

JAMES, THE WRITER, WHO WAS HE?

4 choices (maybe 5, maybe 3)

#1. **James** brother of John, son of Zebedee, a disciple, mentioned in all 3 lists (Matt 10 Mark 3 Luke 6)

Matt 10.2, martyred

Acts 12.2, fisherman, one of 12 disciples, an apostle

#2. **James** the son of Alphaeus, disciple, all 3 the lists of the 12 disciples i.e. Matt 10 Mark 3 Luke 6

#3. James the Less, Mark 15.40, "Mary the mother of **James** the Less."

"Less" may mean younger or shorter.

* possibly son of Alphaeus, Matt 10.2-, see Acts 1.13,

* Possibly son of Zebedee, brother of John

* possibly son of Mary, "Mary the mother of **James** and Joses" Matt 27.56 Luke 24.10

Mary appeared at Jesus' tomb and was clearly not Jesus' mother nor the Magdalene.

#4. **James**, the Lord's brother, not one of 12, son of Joseph & Mary

This was James the author of "James" the epistle, leader of the Jerusalem Church.

Acts 12.2, later pastor of Jerusalem Church, "(Herod) killed **James** the brother of John with the sword. "

Acts 12.17 "Go shew these things unto **James**, and to the brethren. And he departed, and went into another place." *James had significant standing.*

Acts 15.13 "After they had held their peace, **James** answered, saying, Men and brethren, hearken unto me." *notice James' authority in the Council*

James 1.1 "**James**, a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ, to the twelve tribes which are scattered abroad, greeting." *Notice James doesn't mention Jesus as his brother but as his Lord.*

Gal 1.19 "of the apostles saw I none, save **James** the Lord's brother."

Gal 2:9 "When **James**, Cephas, and John, who seemed to be pillars. . . ."

* Jesus' 4 other brothers, Mark 6.3:

Mar 6:3 "Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary, the brother of **James**, and Joses, and of Juda, and Simon?"

James (*pastor, writer*)

Joses (*Joseph*)

Simon

Jude (*writer of the book of Jude*)

There are some students of the Bible who find another James among those who are listed above, a fifth James.

Their supposition seems to some from lack of evidence against it.

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Others see only 3 man named James: #1 #2 #4.