

James, son of Alphaeus

Egypt?  
850km

James, son of Zebedee

Jerusalem  
0km

James, son of Zebedee

The only other disciple whose death is recorded in the Bible is James, the brother of John. Acts 12 records both the apostle Peter being imprisoned and the apostle James being killed by the sword of King Herod. That's not the King Herod involved in the crucifixion narrative of Jesus, by the way, but his nephew, known as Herod Agrippa. Suffice it to say, none of the five Herods mentioned in the Bible were particularly cuddly characters.

James, son of Alphaeus

This James is sometimes referred to as James the Lesser, and for good reason. We know very little about him, either from the Biblical narrative or afterwards. There are a number of characters named James in the Bible — the half brother of Jesus, as well as the other disciple of the same name. However, tradition maintains that this James was crucified in Egypt, where he had been preaching the gospel, sometime around 62AD.

Peter

Rome  
2300km

Matthew

Ethiopia?  
2600km

Matthew

Legend has it that Matthew became a missionary in Ethiopia.

The Quran mentions several disciples of Jesus visiting Ethiopia without naming them specifically, however Muslim exegesis holds to the tradition that Matthew was one of the disciples who went to Ethiopia.

Some sources report that he was staked or impaled by spears and then beheaded. Others say that Matthew was likely "stabbed in the back by a swordsman sent by King Hertacus, the Ethiopian Emperor after Matthew criticised his morals, or rather, his lack thereof. The year is believed to be around 60AD

Peter

Peter was arrested and, after multiple trials in Rome, he was sentenced to death by crucifixion. However, feeling unworthy to be crucified in the same manner as Jesus, Peter requested to be crucified upside down on an inverted cross, which, according to tradition, he was.

Peter's crucifixion was seen as the fulfilment of the words of Jesus who had said to Peter in John 21:18–19, "Very truly I tell you, when you were younger you dressed yourself and went where you wanted, but when you are old you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will dress you and lead you where you do

## Thomas

India

5000km

## Thaddeus

Syria?

450km

## Thaddeus

It's traditionally believed that Thaddeus, also known as Jude, was martyred in Syria on a missionary journey with Simon the Zealot.

According to *The Golden Legend*, in around 65AD, Simon and Thaddeus were responsible for destroying certain idols in the city of Beirut, which caused the local religious leaders to fly into a rage, attacking and killing Thaddeus with an axe.

## Thomas

The Apostle Thomas, also known as the infamous "Doubting Thomas," has a fairly straightforward tradition surrounding his death. Of all the details we have about the deaths of the various apostles, we have the most specific information on Thomas.

Sometime after the death and resurrection of Christ, Thomas carried the gospel message all the way to India. However, there, Thomas came into conflict with the Hindu priests of Kali, who killed him for insulting their deity.

The Acts of Thomas says he was martyred in Mylapore, India, where he was stabbed with spears. Syrian Christian tradition specifies Thomas was martyred in Mylapore on July 3, 72AD.

## Bartholomew

India?

5000km

## Andrew

Ukraine>Russia

>Greece

4700km

## Andrew

Legend has it that Andrew was one of the most widely travelled disciples, going as far as Kyiv in his missionary journeys. Consequently, today he is known as the patron saint of Ukraine, Romania, and Russia.

However, Andrew finally met his end in Greece in 69 AD, when a debate about religion between him and the Roman proconsul Aegeates turned nasty. Aegeates tried to convince Andrew to forsake Christianity so that he would not have to torture and execute him. But when that didn't work, Aegeates decided to give Andrew the full treatment.

## Bartholomew

Bartholomew was probably martyred — but like many of the apostles, there are several ways in which it may have happened. The most popular theory is that he was flayed and then beheaded, which is why most art portrays him either shows him holding or wearing his skin, or associates him with flaying knives.

Foxe's Book of Martyrs claims that in India, "He was at length cruelly beaten and then crucified by the impatient idolaters." Another tradition claims he was beaten unconscious and drowned in the ocean. Still others claim that he and the apostle Phillip were crucified together.

## Simon the Zealot

**Spain? Persia?**  
**3600km or  
1600km**

## John, son of Zebedee

**Ephesus then  
Patmos**  
**1000km**

## John, son of Zebedee

John is traditionally regarded as the only apostle to die of old age. Some accounts suggest a couple of others died of natural causes, but John's tradition is the most firmly established.

When Mary died, John allegedly went to Ephesus, where he wrote his three epistles. From there, he was exiled to the island of Patmos for preaching the gospel, where he received the revelation from Christ and wrote the Book of Revelation. Eventually, he made it back to Ephesus and died an ordinary death sometime after 98 AD, making him pretty darn old.

## Simon the Zealot

Much like James the Lesser, very little is known about Simon, the Zealot after the close of the Bible. There are, however, quite several different theories surrounding his demise.

These include those of Moses of Chorene wrote in the fifth century that Simon the Zealot was martyred in the Kingdom of Iberia. However, The Golden Legend says he was martyred in Persia in 65 AD. Meanwhile, Ethiopian Christians believe he was crucified in Samaria along with Thaddeus — another disciple. Yet another account says he was crucified in 61 AD in Britain of all places!

We do not know for sure, but we can be reasonably certain that Simon died as a martyr.

## Philip

**Asia Minor?**  
**850km**

## Philip

Very early on, Christians confused Philip the Apostle with Philip the Evangelist from the Book of Acts.

One record says he died of natural causes. Another says he was beheaded. Or stoned to death. Or crucified upside down. What we do know is that he died sometime in the first century, possibly around 80 AD.

Most of the earliest traditions seem to point to him being martyred in the ancient Greek city of Hierapolis. Polycrates of Ephesus wrote in a letter to Pope Victor, "I speak of Philip, one of the twelve apostles, who is laid to rest at Hierapolis..."

Philip supposedly converted a Roman proconsul's wife, which angered the proconsul enough to have him and Bartholomew — another disciple — crucified upside down.