

## Historic Overview: Simon, the Zealot & James, Son of Alphaeus

### Simon, the Zealot:

The apostle called Simon Zealot in Luke 6:15 and Acts 1:13, was one of the most obscure among the apostles of Jesus. Nothing is recorded of him aside from his name:

“Simon, whom he named Peter, and Andrew his brother, and James and John, and Philip, and Bartholomew, and Matthew, and Thomas, and James the son of Alphaeus, and Simon who was called the Zealot, and Judas [*the son* is interpolated] of James, and Judas Iscariot, who became a traitor.” Luke 6:14-16

In later tradition, Simon is often associated with St. Jude as an evangelizing team; they share their feast day on 28 October. The most widespread tradition is that after evangelizing in Egypt, Simon joined Jude in Persia and Beirut, Lebanon, where both were martyred in 65 AD.

In art, Simon has the identifying attribute of a saw because according to legend, he was put to death by a saw.

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Wikipedia, Simon the Zealot - [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Simon\\_the\\_Zealot](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Simon_the_Zealot)

### James, son of Alphaeus:

James, son of Alphaeus was one of the Twelve Apostles of Jesus Christ. He is often identified with James the Less and commonly known by that name in church tradition.

He is rarely mentioned in the New Testament. He is clearly distinguished from James, son of Zebedee, another one of the Twelve Apostles.

A tradition holds that Saint James, though strongly clinging to Jewish law, was sentenced to death for having violated the Torah. He was arrested along with an unspecified number of Christians and was subsequently beheaded by Herod in persecution of the church.

In Christian art he is depicted holding a fuller's club because according to another tradition he was martyred when beaten to death with a club in Egypt while sharing the Gospel message.

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Wikipedia, James, son of Alphaeus - [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/James,\\_son\\_of\\_Alphaeus](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/James,_son_of_Alphaeus)