

Appointment of the Twelve Apostles

Matthew 10:2-4

Mark 3:13-19

Luke 6:12-16

Acts 1:13

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Texts:

Matthew 10:2-4,

- 2. These are the names of the twelve apostles: first, Simon (who is called Peter) and his brother Andrew; James son of Zebedee, and his brother John;**
- 3. Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus;**
- 4. Simon the Zealot and Judas Iscariot, who betrayed him.**

Mark 3:13-19,

- 13. Jesus went up on a mountainside and called to him those he wanted, and they came to him.**
- 14. He appointed twelve – designating them apostles – that they might be with him and that he might send them out to preach**
- 15. and to have authority to drive out demons.**
- 16. These are the twelve he appointed: Simon (to whom he gave the name Peter);**
- 17. James son of Zebedee and his brother John (to them he gave the name Boanerges, which means Sons of Thunder);**
- 18. Andrew, Philip, Bartholomew, Matthew, Thomas, James son of Alphaeus, Thaddaeus, Simon the Zealot**
- 19. and Judas Iscariot, who betrayed him.**

Luke 6:12-16,

- 12. One of those days Jesus went out to a mountainside to pray, and spent the night praying to God.**

13. When morning came, he called his disciples to him and chose twelve of them, whom he also designated apostles.

14. Simon (whom he named Peter), his brother Andrew, James, John, Philip, Bartholomew,

15. Matthew, Thomas, James son of Alphaeus, Simon who was called the Zealot,

16. Judas son of James, and Judas Iscariot, who became a traitor.

Acts 1:13,

13. When they arrived, they went upstairs to the room where they were staying. Those present were Peter, John, James and Andrew; Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew; James son of Alphaeus and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James.

Commentary:

I. The difference between *disciple* and *apostle* is a matter of authority.

II. There are 4 apostolic lists in the Bible; viz.,

Matthew	Mark	Luke	Acts
Simon Peter	Peter	Peter	Peter
Andrew	James Boanerges	Andrew	John
James son of Zebedee	John Boanerges	James son of Zebedee	James
John	Andrew	John	Andrew
Philip	Philip	Philip	Philip
Bartholomew	Bartholomew	Bartholomew	Thomas
Thomas	Matthew	Matthew	Bartholomew
Matthew	Thomas	Thomas	Matthew
James son of Alphaeus	James son of Alphaeus	James son of Alphaeus	James son of Alphaeus
Thaddaeus	Thaddaeus	Simon the Zealot	Simon the Zealot
Simon the Cananean	Simon the Cananean	Judas son of James	Judas son of James
Judas Iscariot	Judas Iscariot	Judas Iscariot	

III. Reconciliations and Miscellaneous Facts:

A. Thaddaeus was also known as Judas the son or brother of James.

B. Simon the Cananaean was known as Simon the Zealot.

C. The three groups of four apostles each may have been working groups with the first one named in each group serving as its leader.

D. Bartholomew is also called Nathaniel.

E. The twelve apostles correspond to the twelve tribes of the children of Israel.

F. Matthew 19:28, Jesus said to them, “I tell you the truth, at the renewal of all things, when the Son of Man sits on his glorious throne, you who have followed me will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel.

G. Revelation 21:14, The wall of the city had twelve foundations, and on them were the names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb.

H. The appointment mountain was evidently Mt. Hatten on which Jesus delivered the Sermon on the Mount.

I. The twelve (12) were to preach and cast out demons.

J. The apostles included two Simons, two Judases, and two Jameses.

Note: English “James” has become standard in our translations, probably in deference to the King of England, but their name was Jacob.

K. Ephesians 2:20, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone.

L. Jesus prayed all night before making his apostolic appointments. We should follow Jesus’ prayer example.

M. Zealot could refer to zeal for the law or previous membership in a radical political order dedicated to the overthrow of Rome and the return of Jewish independence.

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Questions

1. There are ___ lists of the apostles in the _____.

2. According to Matthew the twelve apostles were:

_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

3. In all lists of the apostles in the Bible, the first, fifth and ninth are consistently named in the same order. Why was this the case?

4. In order these three apostles were: _____, _____, and _____,

5. Thaddaeus is also known as _____ the _____, or _____ of _____.

6. Simon the Cananean was known as _____ the _____.

7. Bartholomew is also called _____.

8. The apostles included two _____, two _____, and two _____.

9. Who were the zealots? _____

10. What did Jesus do before appointing the apostles? _____

11. What did Jesus commission the apostles to do? _____

