

The Apple Didn't Fall Far From The Tree!



James, the Lord's brother and the oldest son of Joseph, is most likely the author of the epistle bearing this name. Tradition describes James as a man of prayer, and it was said that he prayed so much, his knees became hard as those of a camel.



He was also known as James the Just because of his devout zeal for righteousness. Very little in the Scriptures is told us of his father, Joseph. Matthew 1:19, however, describes Joseph as a just man - illustrated by his decision to privately handle Mary's pregnancy. In fact, Joseph made right decisions over and over again in the Christmas story despite the unusual circumstances



Is it any wonder that his oldest son became known for this very attribute? In this case, the apple didn't fall very far from the tree!

The Author: Which James Authored This Epistle?

James, son of Zebedee and brother of John



- A fisherman called by Christ to be 1 of the 12 (Matthew 4:17-22)
- An Apostle, who was called a Son of Thunder along with his brother John (Mark 3:17)
- Martyred at the hands of Herod in 44 A.D. (Acts 12:1-2)

James, son of Alphaeus



- Another one of the 12 disciples, of whom little is known (Acts 1:12)
- Known as James the Younger
- Mother was Mary, wife of Cleophas John 19:25

James, father of Judas the apostle



- An obscure person in the New Testament (Luke 6:16)

James, the brother of our Lord



- Oldest son of Joseph and a half-brother of Jesus Christ (Matthew 13:55)
- At first, he did not believe but was converted after the Resurrection (John 7:5, 1 Corinthians 15:7)
- Prominent role in the early church, probably as pastor (Galatians 2:7, Acts 1:14)
- Key leader of the Jerusalem council (Acts 15)

The English name James is a derivative of the Latin *Iacōmus*, which is a variation on the Greek *Iakōbos*, from the Hebrew יַעֲקֹב, Ya'akob, from which comes the English name Jacob.



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