

***Sermon Title:* JAMES—THE APOSTLE OF PASSION**

Date: June 30, 2024 - Acts 12:1-2

Central Idea: Genuine faith produces genuine works. Is your faith an active faith?

Introduction:

Jesus singled out three of His twelve disciples for special training. James, his brother John, and Peter made up the inner circle. James' father was Zebedee and his mother Salome. James was the first apostle to die for the sake of the Gospel. His martyrdom was not an isolated event, but the culmination of other related sufferings he endured as Christ's disciple. When James was called to follow Christ, he forfeited the benefit of working in his father's fishing business.

Once in a while, we catch a fleeting glimpse of James in Scripture, but most of the time he is out of sight.

I. His Family

II. His Faith, James 2:14-26

1. Two rhetorical questions, v. 14

2. Genuine faith, vv. 15-20

(1) It is not indifferent...but involved, vv. 15-16.

(2) It is not independent...but in partnership, v. 17.

(3) It is not invisible...but on display, v. 18.

(4) It is not intellectual...but from the heart, vv. 19-20.

3. Example of genuine faith, vv. 21-25

(1) Abraham, vv. 21-24

(2) Rahab, v. 25

III. Concluding Principle, v. 26

1. Passionate

2. Active

3. Pragmatic

4. Wise