How Did The Apostles Die? What Can I Learn From It?

- 1. Matthew. Suffered martyrdom in Ethiopia, Killed by a sword wound.
- 2. Mark. Died in Alexandria, Egypt , after being dragged by Horses through the streets until he was dead.
- 3. Luke. Was hanged in Greece as a result of his tremendous Preaching to the lost.
- 4. John. Faced martyrdom when he was boiled in huge Basin of boiling oil during a wave of persecution In Rome. However, he was miraculously delivered From death. John was then sentenced to the mines on the prison Island of Patmos. He wrote his prophetic Book of Revelation on Patmos . The apostle John was later freed and returned to serve As Bishop of Edessa in modern Turkey . He died as an old man, the only apostle to die peacefully
- 5. Peter. He was crucified upside down on an x shaped cross. According to church tradition it was because he told his tormentors that he felt unworthy to die In the same way that Jesus Christ had died.
- 6. James. The leader of the church in Jerusalem, was thrown over a hundred feet down from the southeast pinnacle of the Temple when he refused to deny his faith in Christ. When they discovered that he survived the fall, his enemies beat James to death with a fuller's club. This was the same pinnacle where Satan had taken Jesus during the Temptation.
- 7. James the Son of Zebedee was a fisherman by trade when Jesus Called him to a lifetime of ministry.

As a strong leader of the church, James was beheaded at Jerusalem. The Roman officer who guarded James watched amazed as James defended his faith at his trial.

Later, the officer Walked beside James to the place of execution. Overcome by conviction, he declared his new faith to the judge and Knelt beside James to accept beheading as a Christian

- 8. Bartholomew. Also known as Nathaniel. He Was a missionary to Asia. He witnessed for our Lord in present day Turkey. Bartholomew was martyred for his preaching in Armenia where he was flayed to death by a whip.
- 9. Andrew. He Was crucified on an x-shaped cross in Patras, Greece. After being whipped severely by seven soldiers they tied his body to the cross with cords to prolong his agony. His followers reported that, when he was led toward the cross, Andrew saluted it in these words, "I have long desired and expected this happy hour. The cross has been consecrated by the body of Christ hanging on it". He continued to preach to his tormentors For two days until he expired.
- 10. Thomas. He Was stabbed with a spear in India during one of his missionary trips to establish the church in the Subcontinent.
- 11. Jude. He Was killed with arrows when he refused to deny his faith in Christ.
- 12. Matthias. The apostle chosen to replace the traitor Judas Iscariot. He was stoned and then beheaded.

13. Paul. He Was tortured and then beheaded by the evil Emperor Nero at Rome in A.D. 67. Paul endured a lengthy imprisonment, which allowed him to write his many epistles to the churches he had formed throughout the Roman Empire. These letters, which taught many of the foundational Doctrines of Christianity, form a large portion of the New Testament.

When someone tells you that God doesn't want you to get sick or injured or to go through hard times...

When someone tells you to command that sickness to leave your body...

When someone tells you that you are going through your struggle because you didn't have enough faith...

Please encourage yourself in the Lord:

Matt 5 And seeing the multitudes, he went up into a mountain: and when he was set, his disciples came unto him:

- ² And he opened his mouth, and taught them, saying,
- ³ Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
- ⁴ Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted.
- ⁵ Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth.
- ⁶ Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled.
- ⁷ Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy.
- ⁸ Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God.
- ⁹ Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God.
- ¹⁰ Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
- ¹¹ Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake.
- ¹² Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven: for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you.

If the Apostle Paul had these troubles you will most likely have troubles too...

2 Corinthians 11

- ²³ Are they ministers of Christ? (I speak as a fool) I am more; in labours more abundant, in stripes above measure, in prisons more frequent, in deaths oft.
- ²⁴ Of the Jews five times received I forty stripes save one.
- ²⁵ Thrice was I beaten with rods, once was I stoned, thrice I suffered shipwreck, a night and a day I have been in the deep;
- ²⁶ In journeyings often, in perils of waters, in perils of robbers, in perils by mine own countrymen, in perils by the heathen, in perils in the city, in perils in the wilderness, in perils in the sea, in perils among false brethren;
- ²⁷ In weariness and painfulness, in watchings often, in hunger and thirst, in fastings often, in cold and nakedness.
- ²⁸ Beside those things that are without, that which cometh upon me daily, the care of all the churches.
- ²⁹ Who is weak, and I am not weak? who is offended, and I burn not?
- ³⁰ If I must needs glory, I will glory of the things which concern mine infirmities.
- ³¹ The God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which is blessed for evermore, knoweth that I lie not.
- 32 In Damascus the governor under Aretas the king kept the city of the damascenes with a garrison, desirous to apprehend me:
- ³³ And through a window in a basket was I let down by the wall, and escaped his hands.

If you've prayed for healing and weren't healed...maybe you're not supposed to be healed, Paul was told no and I'm guessing it wasn't for his lack of faith...maybe God has a plan for you in your infirmities:

2 Corinthians 12 It is not expedient for me doubtless to glory. I will come to visions and revelations of the Lord.

- ² I knew a man in Christ above fourteen years ago, (whether in the body, I cannot tell; or whether out of the body, I cannot tell: God knoweth;) such an one caught up to the third heaven.
- ³ And I knew such a man, (whether in the body, or out of the body, I cannot tell: God knoweth;)
- ⁴ How that he was caught up into paradise, and heard unspeakable words, which it is not lawful for a man to utter.
- ⁵ Of such an one will I glory: yet of myself I will not glory, but in mine infirmities.
- ⁶ For though I would desire to glory, I shall not be a fool; for I will say the truth: but now I forbear, lest any man should think of me above that which he seeth me to be, or that he heareth of me.
- ⁷ And lest I should be exalted above measure through the abundance of the revelations, there was given to me a thorn in the flesh, the messenger of Satan to buffet me, lest I should be exalted above measure.
- ⁸ For this thing I besought the Lord thrice, that it might depart from me.
- ⁹ And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.
- ¹⁰ Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in necessities, in persecutions, in distresses for Christ's sake: for when I am weak, then am I strong.

Sometimes God's plan for us is not what we would plan for ourselves...Trust Him!

In my life the deepest valleys were always followed by the tallest mountain tops.

When you find yourself in a valley...keep walking!

Nothing grows on the highest mountain tops...all of the growth in life is done in the valley.