

WHAT BECAME OF THE TWELVE DISCIPLES?

Acts 1:6-8

Introduction: History reveals certain facts and details of the final end of those men so faithful to Jesus, the disciples. We are grateful to those who searched through historical files to find what happened to Jesus' disciples. Here is what one source reported.

1. **John** died of extreme old age in Ephesus. He was the only disciple to not die a horrible death.
2. **Judas Iscariot**, the betrayer of the Lord Jesus, of course hanged himself.
3. **Peter** was crucified and upon his request was crucified upside down, this was during Nero's reign.
4. **Andrew** died on a cross at Patrae in Achaia, a Grecian colony. It was a cross in the form of an X and he hung there for two days before dying.
5. **James**, the younger brother of the Lord Jesus, was thrown from a pinnacle of the Temple and then was beaten to death with a club. He was leader of the Church in Jerusalem.
6. **Bartholomew** was flayed alive in Albanapolis, Armenia. He preached in India, Arabia and Armenia.
7. **James**, the elder son of Zebedee, was beheaded at Jerusalem by Herod Agrippa I to please the Jews.
8. **Thomas**, the doubter, was run through the body with a lance at Coromandel, located in the East Indies. He preached in Persia.
9. **Philip** was hanged against a pillar at Hierapolis, a city of Phrygia in Asia Minor.
10. **Matthew** was killed by a sword in Ethiopia (Abyssinia). He stayed at Jerusalem then went to distant lands.
11. **Thaddeus (Jude)**, was shot to death with arrows. He was at the Church at Edessa.
12. **Simon, the Canaanite**, died on a cross in Persia, now Iran.
13. **Paul** was beheaded at Rome by the order of Nero.

CONCLUSION:

1. Countless other Christians through the centuries have also suffered horrible torture and death at the hands of those who attempted to stamp out Christianity.
2. We can only imagine the faith that these martyrs had in our Lord that enabled them to be tortured and to die as they did. Let us never complain about "hardships" in serving the Lord Jesus.