

Remnant Life Church  
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**James the Younger/Jude**

James the Younger

- James was an extremely popular name in biblical times
  - It is used 42 times in the NT referring to 4 different men
- There is some confusion and debate as to the identity and actions of those men named James in the Bible
  
- The James Gang (this is not the classic rock band from Cleveland, Ohio that formed in 1966 with Joe Walsh at the lead who would then find much greater success with the Eagles...not that gang)
  1. One, as we learned last Wednesday, is James the father of Judas Iscariot (**Luke 6:16**)
  2. James the Elder is well identified as the son of Zebedee and the brother of John
    - a. He was put to death on order of Herod Agrippa (the grandson of Herod the Great) to appease the Jewish religious leaders (**Acts 12:1-2**)
    - b. The first the original 12 to be martyred
  3. James the half-brother of Jesus (**Matt 13:55**)
  4. James the Younger is named specifically in the scripture but his life details are vague (**Matt 10:3**)
    - a. He is listed in the three lists of the disciples in the Gospels
    - b. Always listed ninth
      - i. This may be because of repeated information beginning in the Gospel of Mark (the first written)
  
- **Mark 15:40** – James the Less
  - That may have been a reference to a couple of different things
  - One was, in the original language the word less is *mikros*
    - It translates to small in terms of size of stature
    - James may have been a man of diminutive size
  - Another is a possible reference to his age in comparison to the other James also known as The Elder
  - The son of Alphaeus; whose Mother's name was Mary (**John 19:25**)
    - We know that this Mary and the mother of Jesus were cousins
    - That means that James the Lesser was another cousin of Jesus
  - Some have stated that this James is the author of the epistle of James
    - Most biblical scholars agree that the brother of Jesus is that author

*His Ministry*

- He is regarded to have preached in Palestine and Egypt
- Historical Christianity in Syria points to James the Lesser as the leader of their first churches

- In Egypt he was put to death, most believe, by crucifixion for preaching the gospel
  - The Gospels share very little about this man
  - He was one who would have known Jesus for a very long time and believed in him even before His own brothers did

## Jude

- Like James, Judas (Jude is the shortened form) is a fairly common name
  - It appears 38 times referring to 6 with that name in the NT
    - One was Judas Iscariot
    - Second, was Judas of Galilee
      - He was a man referred to by Gamaliel before the Sanhedrin in [Acts 5](#) when he spoke in defense of Peter and John
      - Gamaliel was who trained a young student by the name of Saul who would later become Paul ([Acts 22:3](#))
      - This Judas led an uprising against the Sanhedrin around the time of Jesus' birth ([Acts 2:2](#))
      - He was killed and his followers scattered but they were the genesis or the beginning of a sect who became known as the Zealots
      - 30 years later a Zealot would be one of Jesus 12 disciples
    - Third, is Judas of Damascus
      - It was his home on Straight Street that Saul was taken after having been blinded by the light of the Lord on the road
      - Where Ananius was sent by God to heal his blindness ([Acts 9:11-12](#))
    - Fourth is Judas Barsabas
      - A member and possible lay-leader of the first church in Jerusalem
      - He was selected as one of the men to go with Paul and Barnabas into Antioch and minister
      - It was in Antioch at this same time that the term Christian is first used to describe the followers of Jesus the Christ
    - Fifth, is one of the half-brothers of Jesus ([Matt 13:55](#))
      - He went by the name Jude, not Judas for obvious reasons
      - Is the author of the book in the NT that bears his name
    - Sixth, is the one of the 12
- Son of Alphaeus making him the brother of James the Younger ([Matt 10:3](#))
  - a. In Matthew Jude is called Lebbaeus ([10:3](#))
  - b. In Mark he is called Thaddaeus ([3:18](#))
  - c. Luke calls him "Judas, son of James" ([6:16](#); [Acts 1:13](#))

## *His Ministry*

1. Jude is said to be one of the first disciples to leave Jerusalem and begin spreading the Gospel
2. Perhaps because of his exchange with Jesus from [John 14](#)
  - a. Jude asks why Jesus intended to reveal Himself to them and not the world
  - b. Jesus, in essence, says ‘that is why I have you’
3. He has been linked to the gospel in Syria and northern Persia
4. Scholars believe that he was martyred at Ararat near Armenia
  - These two men did not have great accomplishments like Peter and John
  - Their names are not remembered as readily as James, Matthew, or even Judas Iscariot
  - But they were faithful and traveled the world for the rest of their relatively short lives fulfilling the great commission given by Jesus to take the Gospel to the entire world

Do we have that same mind?

- It does not need to be in another town, state, or country
- Spread the news about Jesus in your home, your school, or your office
- Not by the words you say but how you live