

## 9. The Possible Outliers

### A. “Not” named Apostle but...!

**One name immediately stands out. However, his name is so common and must be distinguished.**

**James =Jacob in Hebrew & Greek**

**Acts 1:13** And when they were come in, they went up into an upper room, where abode both Peter, and **James (Ἰάκωβος)**, and John, and Andrew, Philip, and Thomas, Bartholomew, and Matthew, **James (Ἰάκωβος Αλφαίου) the son of Alphaeus**, and Simon Zelotes, and Judas the brother of James.

**Acts 12:2** And he killed **James (Ἰάκωβον τὸν ἀδελφὸν Ἰωάννου) the brother of John** with the sword.

**Acts 12:17** But he, beckoning unto them with the hand to hold their peace, declared unto them how the Lord had brought him out of the prison. And he said, **Go shew these things unto James (Ἰακώβω), and to the brethren.** And he departed, and went into another place.

**Acts 15:13** And after they had held their peace, **James (Ἰάκωβος)** answered, saying, Men and brethren, hearken unto me:

**Acts 21:17** And when we were come to Jerusalem, the brethren received us gladly. **Acts 21:18** And the day following Paul went in with us **unto James (πρὸς Ἰάκωβον)**; and all the elders were present. **Acts 21:19** And when he had saluted them, he declared particularly what things God had wrought among the Gentiles by his ministry.

**1 Corinthians 15:7** After that, he was seen **of James (Ἰακώβω)**; then of all the apostles.

**James 1:1** **JAMES (Ἰάκωβος)**, a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ, to the twelve tribes which are scattered abroad, greeting.

**Jude 1** **JUDE**, the servant of Jesus Christ, and **brother of James (ἀδελφὸς δὲ Ἰακώβου)**, to them that are sanctified by God the Father, and preserved in Jesus Christ, and called:

**Galatians 1:19** But other of the apostles saw I none, **save** James the Lord's brother.

**Mark 6:1** And he went out from thence, and came into his own country; and his disciples follow him. **Mark 6:2** And when the sabbath day was come, he began to teach in the synagogue: and many hearing him were astonished, saying, From whence hath this man these things? and what wisdom is this which is given unto him, that even such mighty works are wrought by his hands? **Mark 6:3** Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary, the brother **of James (Ἰακώβου)**, and Joses, and of Juda, and Simon? and are not his sisters here with us? And they were offended at him.

**Matthew 10:2** Now the names of the twelve apostles are these; The first, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother; **James (Ἰάκωβος ὁ τοῦ Ζεβεδαίου) the son of Zebedee**, and John his brother; **Matthew 10:3** Philip, and Bartholomew; Thomas, and Matthew the publican; **James (Ἰάκωβος ὁ τοῦ Αλφαίου) the son of Alphaeus**, and Lebbaeus, whose surname was Thaddaeus;

### This James:

- **James the half brother of Jesus**
- **James the brother of Jude**
- **Not James the brother of John → who was martyred under Herod Agrippa I**
- **Not James the lesser & lesser known**
- **James the leader of the Jerusalem church**
- **James the much later martyr**
- **James the more traditional= the Palestinian Jewish James**
- **James a pillar of the church**
- **James a leader among the apostles, elders, & churches**
- **James the antagonistic unbeliever before the resurrection**
- **James the witness of the resurrection**
- **James the author of the book of James**

### B. “Named” apostles but...?

**Acts 14:8** And there sat a certain man at Lystra, impotent in his feet, being a cripple from his mother's womb, who never had walked:

**Acts 14:9** The same **heard Paul speak**: who stedfastly beholding him, and perceiving that he had faith to be healed, **Acts 14:10** Said with a loud voice, Stand upright on thy feet. And he leaped and walked. **Acts 14:11** And when the people saw **what Paul had done**,

they lifted up their voices, saying in the speech of Lycaonia, The gods are come down to us in the likeness of men. **Acts 14:12** And they called **Barnabas, Jupiter; and Paul, Mercurius, because he was the chief speaker. Acts 14:13** Then the priest of Jupiter, which was before their city, brought oxen and garlands unto the gates, and would have done sacrifice with the people. **Acts 14:14** Which when the apostles (τοῖς ἀποστόλοις), **Barnabas and Paul**, heard of, they rent their clothes, and ran in among the people, crying out, **Acts 14:15** And saying, Sirs, why do ye these things? We also are men of like passions with you, and preach unto you that ye should turn from these vanities unto the living God, which made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and all things that are therein:

**1 Thessalonians 1:1** **PAUL, and Silvanus, and Timotheus, unto the church of the Thessalonians** which is in God the Father and in the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace be unto you, and peace, from God our Father, and the Lord Jesus Christ.

**1 Thessalonians 2:5** For neither at any time used we flattering words, as ye know, nor a cloke of covetousness; God is witness: **1 Thessalonians 2:6** Nor of men sought we glory, neither of you, nor yet of others, when we might have been burdensome, as **the apostles of Christ (χριστοῦ ἀπόστολοι).**

**Both of these texts seem to include others among the apostles.**

**What do we make of them?**

- **This is a very small group consisting of Barnabas, Timothy, Silas, Luke, Titus, John Mark...**
- **They were associates of Paul, and at times, Peter**
- **The language usage seems to simply include them in the apostolic band but not necessarily as apostles.**
- **The language seems typical of Paul's "royal we" → including his fellow workers without making them apostles.**
- **God did use Luke & Mark to write Scripture. Paul, Luke, & Mark wrote most of the NT!**

### **C. "Kind of" named but...?**

**Romans 16:7** Salute Andronicus (Ἀνδρόνικον) and Junia (Ιουνίαν), my kinsmen (συγγενεῖς), and my fellowprisoners (συναιχμαλώτους), who are of note among the apostles (ἐπίσημοι ἐν τοῖς ἀποστόλοις), who also were in Christ before (πρὸ ἐμοῦ) me.

**ESV: Romans 16:7** Greet Andronicus and Junia, my kinsmen and my fellow prisoners. **They are well known to the apostles**, and they were in Christ before me.

**NRSV: Romans 16:7** Greet Andronicus and Junia, my relatives who were in prison with me; **they are prominent among the apostles**, and they were in Christ before I was.

**NASB95: Romans 16:7** Greet Andronicus and Junias, my kinsmen and my fellow prisoners, who are **outstanding among the apostles**, who also were in Christ before me.

Frankly this text has become a goldmine for silliness, speculation, Scripture twisting & torturing, and just foolishness!

### **Thoughts:**

- **Paul greets various friends and asks them to greet other, various friends!**

**Romans 16:16** **Salute** one another with an holy kiss. The churches of Christ **salute** you.

- **Paul specifically asks the Christians at Rome to greet Adronicus & Junia**
- **Paul's kinsmen: meaning his relatives, broader family& probably here his fellow Jewish believers**

**Romans 16:7** Salute Andronicus and Junia, my **kinsmen (συγγενεῖς μου)**, and my fellowprisoners, who are of note among the apostles, who also were in Christ before me.

**Romans 16:11** Salute Herodion my **kinsman (τὸν συγγενῆ μου)**. Greet them that be of the household of Narcissus, which are in the Lord.

**Romans 16:21** Timotheus my workfellow, and Lucius, and Jason, and Sosipater, my **kinsmen (οἱ συγγενεῖς μου)**, salute you.

**Romans 9:3** For I could wish that myself were accursed from Christ for my brethren, my **kinsmen (τῶν συγγενῶν μου κατὰ σάρκα)** according to the flesh:

- **Paul's fellow prisoners**
- **In Christ (believers / saved) before Paul**

- **A husband & wife...or...?**
- **Well-known / of note / outstanding...**

**Matthew 27:16** And they had then a **notable** (δέσμιον ἐπίσημον) prisoner, called Barabbas.

**Romans 16:7** Salute Andronicus and Junia, my kinsmen, and my fellowprisoners, **who are of note** (ἐπίσημοι ἐν τοῖς ἀποστόλοις) **among the apostles**, who also were in Christ before me.

What does this mean? People go crazy here!

Simply stated = well-known, notable, prominent to the / by the / among the

- **Apostles...apostles? Or, just messengers from the church(es)**

**Romans 16:7** Salute Andronicus and Junia, my kinsmen, and my fellowprisoners, who are **of note among the apostles** (ἐπίσημοι ἐν τοῖς ἀποστόλοις), who also were in Christ before me.

### **How do we decide?**

- **The context of Romans 16 is one of greeting/ saluting one another!**
- **Messengers from the church to Paul & then back to the church makes very good sense**
- **Otherwise we end up with 2 “well-known” “unknown” people!!!**
- **Yet, 2 people that could be well-known to the apostle Paul & the messengers to the local church**