

Series: Teaming Up With Christ (5/6/18)

Title: James

The 3rd Most Prominent Apostle.

Always listed in the top 3.

The Circumstances of James:

His Family: Brother of John the Beloved.

James is always mentioned with his brother John.

(Matt 10:2) *James the son of Zebedee, & John his brother*

(Matt 17:1) *And after six days Jesus taketh Peter, James, and John his brother, and bringeth them up into an high mountain apart,*

James' parents Zebedee & Salome.

Salome's was the sister of Mary, Jesus' mother.

His Fishing: Worked with his brother in their Father's fishing business.

(Mark 1:19-20) *And when he had gone a little further thence, he saw James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother, who also were in the ship mending their nets. 20 And straightway he called them: and they left their father Zebedee in the ship with the hired servants, and went after him.*

Peter and Zebedee were partners in the business.

(Lk 5:10) *And so was also James, and John, the sons of Zebedee, which were partners with Simon.*

His Fellows: There are 4 men named James in the NT
James: Jesus Brother, author of the book James
James: Son of Alphaeus, another Apostle
James: the father of another apostle Judas, not Iscariot

The Companions of James:

Besides being 1 of the 12 apostles.

He was apart of the Jesus' inner circle.

The Three: Peter, James, & John got to experience a few extra neat things the others did not.

They were alone with Christ on 3 separate occasions.

Raising of Jarius' Daughter: (Luke 8:51)

They had insight into the Power of Christ over death.

Mount of Transfiguration: (Matt 17:1)

They had insight into Deity of Christ.

They saw his glory.

They heard the Father commend Him.

The Garden of Gethsemane: (Matt 26:36-43)

They had insight into the Prayer life of Christ.

They saw the Agony.

They heard the petition.

They felt the rebuke for failure (Mk 14:34, 38)

The Censure of James:

When traveling through Samaria, they did not receive Jesus; so James wanted to destroy them.

Have you ever prayed that God would kill somebody James Did and was rebuke for it!

(Luke 9:51-56)

51 And it came to pass, when the time was come that he should be received up, he stedfastly set his face to go to Jerusalem, (Jesus had a date with Destiny)

52 And sent messengers before his face: and they went, and entered into a village of the Samaritans, to make ready for him. (Jesus sent in his Advance Team)

53 And they did not receive him, (Why?) because his face was as though he would go to Jerusalem. (the Samaritans had been the recipient of bigotry by the Jews, they mistook Jesus' determination to fulfill the Father's will as bigotry)

Did you know: Not everything in life is about you?

Most opposition to the Gospel has nothing to do with opposition to you.

(1 Sam 8:7) *And the LORD said unto Samuel, Harken unto the voice of the people in all that they say unto thee: for they have not rejected thee, but they have rejected me, that I should not reign over them.*

54 And when his disciples James and John saw this, they said, Lord, wilt thou that we command fire to come down from heaven, and consume them, even as Elias did?

1st: Gotta commend their Faith. They believed!

Have you Asked God About It?

“Ye have not because ye Ask Not!”

2nd: Gotta Commend them for their Fervor.

Does it bother you when someone curses our God and His Name?

3rd: Gotta Commend them for wanting Jesus' Favor:

(Vs 54) *“Wilt Thou”*

Instead of Acting 1st & apologizing later.

They prayed 1st, asking to see if it is in Christ's Will.

How Often do we Act 1st w/o checking God's Will?

Christ Condemns their Attitude:

55 But he turned, and rebuked them, and said, Ye know not what manner of spirit ye are of.

Not Mt. Sinai: Thunder & Lightening

But Mt Calvary:

“Father forgive them for they know not what they do”

How many people are still alive today because we can't call down fire from heaven?

Christ is not Condoning sin.

But Jesus knew their attitude was w/o compassion.

***Is our Attitude toward the Lost one of compassion?
or Condemnation?***

Zeal without Wisdom is Dangerous.

56 For the Son of man is not come to destroy men's lives, but to save them. And they went to another village.

The Cruelty Done to James: (Acts 12:1-3)

The Commencing in the Martyrdom:

James was the 1st of the 12 to be Martyred.
Many other christians had been, like Stephen.
Many of them at the hands of Saul of Tarsus.

(Acts 9:1; 22:4,20; 26:10)

Interestingly, his brother John would be the last.

The Cause of the Martyrdom: (Acts 12:1-3)

Satan always attacks the Leadership:

Peter was targeted next. (Vs 3)

The Culprit in the Martyrdom: (Acts 12:1)

“Herod the king” - Herod Agrippa I.

(Acts 12:21-23) Herod’s Shameful Death

The Cruelty of the Martyrdom: (Acts 12:2-3)

“With the sword” - Decapitation

Killed James with the Sword b/c is pleased the Jews.
He did it for political reasons, not religious/spiritual.
Jesus said, there is no popularity in living a godly life.

Being “All Out” for God, means “Your On The Outs”
with those against God.

Are you popular at school or work?

Do they know you are a Christian?

(John 15:18-21) *If the world hate you, ye know that it hated me before it hated you. 19 If ye were of the world, the world would love his own: but because ye are not of the world, but I have chosen you out of the world, therefore the world hateth you. 20 Remember the word that I said unto you, The servant is not greater than his lord. If they have persecuted me, they will also persecute you; if they have kept my saying, they will keep yours also. 21 But all these things will they do unto you for my name's sake, because they know not him that sent me.*

The Character of the Martyr: Faithfulness

You do not die for something you have not given yourself to fully.

You do not “Lose your head” for cause that you have not already “Lost your head” over.

James was Faithful unto death.

James stood true and did not compromise.

Will you be faithful unto death?

Not if you can't be faithful in life!