

## The Doctrine of James the Brother of John

1. **James the brother of John** first appeared in about A.D. 27 as a fisherman in business with his brother John. Jesus called both the boys to be His disciples and they responded positively to the call.

Mat 4:21 Going on from there, he saw two other brothers, **James** son of Zebedee and his brother John. They were in a boat with their father Zebedee, preparing their nets. Jesus called them,

Mat 4:22 and immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

2. He was at the great catch of fish along with Simon, John and Andrew.

Luk 5:4 When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into deep water, and let down the nets for a catch."

Luk 5:5 Simon answered, "Master, we've worked hard all night and haven't caught anything. But because you say so, I will let down the nets."

Luk 5:6 When they had done so, they caught such a large number of fish that their nets began to break.

Luk 5:7 So they signaled their partners in the other boat to come and help them, and they came and filled both boats so full that they began to sink.

Luk 5:8 When Simon Peter saw this, he fell at Jesus' knees and said, "Go away from me, Lord; I am a sinful man!"

Luk 5:9 For he and all his companions were astonished at the catch of fish they had taken,

Luk 5:10 and so were **James** and John, the sons of Zebedee, Simon's partners. Then Jesus said to Simon, "Don't be afraid; from now on you will catch men."

3. He was present at the healing of Peter's mother-in-law.

Mar 1:29 As soon as they left the synagogue, they went with **James** and John to the home of Simon and Andrew.

Mar 1:30 Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told Jesus about her.

Mar 1:31 So he went to her, took her hand and helped her up. The fever left her and she began to wait on them.

4. He was present at the raising of Jairus' daughter.

Luk 8:51 And when he came into the house, he suffered no man to go in, save Peter, and **James**, and John, and the father and the mother of the maiden.

Luk 8:52 And all wept, and bewailed her: but he said, Weep not; she is not dead, but sleepeth.

Luk 8:53 And they laughed him to scorn, knowing that she was dead.

Luk 8:54 And he put them all out, and took her by the hand, and called, saying, Maid, arise.

Luk 8:55 And her spirit came again, and she arose straightway: and he commanded to give her meat.

5. He joined his brother John in asking Jesus to send fire to destroy the Samaritans.

Luk 9:52 And sent messengers before his face: and they went, and entered into a village of the Samaritans, to make ready for him.

Luk 9:53 And they did not receive him, because his face was as though he would go to Jerusalem.

Luk 9:54 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?

6. James was present at the transfiguration.

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

Mat 17:2 And was transfigured before them: and his face did shine as the sun, and his raiment was white as the light.

Mat 17:3 And, behold, there appeared unto them Moses and Elias talking with him.

7. He was complicit in the request of his mother to get her two sons a special place in the Kingdom.

Mat 20:20 Then came to him the mother of Zebedee's children with her **sons**, worshipping him, and desiring a certain thing of him.

Mat 20:21 And he said unto her, What wilt thou? She saith unto him, Grant that these my two sons may sit, the one on thy right hand, and the other on the left, in thy kingdom.

Mat 20:22 But Jesus answered and said, Ye know not what ye ask. Are ye able to drink of the cup that I shall drink of, and to be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with? They say unto him, We are able.

Mat 20:23 And he saith unto them, Ye shall drink indeed of my cup, and be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with: but to sit on my right hand, and on my left, is not mine to give, but it shall be given to them for whom it is prepared of my Father.

Mat 20:24 And when the ten heard it, they were moved with indignation against the two brethren.

8. He was one of four disciples who heard Jesus' message describing the last days.

Mar 13:3 And as he sat upon the mount of Olives over against the temple, Peter and **James** and John and Andrew asked him privately,

Mar 13:4 Tell us, when shall these things be? and what shall be the sign when all these things shall be fulfilled?

9. He was one of three who were with our Lord in the Garden of Gethsemane.

Mar 14:32 And they came to a place which was named Gethsemane: and he saith to his disciples, Sit ye here, while I shall pray.

Mar 14:33 And he taketh with him Peter and **James** and John, and began to be sore amazed, and to be very heavy;

Mar 14:34 And saith unto them, My soul is exceeding sorrowful unto death: tarry ye here, and watch.

Mar 14:35 And he went forward a little, and fell on the ground, and prayed that, if it were possible, the hour might pass from him.

10. The epithet *Boanerges* meaning "sons of thunder" was given to James and John. Perhaps because they were impetuous and quick to take offense. (Mar 3:17)

Mar 3:17 And James the son of Zebedee, and John the brother of James; and he surnamed them Boanerges, which is, The sons of thunder:

11. We know little of James' death except that it pleased the Jews. He was the first of the Christian martyrs. Perhaps his impetuosity led to his death. This is, however, only conjecture. Especially given the fact John lived to a ripe old age.

Acts 12:1 Now about that time Herod the king stretched forth his hands to vex certain of the church.

Acts 12:2 And he killed James the brother of John with the sword.

Acts 12:3 And because he saw it pleased the Jews, he proceeded further to take Peter also. (Then were the days of unleavened bread.)