Famous People in the Apostolic Age

The 12 Disciples - The Inner Three

Peter

John



James (the elder)

The 12 Disciples - The Inner Three Cont'd

- Only disciples who witnessed the Transfiguration [Matt. 17:1]
- Only disciples that Jesus requested to pray and watch with Him in Gethsemane [Matt. 26:37]
- Each one was known for a special blessing:
 - ▶ Peter → During His Ascension into heaven, Jesus handed over the leadership of the young flock to him [John 21:15-17]
 - John → Jesus left his mother in the care of John [John 19:26-27]
 - ► James (the elder) → Was the first Apostle to be martyred [Acts 12:2]

The 12 Disciples - The Other Nine

Peter **Andrew** Simon **James** (son of Alpheaus) Judas

John



James (the elder) Matthew **Thomas Matthias Philip**

Bartholomew

The 12 Disciples - The Other Nine Cont'd

- Disciple = student
- Jesus chose them at the beginning of his 3 year ministry
- They walked with Jesus every step of the way
- ► They ate the Last Supper together
- They received the Holy Spirit on the Feast of Pentecost
- \rightarrow Why 12? \rightarrow symbolic of the 12 tribes of Israel

The 12 Disciples - The Other Nine Cont'd

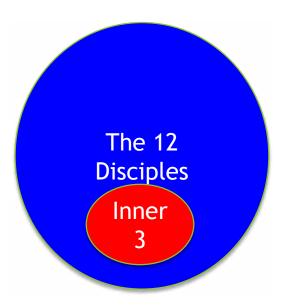
Special characteristic to remember of each one:

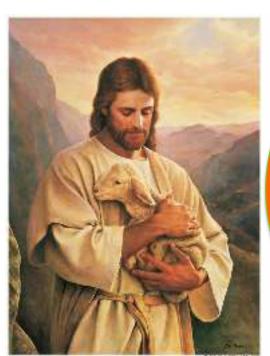
- ► Andrew → Peter's brother who used to follow John the Baptist
- ► Philip → Studied the law and the prophecies and martyred on a cross
- ▶ Bartholomew (Nathaniel) → Preached in Armenia where he is the intercessor
- ► Matthew → Tax collector who wrote the Holy Gospel according to Matthew written to the Hebrews

The 12 Disciples - The Other Nine Cont'd

- James (son of Alpheaus) → St. James the Just: He is James the son of Alphaeus. He was known as the Lord's brother as his mother was a sister to St. Mary the Virgin,. He was known also St. James the Young (Mark 15:40), the Just for his holiness and Bishop of Jerusalem. He headed the Council of Jerusalem in 50 AD (Acts 15). He wrote his Holy Epistle
- ► Thomas → He was martyred in India where he is the intercessor
- ► Judas (Thaddeus) → Not Iscariot; Wrote the Holy Epistle of Jude
- Simon (the zealot) → From Canaan; Preached in Syria, Iraq and Persia where he was martyred
- Matthias → Was chosen in the place of Judas Iscariot

The 70 Apostles





Mark

The 70 Apostles

Timoth

Titus

Y

Luke

The 70 Apostles Cont'd

- Apostle = messenger or representative
- Jesus appointed them later on in his ministry (Luke 10) and sent them 2 by 2 to preach around the world
- Received the Holy Spirit on the Feast of Pentecost
- \rightarrow 70 or 72? \rightarrow Debatable
 - ► Fathers (and tasbeha) say 72
- Many were called Apostles (including St. Paul and the 12 Disciples) but they were not a part of the specific 70

The 70 Apostles Cont'd

Special characteristic to remember of some important ones:

- Mark:
 - Wrote the Holy Gospel according to Mark
 - Many events happened in his house (Pentacost, Last Supper, etc)
 - Preached in Alexandria where he established the Coptic Church
 - ► First Pope of the Coptic Church
 - Founded the School of Alexandria
 - ► He was the first Christian martyr in Egypt

The 70 Apostles Cont'd

Luke:

- Wrote the Holy Gospel according to Luke and the Acts of the Apostles
- He took accounts from first hand witnesses of Christ's ministry (i.e. St. Mary)
- ▶ One of the disciples in Emmaus
- ▶ Painted the first portrait of St. Mary
- Was martyred in Greece

Apostles Cont'd

- They helped the apostles in their ministry and either became priests, deacons and/or bishops
- They were to take care of church after left to preach elsewhere
- Include the 7 deacons: Stephen → the 1st martyr (Protonate)
- Those which accompanied Paul:
 - ► Timothy → followed st Paul in prison; Bishop of Ephaseus
 - ► Titus → Greek; followed Paul to prison; died at an old age
 - ► Silas → Roman; was a prophet; followed Paul to prison;

Other Apostles Cont'd

- Apostle = messenger or representative
- Other people that were great advocates of Christ in the First Century
 - But they weren't a part of the 70 that Jesus appointed in his ministry
- ► For example: St. Paul the Apostle

Apostles Assistants - Female Servants Cont'd Why are they important?

- They helped the apostles in their ministry
- They were to take care of church after the Apostles left to preach elsewhere
- Show that females had an important role in the Church
- Include:
 - ► Phoebe → Virgin; was the writer for Paul's epistle to the Romans; she delivered it to them; also known as a deaconess
 - ▶ Priscilla → Wife of Aquila; exemplary Christian marriage; house became a church
 - ► Thekla → Rich, Virgin; followed Paul and preached to women; tortured but saved and died at an old age