

Biographical Sketch of the Apostles of Jesus Christ

Philip

Personal Information		Scripture References:
Name: Philip	Nickname:	Matthew 10:2-4; Mark 3:16-19; Luke 6:14-16; Acts 1:13
Hometown: Bethsaida	Region: Galilee	John 1:28, 44; 6:5-7; 12:21-22; 14:8-9
Father:	Age when called:	
Mother:	Occupation before meeting Jesus:	What he accomplished during Jesus ministry years Disciple and Apostle of Jesus Sent on mission trip with the others (Mark 6:7-13) Deserted Jesus during His trials and crucifixion Was present at Pentecost
Spouse:		
Address:	Manner of death: Unknown, historically some say he was crucified while others say he was stoned	
Family:	Their writings: None	Major accomplishments after Jesus ministry: It is believed that Philip traveled into Scythia (south Russia) and remained there for twenty years preaching the Gospel. Eventually, in the company of the apostle Bartholomew, the apostle Philip went to Asia Minor and labored in Hierapolis, near Laodicea and Colosse, in what is modern day Turkey
Special Events in his life:		
Passage	Event	Remarks
John 1:43	Calling	Philip was personally sought out by Jesus
John 1:45	Brings Nathanael to Jesus	He wanted to share Jesus with others
John 2:4	Witnessed Jesus' first miracle at Cana	Peter, Andrew, Nathanael and Philip
John 12:20-22	With Andrew, he brought the Greeks to Jesus	The Greeks knew Philip followed Christ

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Notes on Philip:

It is unknown why, but in each of the listings of the Apostles, Philip is always listed fifth.

Philip and Andrew were Greek names. Philip's name means "Lover of Horses"

Philip was from the same town as Andrew and Peter

It is easy to see that Philip was thoughtful, sensible, practical, caring and passionate in his service to Jesus. He was also evangelistic in nature.

Of the four Gospels, Philip figures most prominently in the Gospel of John

Jesus called Philip to be a disciple (John 1:44) as he (Jesus) was leaving Bethany after being baptized by John (John 1:28). Philip's immediate response was to go and find Nathanael and tell him "We have found the one Moses wrote about in the law, and about whom the prophets also wrote – Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph."

The Gospel of John does not include a listing of the Twelve. However, more is said of Philip in the Gospel of John than the other Gospels. John includes his calling, Philip bringing Nathanael to Christ, plays a significant role in the teaching of the feeding of the 5,000 and the exchange between the Greeks and Christ. In John 14:8–9, Philip is awestruck in Jesus' teaching and ask Jesus to show the Father to him and the other disciples.

Philip seemed to be practical and sensible. During the feeding of the 5,000, Jesus specifically questioned Philip:

John 6:5 When Jesus then lifted up his eyes, and saw a great company come unto him, he saith unto Philip, Whence shall we buy bread, that these may eat? 6 And this he said to prove him: for he himself knew what he would do. 7 Philip answered him, Two hundred pennyworth of bread is not sufficient for them, that every one of them may take a little. "



Philip is represented as an elderly, bearded man, holding a basket of bread loaves and a T-shaped cross (the "Latin Cross"). For his role in the feeding of the 5,000. Concerning his death, Bishop Polycrates of Antioch wrote, "Philip, one of the twelve apostles, sleeps at Hieropolis."