



Who He Was Three Options

James, the brother of John and son of Zebedee

About that time King Herod violently attacked some who belonged to the church, and he executed James, John's brother, with the sword.

Acts 12:1-2 CSB

Who He Was Three Options

James the Less, son of Alphaeus

These are the names of the twelve apostles:
First, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother;
James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother; Philip and
Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector;
James the son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; Simon the
Zealot, and Judas Iscariot, who also betrayed him.

Matthew 10:2-4 CSB

Who He Was Three Options

James, the half-brother of Jesus

Isn't this the carpenter's son? Isn't his mother called Mary, and his brothers James, Joseph, Simon, and Judas? And his sisters, aren't they all with us? So where does he get all these things?" And they were offended by him.

Matthew 13:55-57a CSB

Who He Was

He was very skeptical of Jesus and offended by him.

Jesus entered a house, and the crowd gathered again so that they were not even able to eat. When his family heard this, they set out to restrain him, because they said, "He's out of his mind."

Mark 3:20-21 CSB

Who He Was

He was very skeptical of Jesus and offended by him.

After this, Jesus traveled in Galilee, since he did not want to travel in Judea because the Jews were trying to kill him. The Jewish Festival of Shelters was near. So his brothers said to him, "Leave here and go to Judea so that your disciples can see your works that you are doing. For no one does anything in secret while he's seeking public recognition. If you do these things, show yourself to the world." (For not even his brothers believed in him.)

John 7:1-5 CSB

Who He Was

Jesus loves James and comes to him, even in his skepticism.

For I passed on to you as most important what I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures, and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the Twelve. Then he appeared to over five hundred brothers and sisters at one time; most of them are still alive, but some have fallen asleep. Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles.

1 Corinthians 15:3-7 CSB

Who He Wrote To

"...To the twelve tribes dispersed abroad..."

Saul agreed with putting him to death. On that day a severe persecution broke out against the church in Jerusalem, and all except the apostles were scattered throughout the land of Judea and Samaria.

Acts 8:1 CSB

Who He Wrote To

"...To the twelve tribes dispersed abroad..."

Now those who had been scattered as a result of the persecution that started because of Stephen made their way as far as Phoenicia, Cyprus, and Antioch, speaking the word to no one except Jews.

Acts 11:19 CSB

Who He Wrote To

"...To the twelve tribes dispersed abroad..."

In those days some prophets came down from Jerusalem to Antioch. One of them, named Agabus, stood up and predicted by the Spirit that there would be a severe famine throughout the Roman world. This took place during the reign of Claudius. Each of the disciples, according to his ability, determined to send relief to the brothers and sisters who lived in Judea.

Acts 11:27-29 CSB

What He Said

His skepticism of Jesus changed to loyalty for Jesus.

The word he uses to describe himself is "slave."

"A slave is anyone whose person and service belong totally to another."

D.A. Carson

Slavery to anything other than Jesus leads to defeat, destruction, and death.

For freedom, Christ set us free. Stand firm, then, and don't submit again to a yoke of slavery.

Galatians 5:1 CSB

Don't you know that if you offer yourselves to someone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of that one you obey—either of sin leading to death or of obedience leading to righteousness? But thank God that, although you used to be slaves of sin, you obeyed from the heart that pattern of teaching to which you were handed over, and having been set free from sin, you became enslaved to righteousness.

Romans 6:16-18 CSB



It meant, in their minds, devotion was not optional anymore.

They wanted to be singularly dedicated to Jesus.

Philippians 1:21

They wanted to willingly obey Jesus.

1 John 5:3

They were preoccupied with pleasing Jesus.

2 Corinthians 5:9