;) and in which Jesus had appeared to them several times after His resurrection.

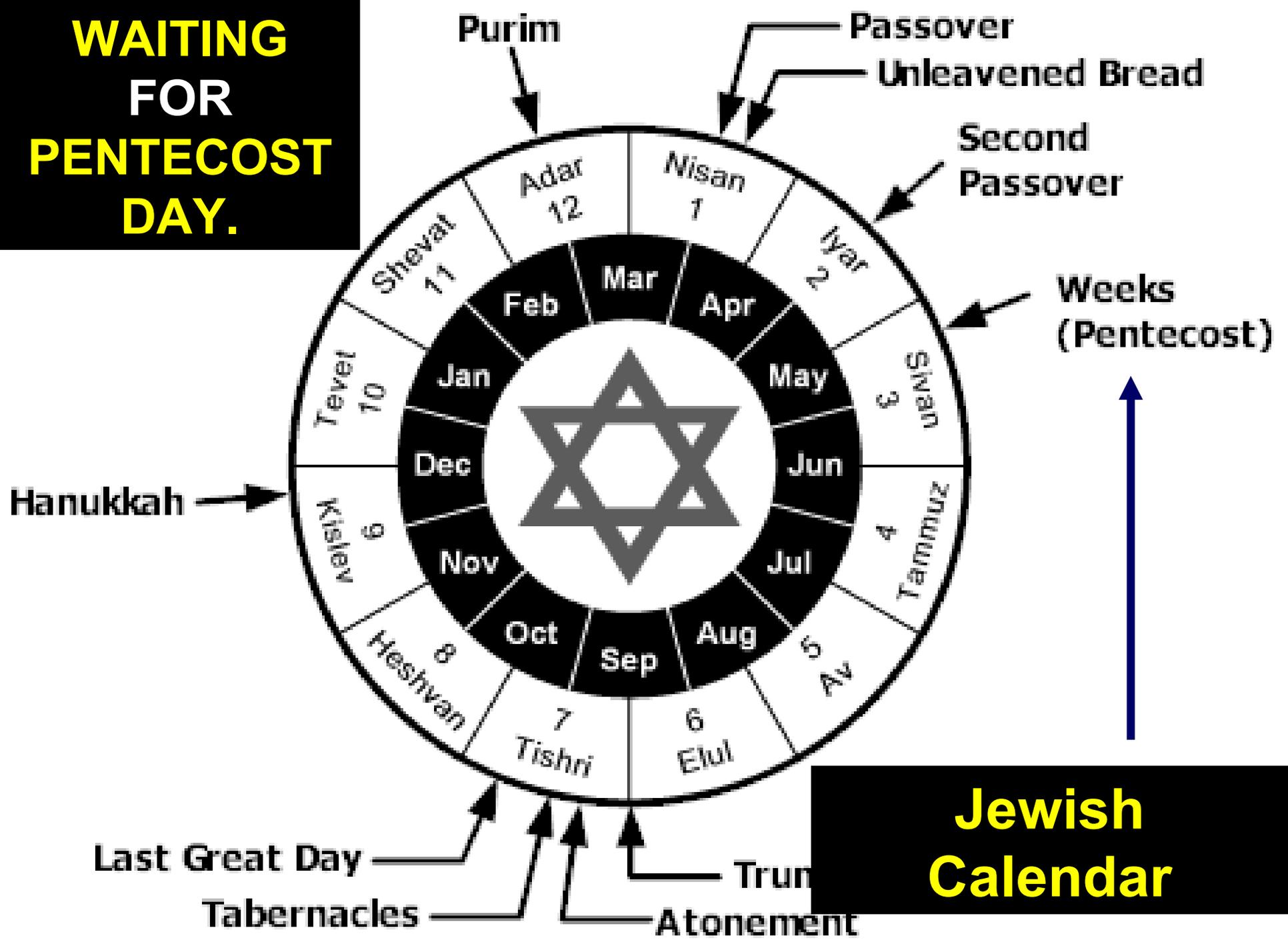
Visitors to Jerusalem are shown a very large upper room on Mount Zion that, according to tradition, has been preserved and is thought by some to be the same upper room of the scriptural accounts.

Acts 1:13; “When they had entered {the city,} they went up to the upper room where they were staying;”

It is possible that this room is the same room mentioned in Acts 12:12 - a room which belonged to Mary, the mother of John Mark.

The disciples did not spend all of their time in the upper room. Luke 24:53; adds that they were continually in the Temple, praising God.

**WAITING
FOR
PENTECOST
DAY.**



Purim

Passover

Unleavened Bread

Second
Passover

Weeks
(Pentecost)

Hanukkah

Last Great Day

Tabernacles

Trumpets

Atonement

**Jewish
Calendar**

Acts 1:13; “When they had entered {the city,} they went up to the upper room where they were staying;”

WAITING FOR PENTECOST DAY.

Between the **Passover**, when Jesus was crucified and the **Day of Pentecost** when the **Holy Spirit** came with power on the apostles, was a period of seven weeks plus one day.

“Pentecost,” meaning **“fifty,”** was the Greek name for this special feast day.

The Jews called it **“The Feast of Weeks.”** It always came **on the first day of the week.**

Acts 1:13; “that is, Peter and John and James and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James.”

THE MEANING OF APOSTLE. “one sent.”

An official representative

Sent with full authority

to accomplish a specific goal.

An apostle connects two parties together.

THE PURPOSE OF the APOSTLES.

To be a *witness/testify* to the Resurrection.

Pentecost. Luke 24:49;

To establish the Kingdom.

Evangelizing Work. Luke 24:47;

Establish The body and the word. Eph 2:20;

Acts 1:13; “that is, Peter and John and James and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James.”

THE MEANING OF APOSTLE. “one sent.”

**The Main question is
WHO SENT YOU?**

On who’s authority have you come?

A quite common misconception is that we can have Apostles like the 12 Apostles today.

In scripture there is a difference between One sent by Jesus and One sent by the church.

Nobody today can be sent by Jesus.

The same Idea is found in the Term Jehovah’s witnesses. Nobody has witnessed God.

Acts 1:13; “that is, Peter and John and James and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James.”

THE SIGNIFICANCE OF 12?

Generic use The Twelve:-

12 Tribes of Israel.

Judge/rule 12 Tribes.

**Names written on the foundation
of the New Jerusalem / the Church.**

**“having been built on
the foundation of the apostles and prophets,
Christ Jesus Himself being the corner stone.”**

Ephesians 2:20;

Acts 1:13; “that is, Peter and John and James and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James.”

Another misconception is that the 120 comprised the church before the day of Pentecost.

In Matt 16:16-19 **Jesus said**
He would build His church
and **give Peter the Keys of the Kingdom**

In Luke 24: The apostles are told
to wait in Jerusalem to receive power.

The power did not come until Acts 2. Peter did not use the keys until Acts 2 so the 120 could not be part of something that did not exist until Acts 2 and The Apostles were the foundation not 120.

Acts of Apostles 1:13;

	Matthew 10	Mark 3	Luke 6	Acts 1
First Group	Simon Peter Andrew James John	Simon Peter James John Andrew	Simon Peter Andrew James John	Peter James John Andrew
Second Group	Philip Bartholemew Thomas Matthew	Philip Bartholemew Matthew Thomas	Philip Bartholemew Matthew Thomas	Philip Thomas Bartholemew Matthew
Third Group	James Thaddaeus Simon Judas Iscariot	James Thaddaeus Simon Judas Iscariot	James Simon Judas Judas Iscariot	James Simon Judas

**Simon Peter is always mentioned first.
Judas Iscariot is always mentioned last
when he is mentioned at all.**

OUTLINE HISTORY OF THE APOSTLES

I. THE ORIGINAL TWELVE APPOINTED BY JESUS, Mt. 10. 2-4; Mk. 3. 16-19; Lu. 6. 13-16.

(A)	Name	Surname or Appellation	Parents	Home	Business	Characteristics	Writings	Bible History and Traditional Legends Concerning
THE INNER CIRCLE So Called because they were accorded special privileges Mt. 17. 1; 26. 37; Mk. 5. 37	SIMON	Peter } Cephas } A Rock	Son of Jonas (or John, R. V.)	Bethsaida and Capernaum	Fisherman	See No. 2746	I Peter II Peter	Evangelistic and missionary work among the Jews, going as far as Babylon. I Pet. 5. 13. Tradition says as far as Rome, where he was crucified, head downward (?).
	JAMES (the Elder)	{ Boanerges or Sons of Thunder	Zebedee and Salome	{ Bethsaida Capernaum and Jerusalem	Fisherman	See No. 1842	Gospel, I John II John III John Revelation	Preached in Jerusalem and Judea. Beheaded by Herod, A. D. 44 (?). Ac. 12. 1, 2.
	JOHN (the Beloved Disciple)				Fisherman	See No. 1902		Labored among the Churches of Asia Minor, according to tradition, especially at Ephesus. Banished to Patmos (see description, page 268), afterward freed, and died a natural death.
(B) THE QUIET WORKERS	ANDREW (brother of Peter)		Son of Jonas (or John, R. V.)	Bethsaida and Capernaum	Fisherman	See No. 140		Originally a Disciple of John the Baptist. Tradition: Preached in Scythia, Greece and Asia Minor. Crucified on a St. Andrew's Cross.
	PHILIP			Bethsaida		See No. 2753		Tradition is that he preached in Phrygia, and died a martyr at Hierapolis (?).
	BARTHOLOMEW	Nathanael	Tolmai	Cana of Galilee		See No. 344		According to tradition he was a missionary in Armenia and was flayed to death (?). Jerome says he wrote a gospel.
	THOMAS	Didymus		Galilee		See No. 3614		Tradition says he labored in Parthia, Persia, and India, suffering martyrdom near Madras, at Mt. St. Thomas (?).
	MATTHEW	Levi	Alphæus	Capernaum	Publican or Tax Collector	See No. 2265	Gospel	Tradition says he died a martyr in Ethiopia (?).
(C) THE LITTLE KNOWN	JAMES (The Less or Younger)		{ Alphæus, or Cleophas and Mary	Galilee		See Nos. 1843 or 1844	Epistle of James (?)	According to tradition, preached in Palestine and Egypt. Was crucified in Egypt.
	JUDE	Thaddæus or Lebbaeus		Galilee		See Nos. 1961 or 1964	Epistle of (?)	Tradition says he preached in Assyria and Persia and died a martyr in Persia.
	SIMON	The Cananaean or Zelotes		Galilee		See No. 3324		Tradition says he was crucified.
(D) THE TRAITOR	JUDAS	Iscaiot	Simon	Kerioth of Judea		See No. 1959		He betrayed Jesus for thirty pieces of silver and afterwards hanged himself. Mt. 26. 14-16; 27. 3-5.

II. PERSONS ADDED TO THE APOSTOLIC BAND AFTER THE ASCENSION OF JESUS

(E) SPECIAL APPOINTMENTS	MATTHIAS Ac. 1. 23-26							There is no record of his life after his selection as an Apostle to succeed Judas Iscaiot. Tradition says that he preached and suffered martyrdom in Ethiopia.
	SAUL	Name Changed To Paul Ac. 13. 9	Tarsus	Tent-Maker	See Nos. 2697 and 4309	Thirteen or Fourteen Epistles	He was the Apostle to the Gentiles. (See the Tree of his Life and Missionary Journeys, No. 4309.)	

Note.—The word *Apostle* is sometimes applied, in the New Testament, to prominent Christian workers, of special gifts, and abundant labors. Barnabas, a companion of Paul, is a notable instance. He was sent forth by the Holy Spirit to engage in missionary work. Ac. 13. 1-3; 14. 4, 14. Tradition says that Andronicus and Junia, who were called Apostles (Rom. 16. 7) belonged to the order of Seventy sent forth by Jesus.

Acts 1:13; “that is, Peter and John and James and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James.”

The last time that all of the disciples had been listed by name had been **when Jesus commissioned them.**

Things had been fresh and exciting.

Now there is going to be a new beginning.

Once again, there is an expectancy in the air.

Simon Peter is always mentioned first.

Judas Iscariot is always mentioned last

when he is mentioned at all.

There are three distinct groupings of disciples. Those who were with Jesus the **most are mentioned in the first group.** Those who are mentioned **less often are in the second group.**

Those in the third group are **hardly mentioned at all (with the exception of Judas Iscariot).**

Acts 1:13; “that is, Peter and John and James and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James.”

The same person always heads up each group.

Simon Peter always heads up the first group.

Philip always heads up the second group. **James the son of Alphaeus** always heads up the third group.

It has been suggested that **each of these three groups had a natural leader.** We know that Peter tended to lead his group and, in fact, provided leadership for all of the disciples.

Simon Peter. Matt 16:16-18;

There is no apostle of Jesus with whom we are more familiar than the person of Simon.

We are told here that Jesus gave him a nickname - **Peter (Petros), “Large stone.”**

Acts 1:13; “that is, Peter and John and James and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James.”

John describes himself elsewhere as
“**the disciple whom Jesus loved.**”

Jesus had a special nickname for these two brothers. It was Bo-anerges, “Sons of thunder.”

This might have been because they were so rowdy.
Or it might have been because of a time when they had asked Jesus to strike a city with a bolt of lightning.

James is never mentioned in the gospels apart from his brother, John.

Of the two, James is usually mentioned first.
This is the one exception.

Acts 1:13; “that is, Peter and John and James and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James.”

Andrew was a Greek name. It is the common Greek word for "man." Andrew's claim to fame was that **he was Peter's brother.**

Philip. This is also a Greek name. It was the same name as the father of Alexander the Great. **It means "horse-lover."** Philip may have also had a Hebrew name, but we don't know what it was.

For some reason, **Philip** always went by his Greek name. It is noteworthy that when some Greeks wanted to come and speak to Jesus, they first went to Philip. (John 12:20-22;).

Acts 1:13; “that is, Peter and John and James and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James.”

Thomas has had a lot of bad press over the years. He has been labelled "**Doubting Thomas**" because of his reaction to the news of the resurrection of Jesus. **But Doubting Thomas had now become Believing Thomas after seeing the risen Lord.**

Bartholomew. The name "Bartholomew" is made up of two Hebrew words. Bar is the Hebrew word for "son." This man was the son of Tolmai (Ptolemy). **He is known elsewhere as Nathaniel Bar Tolmai.**

Matthew. This is the Greek name of Levi whose call we read of in Mark 2:14; He had been a tax-collector; a turn-coat traitor who sold out his country for money. **But he had given it all up to follow Jesus.**

Acts 1:13; “that is, Peter and John and James and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James.”

James the son of Alphaeus. In Mark 15:40; he will be called "**James the Less.**" That is an unfortunate translation. **He was known as "Little James."**

It probably became inconvenient to distinguish between **James the son of Zebedee versus James the son of Alphaeus,** so the other disciples took to calling them **Big James and Little James.**

Acts 1:13; “that is, Peter and John and James and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James.”

Simon the Zealot. The Zealots were a political party within Judaism. They were the **nationalist party**.

They were intent on driving the Romans from the land and restoring an independent state.

A revolt had been organized under a Galilean Zealot named Judas (Acts 5:37). Judas had been killed and his followers scattered, but the Zealots lived on.

They would finally bring about another revolt in 66 A.D. which would slaughter the Roman garrison in Jerusalem and defeat a Roman legion from Syria.

The Romans would respond by sending a total of four Roman legions and **Jerusalem** would be **destroyed** and her **temple burned**.

Acts 1:13; “that is, Peter and John and James and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James.”

Simon was from this movement. He had looked earnestly for the coming of a military Messiah who would lead the Jews to revolt against Rome.

Perhaps he initially came to Jesus for this reason.
But somewhere along the line,
he would fall in love with Jesus.

Judas the son of James. This was the Greek form of the Hebrew name "**Judah.**"

It was a common name among the Jews.

Judas also went by several different nick-names.

Acts 1:13; “that is, Peter and John and James and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James.”

Thaddaeus: "Breast baby. “This might have been a term of endearment given to the baby of a family.

Lebbaeus: "Heart child."

It is a nickname for someone who is courageous.

WAS PETER CHIEF APOSTLE?

Acts 1:13; Is the 4th list of Apostles
in the New Testament.

No two lists are in the same order.

Peter is mentioned 1st in all four lists.

1 Pet 1:1; “An apostle of Christ.”

NOT the chief apostle.

1 Pet 5:1; “fellow elder among elders.”

NOT the chief elder. (bishop / pastor.)

WAS PETER CHIEF APOSTLE?

Matt 16:18-19; Peter given AUTHORITY!

“To bind and loose.”

Other Apostles given same AUTHORITY!

Matt 18:18; “I solemnly say to you, whatever you forbid on earth must be already forbidden in heaven, and whatever you permit on earth must be already permitted in heaven.”

WAS PETER CHIEF APOSTLE?

"If you forgive the sins of any, their sins have been forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they have been retained." JOHN 20:23;

Peter instructed those who sinned to **pray to God**, **NOT to Peter** for forgiveness of sins. Acts 8:20-22;

Acts 8:22; "So repent of this wickedness of yours, and **pray to the Lord** that, if possible, this thought of your heart may be forgiven you."



WAS PETER CHIEF APOSTLE?

Acts 10:24-26; Peter **REFUSED** to accept men bowing down to him and worshipping him.

“ 25. And as Peter was coming in, Cornelius met him, and fell down at his feet, and worshipped him.
26. But Peter took him up, saying, Stand up; I myself also am a man.”

Paul rebuked Peter when he sinned for being a hypocrite. Gal 2:11-14;

“But when **Peter** came to Antioch I had to **oppose him publicly**, speaking strongly against what he was doing for it was very wrong.”

WAS PETER CHIEF APOSTLE?

Like the other apostles, **Peter** had the right to have a wife and indeed had one.

Mt 8:14,15; 1 Cor 9:5;

“If I had a wife, and if she were a believer, couldn't I bring her along on these trips just as the other disciples do, and as the Lord's brothers do, and as Peter does?”

Philip is listed fifth in all four lists.

James, the son of Alphaeus, is listed ninth in all four lists. Other lists.

Matt 10:2-4; Mark 3:14-21; Luke 6:13-16;

Acts 1:14; “These all with one mind were continually **devoting themselves to prayer**, along with {the} women, and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with His brothers.”

IN PRAYERFUL EXPECTATION!

This small band of **eleven apostles**, and the women who had followed Jesus throughout His ministry ministering to Him and His apostles and disciples, **including His mother and Jesus’ brothers**, seem to have all been staying in this place during this waiting period.

They were spending much of their time in prayer in great expectation of what was coming soon according to Jesus’ promise.

Acts 1:14; “These all with one mind were continually **devoting themselves to prayer**, along with {the} women, and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with His brothers.”

It is evident that the disciples of Jesus were still observing the Jewish hours of prayer, during the time they were waiting in the city.

They were not merely 'praying', because the word used -'proseucha**' is the regular word used in Greek, to describe a Jewish synagogue.**

We should therefore visualize the apostles meeting together for regular times of prayer, and still using the synagogues, and the Temple for that purpose. See Acts 3:1;

Acts 1:14; “These all with one mind were continually **devoting themselves to prayer**, along with {the} women, and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with His brothers.”

Devoted themselves to PRAYER!

Acts 1:14; “They were all together.

They were constantly praying with the same purpose. Jesus' brothers, some women, and Mary (the mother of Jesus) were also there.

Acts 2:42; “And they were continually devoting themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.”

Acts 6:4; “But we will devote ourselves to prayer, and to the ministry of the word.”

1Thess 5:17; Jam 5:16; “Prayed regularly fervently”

Acts 1:14; “These all with one mind were continually devoting themselves to prayer, along with {the} women, and **Mary the mother of Jesus**, and with His brothers.”

The women had remained faithful.

They had helped to finance the ministry of Jesus.

They had been present at the crucifixion.

Mary the mother of Jesus.

Mary had a special place of honour. She was with the disciples and those who counted themselves as followers of Jesus. She had also become a follower.

But notice, the apostles were praying while SHE was there **WITH THEM, They were not praying TO her.**

Both the Roman Catholic as well as the Eastern Orthodox Church have instituted prayers to Mary.

But the Scriptures never imply or condone this. It is wrong to elevate Mary to the status of divinity.

Acts 1:14; “These all with one mind were continually devoting themselves to prayer, along with {the} women, and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with His brothers.”

We have already seen that **the women** present were those who followed from GALILEE who **provided for the material needs** of the group.

It is interesting to notice that we have here the **last mention of MARY, the mother of Jesus.** She is not seen again in the story of the Church after this occasion.

Do you not think this would be rather strange, if what the Church of Rome teaches about her were true? **They claim:-**

Acts 1:14; “These all with one mind were continually devoting themselves to prayer, along with {the} women, and **Mary the mother of Jesus**, and with His brothers.”

Roman Catholic Church teaches:-

That Mary was ABSOLUTELY SINLESS

before the birth of Jesus and

REMAINED ABSOLUTELY SINLESS all her life.

**That after her death, HER BODY
NEVER SUFFERED CORRUPTION, and was
taken STRAIGHT UP INTO HEAVEN.**

That she is the SPIRITUAL MOTHER OF ALL LIVING.

They even call her THE MOTHER OF GOD

That, in heaven, she INTERCEDES with JESUS

For members of the Roman Catholic Church

who PRAY to her.

Acts 1:14; “These all with one mind were continually devoting themselves to prayer, along with {the} women, and **Mary the mother of Jesus**, and with His brothers.”

If this is Mary’s proper place in the Church, is it not strange that if Mary held such an important place:-

Mary is never mentioned after the Day of PENTECOST?
She is never again seen in Church history.

Mary is never mentioned in ANY LETTER in the New Testament. And **NO** N.T. letter **is ever addressed to her.**

This **ELEVATION** of **MARY** to almost godlike status, indeed, to the state of ‘**Mediatrix**’ in the theology of the Church of Rome - is the result of a book written by FRANCISCO de LIGUOURI, entitled “**THE GLORIES OF MARY.**”

This book contains a great number of those fanciful accounts of **DREAMS** and **VISIONS** involving **MARY**, which **NUNS** and **MONKS** claim to have experienced and which many Roman **CATHOLICS** seem to find so easy to believe.

Acts 1:14; “These all with one mind were continually devoting themselves to prayer, along with {the} women, and Mary the mother of Jesus, and **with His brothers.**”

Allow me to ask a question, which is relevant to a discussion of the position occupied by Mary.

Did MARY have any more children AFTER THE BIRTH OF JESUS? 1:14; states the BROTHERS of Jesus were also present in the Upper Room.

The RC Church would have us believe that Jesus was Mary’s only child, and that the word ‘**brothers**’ used here, refers to other relatives; maybe cousins.

But that is asking us to believe something which would make it necessary to reject other passages of scripture.

Evidence of the ERROR of the ROMAN CATHOLIC position.

1. For instance, we read that ‘**Joseph ‘knew her not’;** i.e. did not live with her as husband and wife, **until** after the birth of the baby. **Matt 1:25;**

Acts 1:14; “These all with one mind were continually devoting themselves to prayer, along with {the} women, and Mary the mother of Jesus, and **with His brothers.**”

2. And we are told that Mary ‘**brought forth her FIRSTBORN SON**’. implying that there were others born to her later. It would surely have been easy for the historian to say that she brought forth her **ONLY** son. But he did not. **Luke 2:7;**

3. We read later that on one occasion, during his ministry, Jesus was told ‘**Your mother and your brothers are outside.**’ **Matt 12:46-50;**. Evidently, the people who knew the family believed that Jesus had brothers and sisters!

As a matter of fact: -

4. Matt 13:55; **Give us the NAMES of his brothers, and even mention his sisters.**

5. We also read that on another occasion, his brothers wanted to know why he had not gone up to a certain feast; They urged him to show himself to his disciples, for **‘NEITHER DID HIS BROTHERS BELIEVE IN HIM. John 7:5;**

Acts 1:14; “These all with one mind were continually devoting themselves to prayer, along with {the} women, and Mary the mother of Jesus, and **with His brothers.**”

**6. We now see, that his brothers
COMPLETELY CHANGED,
and came to believe in Him., Acts 1:14;**

**The something that had happened to change their
minds. They had seen the resurrected Christ
and that made all the difference.**

**One of them, at least,
became a PROMINENT LEADER
in the congregation in Jerusalem.
mentions JAMES the LORD’S BROTHER.**

1 Cor 15:7; Acts 12:17; 15:13; Gal 1:18-19; Gal 2:8-9;

Acts 1:14; “These all with one mind were continually devoting themselves to prayer, along with {the} women, and Mary the mother of Jesus, and **with His brothers.**”

Jesus' Physical brothers.

James, Joseph, Simon and Judas.

Matt 13:55; Mark 6:3; Mark 3:32; John 7:3-5;
They had refused to believe in Him previously. John 7:5;

Hieronymian View:- James and the other 'brothers' of Jesus were cousins. (Joseph/-Mary.)

Ephiphanian view:- James is an older brother born to Joseph (+Joseph/- Mary); Jesus (-Joseph/+Mary.)

Helvidian View:- James is a younger son of Joseph and Mary (+Joseph/+Mary.)

Matthew 13:55-56; Mark 6:3; Mark 3:32; John 7:3-5;

Summary of Acts 1:12-14; The Apostles in Jerusalem.

The Apostles return to Jerusalem. Acts 1:12;

**The Apostles went to the upper room.
Acts 1:13;**

**The Apostles remained steadfast
in prayer and unity.
Acts 1:14;**

Acts of Apostles 1:15-22; APPOINTING A SUBSTITUTE FOR JUDAS!

**“In those days Peter stood up among the believers.
(a group numbering about a hundred and twenty,)”**

**“and said, "Brothers, the Scripture had to be fulfilled
which the **Holy Spirit spoke** long ago through
the mouth of David **concerning Judas**, who served
as guide for those who arrested Jesus, he was
one of our number and shared in this ministry.”**

Psa 69:25; Psa 41:9;

Psalms do not mention Judas BUT

Matt 10:4; “Simon the Zealot, and Judas Iscariot, the one
who betrayed Him.

Matt 26:14; John 12:4-7;

Acts of Apostles 1:16;

HOLY SPIRIT SPOKE by the **MOUTH** of **David!**
David SPOKE by **INSPIRATION** In the O.T.

Verbal or Plenary INSPIRATION.

2 Sam 23:2; Jer 1:9; 2 Pet 1:21; 2 Tim 3:16;

2 Peter 1:21; “for no prophecy has ever yet originated in man's will, but men who were led by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.”

2 Timothy 3:16;

“The whole Bible was given to us by inspiration from God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives; it straightens us out and helps us do what is right.”

Acts of Apostles 1:17-18;



Akeldama in Kidron Valley, Jerusalem

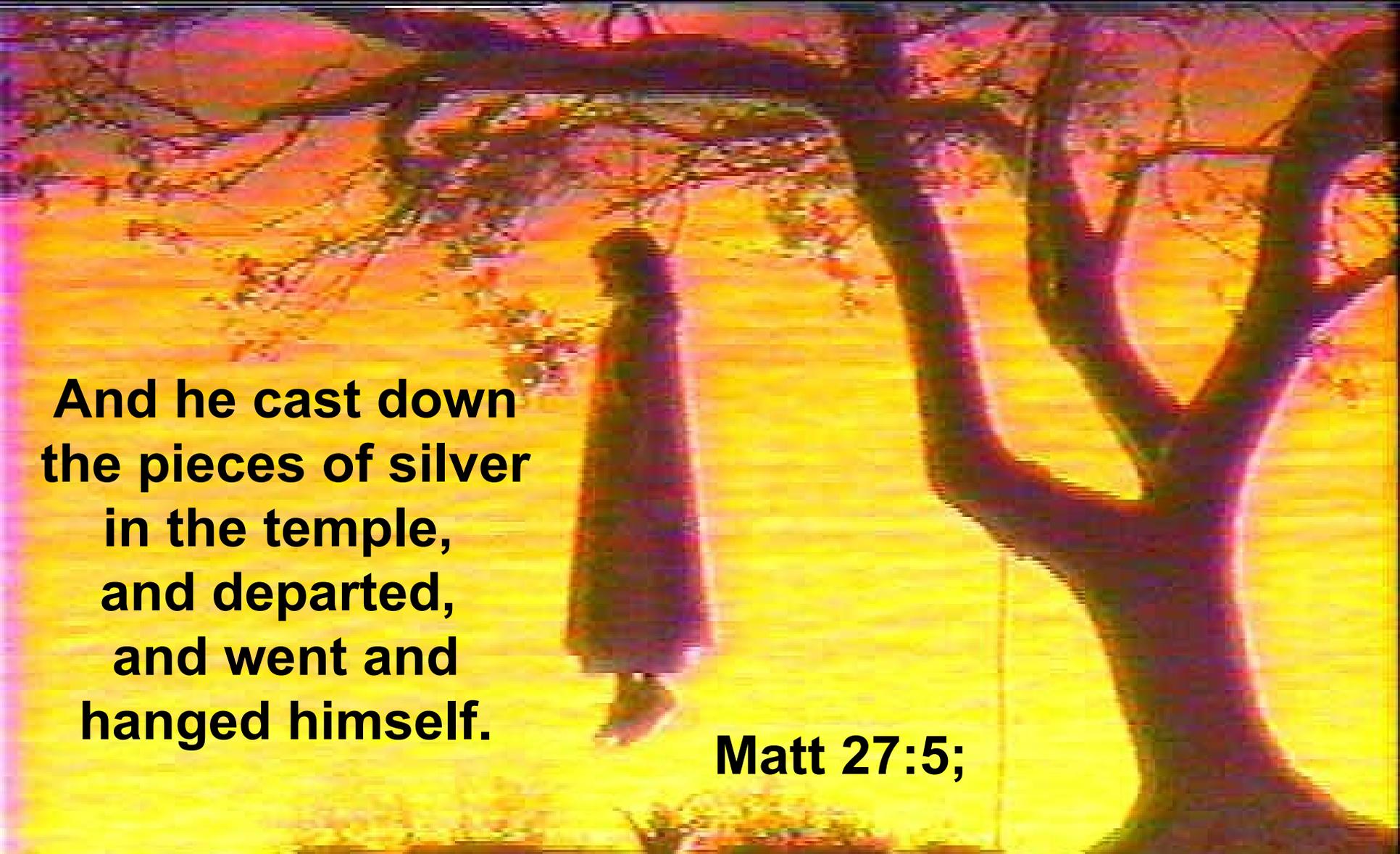
Acts of Apostles 1:17-19;

**Judas had been one of the original Apostles.
Luke 6:13;.**



“18 (With the reward he got for his wickedness, Judas bought a field; there he fell headlong, his body burst open and all his intestines spilled out. 19 Everyone in Jerusalem heard about this, so they called that field in their language Akeldama, that is, Field of Blood.)”

Akeldama in Kidron Valley, Jerusalem



**And he cast down
the pieces of silver
in the temple,
and departed,
and went and
hanged himself.**

Matt 27:5;

The Greek for “fell to his death” means, literally, “having become prone.” Augustine harmonizes by suggesting he hanged himself and then fell.



Battle of Bannockburn.

Battle of Hastings



Field of Blood

Acts of Apostles 1:17-19;

Luke tells us several things about **JUDAS**
Judas purchased a field with the wages of sin.

Judas then died a **horrible** death
Field became known as the **field of blood**.

In 1:19; Luke says that the name was given
“because of the horrible way that Judas died.”

Matthew 27:6-8; said that it was because
it was **purchased with BLOOD money**.
Both statements are correct.

**Acts of Apostles 1:18-19;
Again SOME claim that Matthew and Luke
contradict each other.**

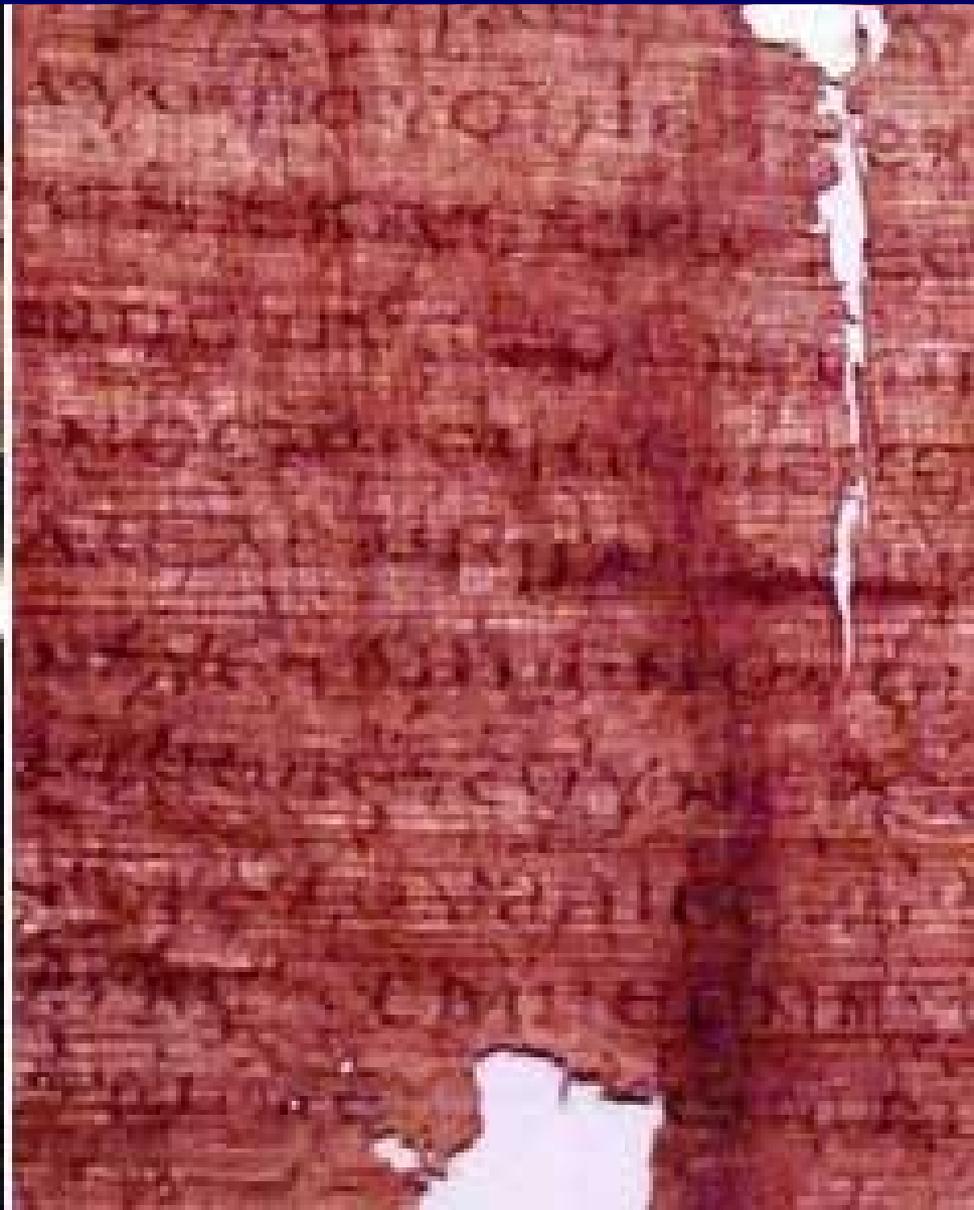
**Matt 27:5; Judas HANGED himself?
Luke that he FELL and his bowels burst?**

REESE:-

**“Judas hung until decay
caused his body to fall, then it burst open
NOT contradictory but complimentary
Gives additional information.”**

**Similar to Matt 26:51; John 18:10;
One who drew the sword was Peter and the servants
name was Malchus. More information.**

JUDAS LOST HIS POSITION OF LEADERSHIP BECAUSE OF HIS WICKEDNESS.



Acts of Apostles 1:15-17;

The cross was no accident. It had been foretold hundreds of years before the coming of Jesus.

This was central to God's grand design for the human race. And it took place exactly according to plan. This point will be made again and again throughout the book of Acts.

**"This Man, delivered up by the predetermined plan and foreknowledge of God, you nailed to a cross by the hands of godless men and put Him to death."
(Acts 2:23;).**

Acts of Apostles 1:15-17;

**"But all the things which God announced beforehand by the mouth of all the prophets, that His Christ should suffer, He has thus fulfilled."
(Acts 3:18;).**

**"For in this city both Herod and Pontius Pilate actually met together with the Gentiles and the people of Israel against your holy servant Jesus, whom you anointed, to do all that your hand and your will had predetermined to take place."
(Acts 4:27-28;).**

Not only was the cross no accident, the part that Judas played in this drama was also no accident. It was a part of the plan of God. **This does not alleviate the responsibility of Judas. His motivation was not to fulfill the plan of God. **His heart was one of rebellion and deceit and greed.****

Acts of Apostles 1:15-17;

There is a lesson here. God is able to continue His work in spite of our failing and our sins.

There is none who can thwart the will of God. God will get the job done if not through us He will use somebody else.

Peter is going to speak of a replacement for Judas. There is an interesting contrast to be found between Peter and Judas. They were both disciples of Jesus. They were both present at Gethsemane. And they both sinned on the night of Jesus' arrest.

Acts of Apostles 1:15-17;

Judas	Peter
Betrayed Jesus for 30 pieces of silver.	Denied three times that he knew Jesus.
Returned the 30 pieces of silver to the chief priests and elders.	Cut off the ear of the servant of the high priest.
Was filled with remorse over his deed and hung himself.	Repented over his denial and was forgiven by Jesus.

What made the difference between these two men? It was simply that one turned to Jesus for forgiveness and the other did not.

**Acts of Apostles 1:16-19;
JUDAS LOST HIS POSITION
OF LEADERSHIP
BECAUSE OF HIS WICKEDNESS.**

The anti-Christian forces are today attempting to rehabilitate Judas. <http://www.smh.com.au/news/world/lost-gospel-restores-judas-honour/2006/04/07/1143916664322.html>

The Bible here and elsewhere says he performed a wicked act when he betrayed Jesus into the hands of His enemies for money. Jesus Himself called Judas a devil. (John 6:70-71;)

Acts 1:18; “As you know, he bought a plot of land with the money he was paid for his crime. He fell headlong and burst open, and all his entrails poured out. ”

Did Judas buy the Field? That’s exactly what Peter says:

Matt 27:3-4; When he found that Jesus had been condemned, then Judas, his betrayer, was filled with remorse and took the thirty silver pieces back to the chief priests and elders saying, "I have sinned. I have betrayed innocent blood." They replied, "What is that to us? That is your concern."

Matt 27:6-9; “The chief priests picked up the silver pieces and said, "It is against the Law to put this into the treasury; it is blood-money...."

7. So they discussed the matter and with it bought the potter's field as a graveyard for foreigners”

Matt 27:10; “they gave them for the potter's field, just as the Lord directed me.”

Acts 1:18; “As you know, he bought a plot of land with the money he was paid for his crime. He fell headlong and burst open, and all his entrails poured out. ”

Matt 27:5;“Then he threw down the pieces of silver in the temple and departed, and went and hanged himself.”

“Luke added more info when he mentioned that he even split opened in the middle and all his entrails gushed out.”



The Wages of Sin?



Acts 1:20; “Peter continued, “This was predicted in the book of Psalms, where it says, ‘Let his home become desolate, with no one living in it.’ And again, ‘**Let his position be given to someone else.**”

“For,” said Peter,

“it is written in the book of Psalms,

“May his place be deserted;

let there be no one to dwell in it,”

and, “May another take his place of leadership.”

Also by Jesus Jn 13:18;

Applied to Judas and the betrayal.

Psa. 69:25; Psa109:8; all refer to the betrayal.

Psa 41:9; “Yes, my own familiar friend, in whom I trusted, who ate of my bread, hath lifted up [his] heel against me.”



Acts 1:20; “Peter continued, “This was predicted in the book of Psalms, where it says, ‘Let his home become desolate, with no one living in it.’
And again, ‘**Let his position be given to someone else.**”

Psa 69:25; Psa 109:8;

Judgement against the Christ’s betrayer.

**Compare also Psa 69:9 with John 2:17;
also Psa 69:21; with Matt 27:34,48;**

**The Lord Himself knew exactly
whom he had chosen, as John 6:70; reveals.**

**“DID I NOT CHOOSE YOU,
THE 12 AND ONE OF YOU IS A DEVIL?”**

**Peter points this out so that
there may be no question of the Lord
Being guilty of a misjudgement of human nature.**

TOP TEN LIST:- MOST GRUESOME BIBLE DEATHS.

- 10. Victims of Noah's flood.**
- 9. Absalom speared in tree.**
- 8. Phineas spears the fornicators.**
- 7. Herod Agrippa I eaten by worms.**
- 6. Abimelech's head crushed by a stone.**
- 5. Eglon expires in the toilet. (Ehud.)**
- 4. Jehoram's bowels fall out.**
- 3. Judas' head pops off and body explodes.**
- 2. Sisera's head nailed to the floor.**
- 1. Jezebel eaten by the dogs.**

Acts 1:20; “Peter continued, “This was predicted in the book of Psalms, where it says, ‘Let his home become desolate, with no one living in it.’ And again, ‘**Let his position be given to someone else.**”

WHY REPLACE JUDAS?

He’s dead. His part of the Mission needs to be completed.

The last words of Jesus had been a promise that **the apostles would receive power and that **they would be witnesses.** (Acts 1:8;)**

A witness is someone who has seen and who then describes to others what he has seen.

For this reason, it is necessary that the replacement apostle be one who had **seen Jesus, who had **been a witness** of all that had taken place.**

Acts 1:20; “Peter continued, “This was predicted in the book of Psalms, where it says, ‘Let his home become desolate, with no one living in it.’ And again, ‘**Let his position be given to someone else.**”

CRITICISMS OF THE DECISION TO CHOOSE A REPLACEMENT.

You can find some writers who question the correctness of appointing someone to take the place of Judas.

1. Some have accused Peter of acting hastily and without authority. (G. Campbell Morgan. Joseph Parker, etc.)

2. Some have argued that this is proved because **THE MAN CHOSEN TO TAKE THE VACANT PLACE** never appears again in the book of Acts.

3. Some have argued that the choice was a mistake, because it was made **BEFORE THE APOSTLES WERE FILLED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT.**

Acts 1:20; “Peter continued, “This was predicted in the book of Psalms, where it says, ‘Let his home become desolate, with no one living in it.’ And again, ‘**Let his position be given to someone else.**”

**BUT ALL OF THESE OBJECTIONS
CAN EASILY BE ANSWERED.**

1. To claim that Peter acted hastily and without authority is an **ASSUMPTION**. Remember that the Lord had spent 40 days with these men before ascending to Heaven, speaking with them about ‘**The kingdom of God.**’

We have therefore no right to claim that Peter and the apostles were acting without authority, or without instruction.

2. Remember also, that this is the **HOLY SPIRIT’S** own account of what took place, and nowhere and at no time is there is a single word of disapproval or condemnation of what was done.

3. As for being impetuous, we are told that the apostles **SOUGHT THE WILL OF GOD** in the matter and acted as though the Lord was present. 1:24;

Acts 1:20; “Peter continued, “This was predicted in the book of Psalms, where it says, ‘Let his home become desolate, with no one living in it.’
And again, **‘Let his position be given to someone else.’”**

4. If we admit that the betrayal by Judas was foretold in the scriptures, we must also admit that his replacement was foretold. ‘Let his office another take.’ 1:20;

5. As for the apostles raising the matter before they received the BAPTISM of the Spirit, is really no argument, BECAUSE PETER MADE A BIG MISTAKE EVEN AFTER BEING BAPTIZED with the Holy Spirit. The BAPTISM of the Spirit did not make them INFALLIBLE. Gal 2:11;

**6. We cannot deny that it was prophesied that someone should take the place of Judas. If we deny that the prophecy was fulfilled when MATTHIAS was chosen, the question remains;
WHEN WAS THAT PROPHECY FULFILLED, AND BY WHOM?**

Remember that this account was written many years after the event had taken place, and it reveals that the Church had accepted the apostleship of Matthias.

Acts 1:20; “Peter continued, “This was predicted in the book of Psalms, where it says, ‘Let his home become desolate, with no one living in it.’
And again, ‘Let his position be given to someone else.’”

Why was it important that there be 12 apostles?

The number 12 was important.

There were 12 tribes of Israel. The people of God were numbered from these 12 tribes.

In the New Testament, **the people of God are represented by these 12 apostles.**

These 12 were the church in a representative form.
The 12 were the church in microcosm.

Acts 1:20; “Peter continued, “This was predicted in the book of Psalms, where it says, ‘Let his home become desolate, with no one living in it.’
And again, ‘**Let his position be given to someone else.**”

There are a great many ways in which the Twelve reflected the nature of the church.

Different types of men. Men from different backgrounds. Men with different gifts.

Leaders among them.

Most of them ordinary men.

There was another way in which the Twelve were representative of the body of Christ. There was a traitor among them that no one else recognized and that only time revealed to be insincere in his profession of faith in Christ.

Acts of Apostles 1:15-17;

This has always been the case.

The assembly has always been composed of a mixture of the true and the false. There have always been the wheat and the tares.

Think for a moment about Judas.

He saw all that Jesus did, the wonders! He heard all of the Lord's sermons. He worked miracles and preached powerful sermons that changed the lives of those who heard him!

He fooled everyone - perhaps even himself. Only time and events would prove that his loyalty to nationalism struggled with his faith and commitment to Jesus.

Acts of Apostles 1:15-17;

**This happens a lot. Not all Israel is Israel.
And not everyone who attends services
are really in the Lord's Family.**

**“Many will say to Jesus in the end, "Lord, Lord,
look at all of the things that we did for you!"
But the only thing that counts is a lasting
relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ.**

**WE need to remain faithful till death and strive
to overcome all the earthly distractions that fight
to take our eyes off Jesus our Saviour.**



Acts of Apostles 1:21-22;

An apostle of Christ had to be a witness of everything Jesus did throughout His entire ministry.

From Baptism of John till the ascension of Christ into heaven. John 15:26-27;

With him from beginning?

Jesus' ministry began at His baptism by John.

“This man also had to have been a witness of the resurrection of Jesus.”

This means he had to have seen and recognized Him after His resurrection as the same person he had known before His resurrection.



Acts of Apostles 1:21-22;

He also had to have been present at **the appearances** of Jesus during the forty days after His resurrection.

He was also required to have been a witness of **Jesus' ascension**.

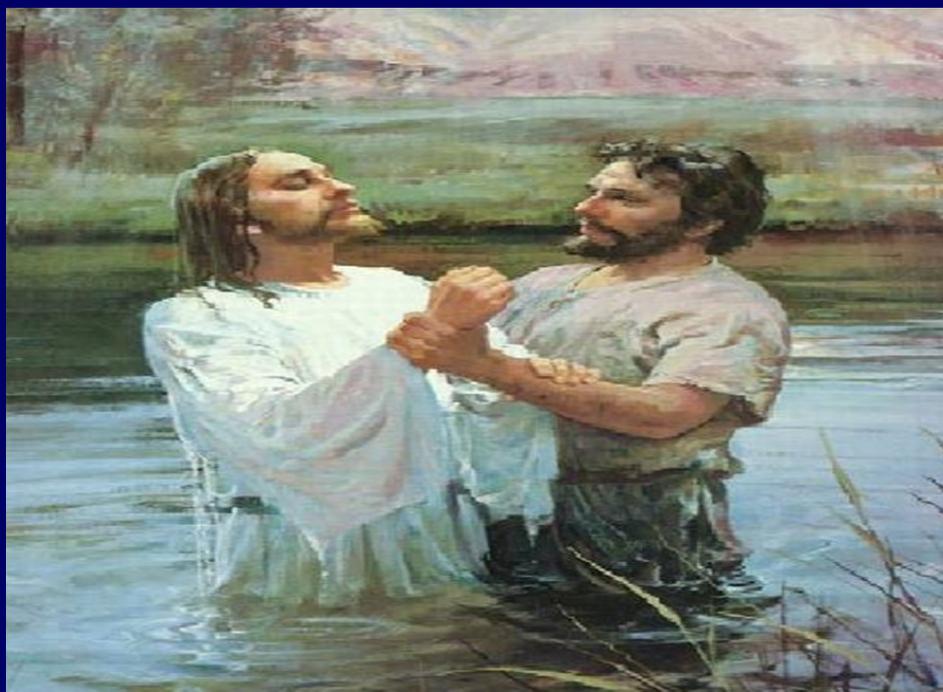
He must have personally seen and be willing and able to tell others.

I'm sure there were other qualifications such as good character and a record of ethical behaviour, but these were taken for granted so were not mentioned by Peter.

Acts of Apostles 1:21-22;

“Therefore it is necessary to choose one of the men who have been with us the whole time the Lord Jesus went in and out among us,”

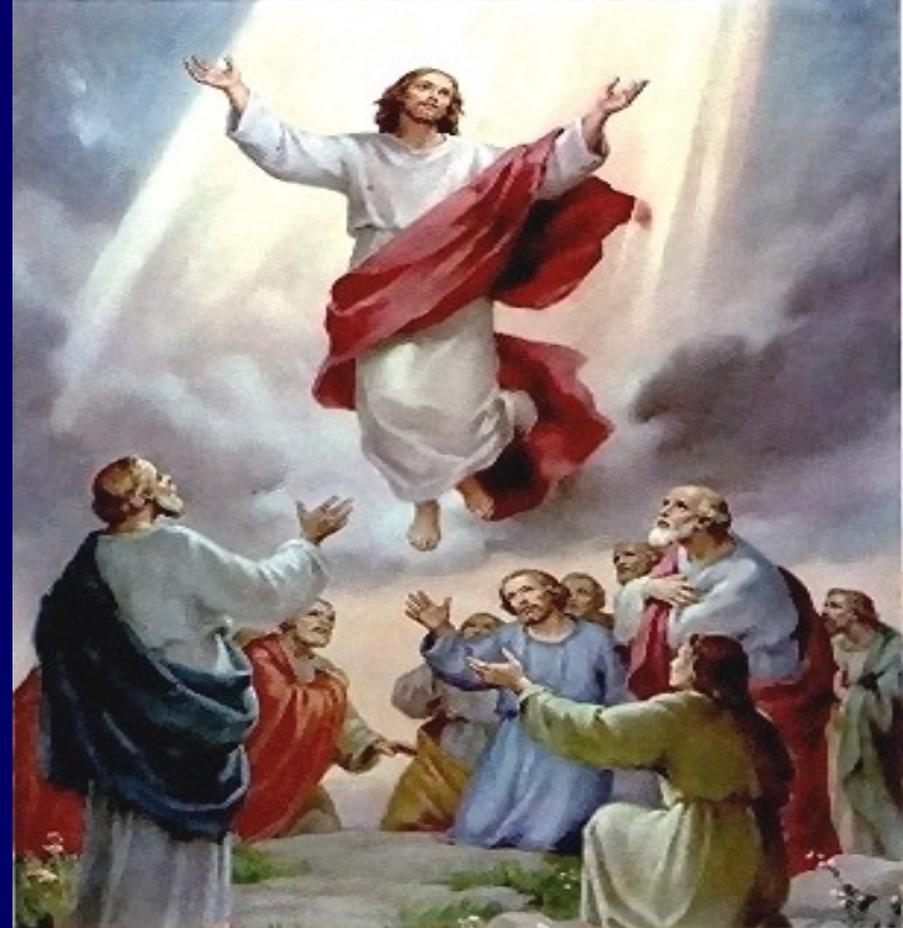
22 “beginning from **John's baptism** to the time when Jesus was taken up from us. For one of these **must become a witness with us** of his resurrection.”



Criteria to be an apostle?
Acts 1:21-22;



Jesus' Baptism.



The Ascension.



The Resurrection.

Acts of Apostles 1:21-22;

Why so important?

They had to prove that the Christ Jesus was truly the long awaited **MESSIAH**.

John 1:41; Luke 24:44;

ALL THINGS MUST BE FULLFILLED.

They had to **PROVE** that the Christ **SUFFERED** and **ROSE**.

Rom 1:4; “declared to be Son of God with power through the resurrection.”

ONLY the Apostles served
as **EYE WITNESSES**

2:32; 3:15; 5:29-32; 10:39-41; 13:30-31; 4:33;

**Acts of Apostles 1:21-22;
Force of the testimony 12 in Number.
(not just one or two.)**

**UNITED in testimony.
FEARLESS in testimony.
(even to the point of death.)**

**Resurrection of Jesus from the dead
is the FOUNDATION of the Christians faith.
As seen in 1 Cor 15:17; John 17:20; & 20:28-20;**

Acts of Apostles 1:21-22;

OUR RESPONSIBILITY.

NONE of us can **WITNESS** in the same way as the Apostles could because **NONE** of us can **FULFILL** the qualifications of these first witnesses.

We must **TEACH** what the eye witnesses of Jesus **THROUGH** the Holy Spirit have **RECORDED** for us to teach in the word of God.

2 Tim 4:2 Mark 16:15 Matt 28:28;

Acts of Apostles 1:21-22;

Discussion Question:-

Luke 24:53

**What changed the apostles
for them to become so fearless?**

Acts of Apostles 1:1-22;

The Apostles were:-

v2 Personally chosen by Deity.

v8 Witnesses of Christ.

v22 Having been with Jesus from John's baptism until Christ's ascension.

v22 To have PERSONALLY witnessed the resurrection.

To receive miraculous power through the Holy Spirit to do several things.

Acts of Apostles 1:16;

The POWER was to enable them to:-

**Have BROUGHT to their remembrance without error
ALL that Jesus had PERSONALLY taught them.**

John 14:26;

To RECORD without error ALL of the TRUTH.

John 16:13; 1 Cor 14:37;

**CONFIRM the MESSAGE was FROM GOD by the
MIGHTY MIRACLES that they were able to work.**

2 Cor 12:12; Heb 2:4;

Acts of Apostles 1:23-26;

**Only TWO MEN met the strict qualifications
The APOSTLES pray to GOD.**

Heb 7:27;

23 “So they proposed two men: Joseph called Barsabbas (also known as Justus) and Matthias.”

**24 “Then they prayed, “Lord, you know everyone's heart. Show us which of these two you have chosen
25 to take over this apostolic ministry,
which Judas left to go where he belongs.”**

26 “Then they **cast lots, and the lot fell to **Matthias**;
so he was added to the eleven apostles.”**

Casting lots was something like drawing a name from a hat.



Lord, show us which of these two you have chosen to take the place of the apostleship Judas left to go to his proper place.



Acts of Apostles 1:24;

The **Apostles** recognised that **only God** **Could** make the choice. **Jesus CHOSE** the 12 **now God would CHOSE** the replacement.

The **REPLACEMENT** of an **APOSTLE** is **NOT** something for **MEN** to do.

Both men met the strict qualifications
But **ONLY God** would know the hearts
of these men and make the proper choice.

1 Chron 28:9; “the Lord searches all hearts.”
Psa 139:1-4; “understands my thoughts.”

Acts of Apostles 1:24-25;

Both men met the strict qualifications.

But **ONLY God** would know the hearts of these men and make the proper choice.

Heb 4:12-13; “discerner of the intent of the heart”

Prov 4:23; “protect our hearts from evil.”

2 Cor 10:5; “Keep our thoughts under control.”

2 Cor 7:1; “cleanse our flesh strive for HOLINESS.”

Matt 5:8; “blessed are the PURE in heart.”

Phil 4:8; “think on that which is true pure noble honest” etc.

AS WE THINK IN OUR HEARTS SO WE WILL ACT!

**Acts of Apostles 1:25;
Strong words used about Judas.**

**v17 In every way an Apostle
YET**

**v16 Guided those who arrested JESUS.
v25 He lost his position as an Apostle.**

**v25 Fell by sinning. 1 John 3:4;
v18 came to a HORRIBLE end. Matt 27:5;**

**v19 His memorial – the field of blood.
Luke 6:16; described as a traitor.
Jn 12:6; described as a thief.**

Acts of Apostles 1:25;

**John 17:12; Jesus called him
“Son of PERDITION.”**

Act 1:25; “went to his own place.”

Take care lest we also fall.

Gal 5:4; 1 Cor 9:27; 2 Pet 2:20-22;

**John 13:27; “At that instant, after Judas had taken
the bread, Satan entered him. Jesus then said,
“What you are going to do, do quickly.”**

**James 4:7; “Subject yourselves therefore to God.
Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.”**

**James 1:1; “But each one is tempted when he is
drawn away by his own desires and enticed.”**

Acts of Apostles 1:26;

The words “**lottery**” and “**lot,**” in the sense of real property, were derived from the original word.

It seems that marked or coloured stones were most often used in ancient times.

To read an online article that gives a fuller discussion of this topic, go here:

http://www.jameslindlibrary.org/essays/casting_of_lots/casting.html

Casting Lots.



DAILY
NUMBER

Acts of Apostles 1:26;

CASTING LOTS

some biblical examples.

1 Chron 24:5; David divided the priests.

**Num 26:55; Josh ch 15-17; Land of Canaan divided.
Josh 7:16-18; Achan SIN discovered this way.**

**It was the method authorized by God
in the choice of **the SCAPEGOAT**. Lev 16.**

**In casting lots the Jews were appealing to God
not as part of a voting process or election.**

Acts of Apostles 1:26;

**This is seen clearly in Prov 16:33;
The lot is cast God chooses.**

This is the last time **lots are recorded in the N.T.
The Apostles were in a period of transition
between the ascension of Christ
and the coming of the Holy Spirit.**

**It was a unique situation where they
Could not ask Jesus and they had not yet
the inspired guidance of the Holy Spirit.**

**We NOW have access to all that the Spirit revealed
to the apostles in our New Testament today.**

2Pet 1:3-4; 2Tim 3:15-17; Phil 2:5;

Acts of Apostles 1:26; The Lot fell to MATTHIAS.

They cast lots (similar to our drawing straws or picking a name from a hat) to pick the replacement. But with a far different intent They were not trusting to luck or fate but to the guidance of God.

Should we make religious decisions in such a manner today?

**In making our decisions in matters of religion today.
We need to SEARCH the WORD of GOD,
Consider the CONTEXT,
THEN PRAYERFULLY make the application.**



**Joseph and Matthias
From a Medieval Wall Painting.**

Acts of Apostles 1:26;

There were **two men** who met all the qualifications. Both could have been appointed if the number twelve had not been significant.

But there were to be twelve and no more than **twelve**, at least for the first day of the Kingdom, when the gospel was to be presented to the Jews.

The **two men** who were **equally qualified** were **Joseph**, called Barsabbas or Justus, and **Matthias**.

Acts of Apostles 1:26;

The disciples prayed to God and **asked God to make the choice between the two men.**

After their prayer they cast lots, and the lot fell to **Matthias.** He then became the twelfth apostle.

Matthias continued to be numbered as one of the Apostles throughout the rest of his life.

How do we know this? Because the **Apostles continued to be known as the "Twelve."** (Acts 6:2;)

This in no way invalidates the **apostleship of Paul.**

Paul was indeed an apostle, chosen by God and commissioned to take the gospel to the Gentiles.

But his apostleship was different.

Acts of Apostles 1:15-17;

Paul was never one of the Twelve and never claimed to be. He spoke of the Twelve as a group apart from himself. (1 Cor 15:5;). He described himself as one untimely born. (1 Cor 15:8;)

There are at least **three lessons we can learn from this chapter:-**

The people God empowers are not perfect performers, but dependent believers.

God takes that which is weak and gives it His wisdom. He takes a bunch of fishermen, a tax-collector, a revolutionary and a few women and with them changes the world.

Acts of Apostles 1:15-17;

The people that God empowers are of one mind and of one heart. The infant church was unified.

There were **no denominational distinctives.**

The people that God empowers are not disorganized.

They have careful planning.

It is okay to plan and to organize.

God is not the author of confusion.

He is the great Organizer of the Universe. And those who speak against organized religion should **take care** that they do not speak against the Lord.

Acts of Apostles 1:26;

Now everything is ready for the great day of Pentecost, the coming of the Power from on High, the first gospel sermon and the beginning of the promised Kingdom, also called the Called Out, family of God.

It started small and grew to fill the civilized world of the time.

Jesus Christ Working On Earth

Jesus Christ Working Through His Church (through believers)

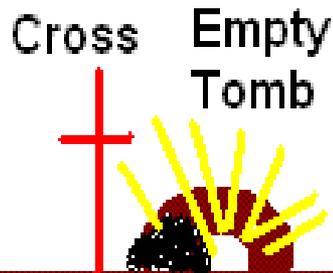
Acts 1:1-2 All that Jesus **BEGAN** to do and teach until the day in which He was taken up

All that Jesus **CONTINUED** to do and teach after He was taken up

JESUS RETURNS TO HEAVEN

THE HOLY SPIRIT COMES DOWN

-10 Days-



End of the Book of Acts
61 A.D.

JESUS' BAPTISM

BEGINNING OF HIS PUBLIC MINISTRY

THE CHURCH BEGINS

← **GOSPELS** →
(about three and a half years)

← **ACTS** →
(about 30 years)

Acts of Apostles chapter One. NOW WHAT?

**THE MISSION HAS BEEN ASSIGNED.
THE MISSIONARIES
HAVE BEEN SELECTED.
THE POWER HAS NOT YET COME.**

Judas Iscariot.

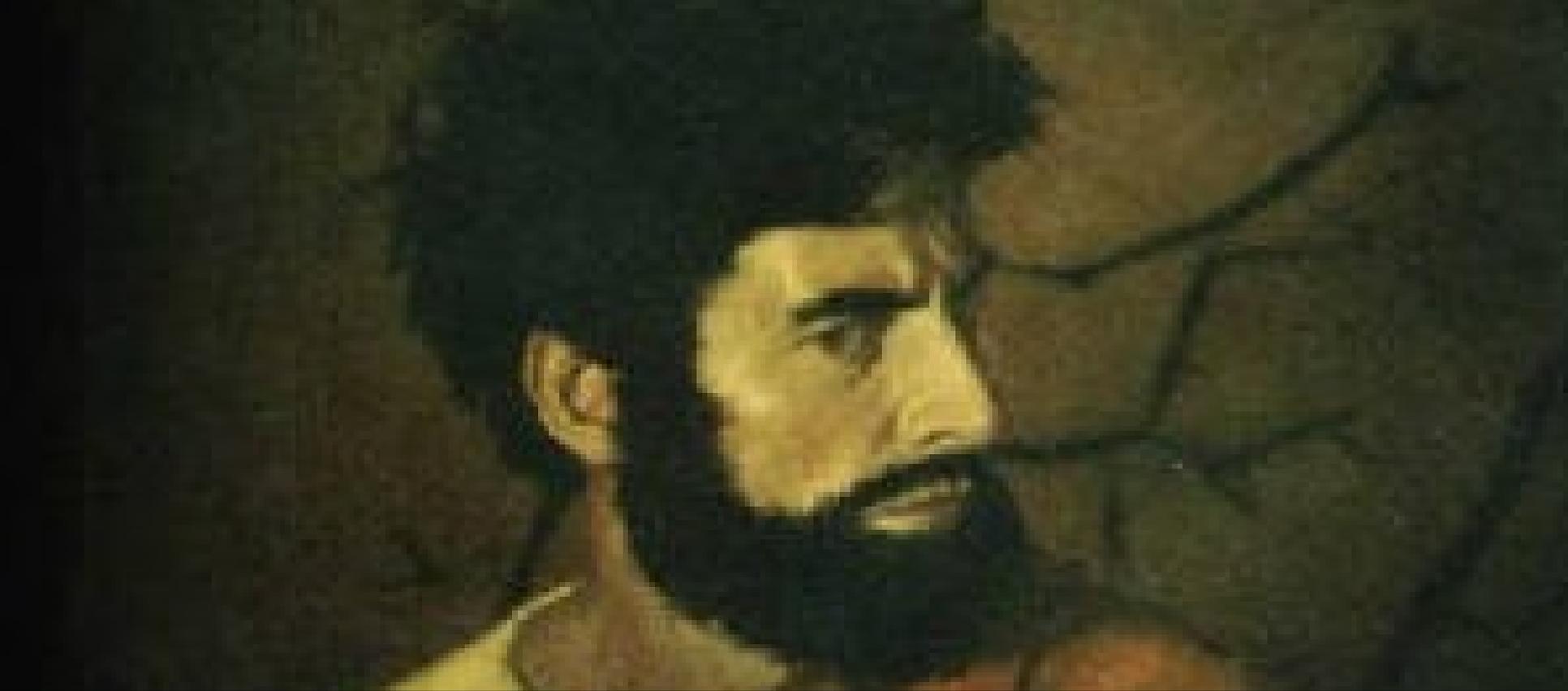
by Ellis Jones



**He had it all and lost it.
The best job he ever had.
Jesus Himself chose him.
Why did he turn so bad?**



**To know the Son of God,
In Person and up close,
And then to sell Him out? -
The reason no one knows.**



**He was a full partner
In everything Christ did.
Nothing Jesus ever said,
From Judas' ears was hid.**



**One of life's great mysteries
Is Satan, how he is.
Another one is Judas
And that unholy kiss.**

Acts 1:9 to 1:26;

**The Ascension
and The Apostles
Judas Replaced
Witnesses Ready**

**Prepared by
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Next in the series:- Acts 1:15; to 1:26;

The End

