

~BROTHER (754)

[Hebrew, *’ach*, Greek, *a-del-phos*]

.. Brothers Of Jesus

- A male having the same parent or parents as another, in Hebrew, *’ach*, and in Greek, *a-del-phos*. Full brothers mentioned in the Bible, sons of the same father and the same mother, include Cain and Abel, sons of Adam and Eve.
- Now Adam had intercourse with Eve his wife and she became pregnant. In time she gave birth to Cain and said; I have produced a man with the aid of Yehowah. (Genesis 4:1)
- Later she again gave birth, to his brother Abel. And Abel came to be a herder of sheep, but Cain became a cultivator of the ground. (Genesis 4:2)
- Not like Cain, who originated with the wicked one and slaughtered his brother. And for the sake of what did he slaughter him? Because his own works were wicked, but those of his brother were righteous. (1 John 3:12)
- Jacob and Esau, twin sons of Isaac and Rebekah.
- Gradually her days came to the full for giving birth, and, look! Twins were in her belly. (Genesis 25:24)
- Then the first came out red all over like an official garment of hair, so they called his name Esau. (Genesis 25:25)
- And after that his brother came out and his hand was holding onto the heel of Esau, so he called his name Jacob. And Isaac was sixty years old at her giving them birth. (Genesis 25:26)
- James and John, sons of Zebedee and his wife.
- Going on also from there he saw two others who were brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them. (Matthew 4:21)
- Among whom was Mary Magdalene, also Mary the mother of

James and Joses, and the mother of the sons of Zebedee.
([Matthew 27:56](#))

- At that he said; They were my **brothers**, the sons of my mother. As Yehowah lives, if you had preserved them alive, I would not have to kill you. ([Judges 8:19](#))
- Moses and Aaron were **brothers** of Miriam.
- And the name of Amram's wife was Jochebed, Levis daughter, whom his wife bore to Levi in Egypt. In time she bore to Amram Aaron and Moses and Miriam their sister. ([Numbers 26:59](#))
- Lazarus was **brother** to Martha and Mary.
- Now there was a certain man sick, Lazarus of Bethany, of the village of Mary and of Martha her sister. ([John 11:1](#))
- Accordingly many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary in order to console them concerning their **brother**. ([John 11:19](#))
- **Brothers** also designates **half brothers**, those with the same father but a different mother, as in the case of Jacob's 12 sons by four different women.
- And it came about while Israel was tabernacling in that land that once Reuben went and lay down with Bilhah his father's concubine, and Israel got to hear of it. So there came to be twelve sons of Jacob. ([Genesis 35:22](#))
- The sons by Leah were Jacob's firstborn Reuben and Simeon and Levi and Judah and Issachar and Zebulun. ([Genesis 35:23](#))
- The sons by Rachel were Joseph and Benjamin. ([Genesis 35:24](#))
- And the sons by Bilhah, Rachel's maidservant, were Dan and Naphtali. ([Genesis 35:25](#))
- And the sons by Zilpah, Leah's maidservant, were Gad and Asher. These are Jacob's sons who were born to him in Paddanaram. ([Genesis 35:26](#))
- When his **brothers** came to see that their father loved him more than all his brothers, they began to hate him, and they were not

able to speak peacefully to him. (**Genesis 37:4**)

- Accordingly ten **brothers** of Joseph went down to buy grain from Egypt. (**Genesis 42:3**)
- But Jacob did not send Benjamin, Joseph's **brother**, with his other brothers, because he said; Otherwise a fatal accident may befall him. (**Genesis 42:4**)
- At this they said; Your servants are twelve **brothers**. We are the sons of but one man in the land of Canaan, and here the youngest is with our father today, whereas the other one is no more. (**Genesis 42:13**)
- Also, offspring of the same mother but of different fathers, as in the case of Jesus and his **brothers**, and possibly in that of David's relationship to his sisters.

See also, Brothers of Jesus below.

- Is this not the carpenter's son? Is not his mother called Mary, and his **brothers** James and Joseph and Simon and Judas? (**Matthew 13:55**)
- Jesse, in turn, became father to his firstborn Eliab, and Abinadab the second, and Shimea the third. (**1 Chronicles 2:13**)
- Nethanel the fourth, Raddai the fifth. (**1 Chronicles 2:14**)
- Ozem the sixth, David the seventh. (**1 Chronicles 2:15**)
- And their sisters were Zeruiah and Abigail, and the sons of Zeruiah were Abishai and Joab and Asahel, three. (**1 Chronicles 2:16**)
- And Amasa was the one whom Absalom put in the place of Joab over the army, and Amasa was the son of a man whose name was Ithra the Israelite, who had relations with Abigail the daughter of Nahash, the sister of Zeruiah, Joab's mother. (**2 Samuel 17:25**)

- The term **brother**, however, was not limited to the immediate fleshly relationship. Abraham and Laban referred to their **nephews** Lot and Jacob respectively as **brothers**.
- And this is the history of Terah. Terah became father to Abram, Nahor and Haran, and Haran became father to Lot. (**Genesis 11:27**)
- Hence Abram said to Lot; Please, do not let any quarreling continue between me and you and between my herdsmen and your herdsmen, for we men are **brothers**. (**Genesis 13:8**)
- Thus Abram got to hear that his **brother** had been taken captive. With that he mustered his trained men, three hundred and eighteen slaves born in his household, and went in pursuit up to Dan. (**Genesis 14:14**)
- And he proceeded to recover all the goods, and he recovered also Lot his **brother** and his goods and also the women and the people. (**Genesis 14:16**)
- And it came about that when Jacob saw Rachel the daughter of Laban his mother's brother and the sheep of Laban his mother's brother, Jacob immediately approached and rolled away the stone from off the mouth of the well and watered the sheep of Laban his mother's brother. (**Genesis 29:10**)
- And Jacob began to tell Rachel that he was the **brother** of her father and that he was the son of Rebekah. And she went running and telling her father. (**Genesis 29:12**)
- After that Laban said to Jacob; Are you my **brother**, and must you serve me for nothing? Tell me, What are your wages to be? (**Genesis 29:15**)
- So Moses called Mishael and Elzaphan, the sons of Uzziel, Aaron's uncle, and said to them; Come near, carry your **brothers** from in front of the holy place to outside the camp. (**Leviticus 10:4**)
- Fellow members of the same tribe in Israel enjoyed a **brotherly** relationship.
- My **brothers** you are, my bone and my flesh you are. So why should you become the last one's to bring the king back? (**2**

Samuel 19:12)

- And to Amasa you should say; Are you not my bone and my flesh? So may God do to me and so may he add to it if you will not become the army chief before me always instead of Joab. (**2 Samuel 19:13**)
- And he must minister to his **brothers** in the tent of meeting in taking care of the obligation, but he must render no service. In accord with this you will do to the Levites in their obligations. (**Numbers 8:26**)
- And in a still larger sense the entire nation of Israel were **brothers**, offspring, as they were, of one common father Jacob, and they were united in worship of the same God, Yehowah.
- Now it came about in those days, as Moses was becoming strong, that he went out to his **brothers** that he might look at the burdens they were bearing, and he caught sight of a certain Egyptian striking a certain Hebrew of his **brothers**. (**Exodus 2:11**)
- In case there should be sold to you your **brother**, a Hebrew or a Hebrewess, and he has served you six years, then in the seventh year you should send him out from you as one set free. (**Deuteronomy 15:12**)
- And if you greet your **brothers** only, what extraordinary thing are you doing? Are not also the people of the nations doing the same thing? (**Matthew 5:47**)
- And now, **brothers**, I know that you acted in ignorance, just as your rulers also did. (**Acts of Apostles 3:17**)
- In fact, Moses said; Yehowah God will raise up for you from among your **brothers** a prophet like me. You must listen to him according to all the things he speaks to you. (**Acts of Apostles 3:22**)
- Now when the time of his fortieth year was being fulfilled, it came into his heart to make an inspection of his **brothers**, the sons of Israel. (**Acts of Apostles 7:23**)
- For I could wish that I myself were separated as the cursed one from the Christ in behalf of my **brothers**, my relatives according

to the flesh. (**Romans 9:3**)

- Even the Edomites, who descended from Abraham through Jacob's twin **brother** Esau, thereby being related to Israel, were called brothers.
- Subsequently Moses sent messengers from Kadesh to the king of Edom; This is what your **brother** Israel has said; You yourself well know all the hardship that has overtaken us. (**Numbers 20:14**)
- The reunited kingdoms of Judah and Israel were referred to as in a **brotherhood**, Hebrew, *a-chawah'*.
- Then I cut in pieces my second staff, the Union, in order to break the **brotherhood** between Judah and Israel. (**Zechariah 11:14**)
- **Brother** is also applied to those united in a general cause and having similar aims and purposes. For example, King Hiram of Tyre called King Solomon his brother, not simply because he was an **equal in rank and position** but also perhaps because **of mutual interests** in supplying timbers and other things for the temple.
- So he said; What sort of cities are these that you have given me, my **brother**? And they came to be called the Land of Cabul down to this day. (**1 Kings 9:13**)
- And Hiram the king of Tyre proceeded to send his servants to Solomon, for he had heard that it was he that they had anointed as king in place of his father, for a lover of David Hiram had always proved to be. (**1 Kings 5:1**)
- In turn Solomon sent to Hiram, saying; (**1 Kings 5:2**)
- You yourself well know that David my father was not able to build a house to the name of Yehowah his God because of the warfare with which they surrounded him, until Yehowah put them under the soles of his feet. (**1 Kings 5:3**)
- And now Yehowah my God has given me rest all around. There is no resister, and there is nothing bad happening. (**1 Kings 5:4**)
- And here I am thinking of building a house to the name of Yehowah my God, just as Yehowah promised to David my father,

- saying; Your son whom I shall put upon your throne in place of you, he is the one that will build the house to my name. (**1 Kings 5:5**)
- And now command that they cut for me cedars from Lebanon, and my servants themselves will prove to be with your servants, and the wages of your servants I shall give to you according to all that you may say, for you yourself well know that there is among us no one knowing how to cut trees like the Sidonians. (**1 Kings 5:6**)
 - And it came about that as soon as Hiram heard the words of Solomon, he began to rejoice greatly, and he went on to say; Blessed is Yehowah today in that he has given David a wise son over this numerous people! (**1 Kings 5:7**)
 - Accordingly Hiram sent to Solomon, saying; I have heard what you sent to me. For my part, I shall do all your delight in the matter of timbers of cedar trees and timbers of juniper trees. (**1 Kings 5:8**)
 - My servants themselves will bring them down out of Lebanon to the sea, and I, for my part, shall put them in log rafts to go by sea clear to the place that you will send me notice of, and I shall certainly have them broken up there, and you, for your part, will carry them, and you, for your part, will do my delight by giving the food for my household. (**1 Kings 5:9**)
 - So Hiram became a giver of timbers of cedar trees and timbers of juniper trees to Solomon according to all his delight. (**1 Kings 5:10**)
 - And Solomon, for his part, gave Hiram twenty thousand cor measures of wheat as food supplies for his household and twenty cor measures of beaten-out oil. That was what Solomon kept giving Hiram year by year. (**1 Kings 5:11**)
 - And Yehowah, for his part, gave Solomon wisdom, just as he had promised him, and there came to be peace between Hiram and Solomon, and both of them proceeded to conclude a covenant. (**1 Kings 5:12**)

- Look! How good and how pleasant it is for **brothers** to dwell together in unity! David wrote, implying that it is not blood relations alone that make for peace and **unity between fleshly brothers**.
- Look! How good and how pleasant it is for **brothers** to **dwell together in unity!** (**Psalms 133:1**)
- In fact, mutual affection and interest, not common parentage, prompted David to call Jonathan his **brother**.
- I am distressed over you, my **brother** Jonathan, very pleasant you were to me. More wonderful was your love to me than the love from women. (**2 Samuel 1:26**)
- Companions having similar natures and dispositions, even when such are bad, are properly called **brothers**.
- Also, the one showing himself slack in his work, he is a **brother** to the one causing ruin. (**Proverbs 18:9**)
- In the patriarchal society and under the Mosaic Law, certain privileges and obligations were assumed by fleshly **brothers**. With the death of the father, the oldest **brother**, the firstborn, received a double share of the family inheritance and the responsibility of acting as head for the family. A fleshly **brother** was first in line for the right of repurchase, levirate marriage, and avenging blood.
- After he has sold himself, the right of repurchase will continue in his case. One of his **brothers** may buy him back. (**Leviticus 25:48**)
- Or his uncle or the son of his uncle may buy him back, or any blood relative of his flesh, one of his family, may buy him back. Or if his own hand has become wealthy, he must also buy himself back. (**Leviticus 25:49**)
- In case **brothers** dwell together and one of them has died without his having a son, the wife of the dead one should not become a strange man's outside. Her brother-in-law should go to her, and he must take her as his wife and perform **brother-in-law** marriage with her. (**Deuteronomy 25:5**)
- Incestuous relations between **brother** and sister were strictly forbidden by the Mosaic Law.

- As for the nakedness of your sister, the daughter of your father or the daughter of your mother, whether born in the same household or born outside it, you **must not lay bare their nakedness.** (Leviticus 18:9)
- Cursed is the one who lies down with his sister, the daughter of his father or the daughter of his mother. And all the people must say; Amen! (Deuteronomy 27:22)
- In the Christian congregation members enjoy a common spiritual relationship analogous to that of **brothers**. Jesus called his disciples brothers.
- And in reply the king will say to them, truly I say to you; To the extent that you did it to one of the least of these my **brothers**, you did it to me. (Matthew 25:40)
- Then Jesus said to them; Have no fear! Go, report to my **brothers**, that they may go off into Galilee, and there they will see me. (Matthew 28:10)
- Jesus said to her; Stop clinging to me. For I have not yet ascended to the Father. But be on your way to my **brothers** and say to them, I am ascending to my Father and your Father and to my God and your God. (John 20:17)
- He strongly emphasized this relationship, saying;
- As an answer he said to the one telling him; Who is my mother, and who are my **brothers**? (Matthew 12:48)
- And extending his hand toward his disciples, he said; Look! My mother and my **brothers**! (Matthew 12:49)
- For whoever does the will of my Father who is in heaven, the same is my **brother**, and sister, and mother. (Matthew 12:50)
- Hence blood relatives must be loved less than Christ, and must be left behind on his account if necessary.
- He that has greater affection for father or mother than for me is not worthy of me, and he that has greater affection for son or daughter than for me is not worthy of me. (Matthew 10:37)

- And everyone that has left houses or **brothers** or sisters or father or mother or children or lands for the sake of my name will receive many times more and will inherit everlasting life. (**Matthew 19:29**)
- If anyone comes to me and does not hate his father and mother and wife and children and **brothers** and sisters, yes, and even his own soul, he cannot be my disciple. (**Luke 14:26**)
- Indeed, **brother** may deliver brother over to death.
- Furthermore, **brother** will deliver brother over to death, and a father a child, and children will rise up against parents and have them put to death. (**Mark 13:12**)
- The term **brother** extends out beyond the immediate associates of Jesus to include the whole congregation of believers.
- But you, do not you be called Rabbi, for one is your teacher, whereas all you are **brothers**. (**Matthew 23:8**)
- Consequently he was obliged to become like his **brothers** in all respects, that he might become a merciful and faithful High Priest in things pertaining to God, in order to offer propitiatory sacrifice for the sins of the people. (**Hebrews 2:17**)
- the whole association of **brothers** who have the work of witnessing to Jesus.
- Honor men of all sorts, have love for the whole association of **brothers**, be in fear of God, have honor for the king. (**1 Peter 2:17**)
- But take your stand against him, solid in the faith, knowing that the same things in the way of sufferings are being accomplished in the entire association of your **brothers** in the world. (**1 Peter 5:9**)
- At that I fell down before his feet to worship him. But he tells me; Be careful! Do not do that! All I am is a fellow slave of you and of your **brothers** who have the work of witnessing to Jesus. Worship God, for the bearing witness to Jesus is what inspires prophesying. (**Revelation 19:10**)

- Such an association of **spiritual brothers** shows **brotherly** love in its fullest measure.
- In **brotherly** love have tender affection for one another. In showing honor to one another take the lead. (**Romans 12:10**)
- Let your **brotherly** love continue. (**Hebrews 13:1**)
- Peter at Pentecost addressed those from faraway lands, including proselytes, all as **brothers**.
- And yet how is it we are hearing, each one of us, his own language in which we were born? (**Acts of Apostles 2:8**)
- Parthians and Medes and Elamites, and the inhabitants of Mesopotamia, and Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and the district of Asia. (**Acts of Apostles 2:9**)
- And Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya, which is toward Cyrene, and sojourners from Rome, both Jews and proselytes. (**Acts of Apostles 2:10**)
- Men, **brothers**, it is allowable to speak with freeness of speech to you concerning the family head David, that he both deceased and was buried and his tomb is among us to this day. (**Acts of Apostles 2:29**)
- Now when they heard this they were stabbed to the heart, and they said to Peter and the rest of the apostles; Men, brothers, what shall we do? (**Acts of Apostles 2:37**)
- Sometimes male Christian believers were distinguished as **brothers** and females as **sisters**
- For the unbelieving husband is sanctified in relation to his wife, and the unbelieving wife is sanctified in relation to the **brother**, otherwise, your children would really be unclean, but now they are holy. (**1 Corinthians 7:14**)
- But if the unbelieving one proceeds to depart, let him depart, a **brother** or a **sister** is not in servitude under such circumstances, but God has called you to peace. (**1 Corinthians 7:15**)

- But generally **brothers** was the accepted greeting to mixed groups and was not restricted to males.
- Now during these days Peter rose up in the midst of the **brothers** and said, the crowd of persons was all together about one hundred and twenty. (**Acts of Apostles 1:15**)
- But I do not want you to fail to know, **brothers**, that I many times purposed to come to you, but I have been hindered until now, in order, that I might acquire some fruitage also among you even as among the rest of the nations. (**Romans 1:13**)
- For we know, **brothers** loved by God, his choosing of you. (**1 Thessalonians 1:4**)
- The term is used in this sense in all but three of the inspired Christian letters (**Titus, 2 John, Jude**) and in the works of early church writers. The apostles warned against false **brothers** who infiltrated the congregations.
- In journeys often, in dangers from rivers, in dangers from highwaymen, in dangers from my own race, in dangers from the nations, in dangers in the city, in dangers in the wilderness, in dangers at sea, in dangers among false **brothers**. (**2 Corinthians 11:26**)
- But because of the false **brothers** brought in quietly, who sneaked in to spy upon our freedom which we have in union with Christ Jesus, that they might completely enslave us. (**Galatians 2:4**)

.. Brothers Of Jesus

- The four Gospels, the Acts of Apostles, and two of Paul's letters mention the Lord's **brothers**, the **brother** of the Lord, his **brothers**, his **sisters**, naming four of the **brothers**, **James, Joseph, Simon, and Judas**.
- While he was yet speaking to the crowds, look! His mother and **brothers** took up a position outside seeking to speak to him. (**Matthew 12:46**)
- Is this not the carpenter's son? Is not his mother called Mary, and his **brothers** **James and Joseph and Simon and Judas**? (**Matthew 13:55**)

- And his **sisters**, are they not all with us? Where, then, did this man get all these things? (**Matthew 13:56**)
- Now his mother and his **brothers** came, and, as they were standing on the outside, they sent in to him to call him. (**Mark 3:31**)
- Now his mother and **brothers** came toward him, but they were unable to get to him because of the crowd. (**Luke 8:19**)
- After this he and his mother and **brothers** and his disciples went down to Capernaum, but they did not stay there many days. (**John 2:12**)
- With one accord all these were persisting in prayer, together with some women and Mary the mother of Jesus and with his **brothers**. (**Acts of Apostles 1:14**)
- We have authority to lead about a sister as a wife, even as the rest of the apostles and the Lords **brothers** and Cephas, do we not? (**1 Corinthians 9:5**)
- But I saw no one else of the apostles, only James the **brother** of the Lord. (**Galatians 1:19**)
- The majority of Bible scholars accept the cumulative evidence that Jesus had at least four **brothers** and two **sisters** and that all were offspring of Joseph and Mary by natural means after the miraculous birth of Jesus.
- In the Greek Scriptures where the account involved a nephew or cousin, *a-del-phos'* is not used. Rather, the relationship is explained, as the son of Paul's sister or Mark the cousin *Greek a-ne-psi-os'*; of Barnabas.
- However, the son of Paul's sister heard of their lying in wait, and he came and entered into the soldiers quarters and reported it to Paul. (**Acts of Apostles 23:16**)
- Aristarchus my fellow captive sends you his greetings, and so does Mark the cousin of Barnabas, concerning whom you received commands to welcome him if ever he comes to you. (**Colossians 4:10**)

- Moreover, you will be delivered up even by parents and **brothers** and relatives and friends, and they will put some of you to death. (Luke 21:16)
- The Greek words *syg-ge-non*, 'relatives, such as cousins, and *a-del-phon*', **brothers**, both occur, showing that the terms are **not used loosely or indiscriminately in the Greek Scriptures.**
- When, during Jesus ministry, his **brothers** were, in fact, **not exercising faith in him**, this would certainly **rule out** their being his **brothers in a spiritual sense.**
- Therefore his **brothers** said to him, Pass on over from here and go into Judea, in order, that your disciples also may behold the works you do. (John 7:3)
- For nobody does anything in secret while himself seeking to be known publicly. If you do these things, manifest yourself to the world. (John 7:4)
- His **brothers** were, in fact, **not exercising faith in him.** (John 7:5)
- Jesus contrasted these fleshly **brothers** with **his disciples**, who **believed in him and who were his spiritual brothers.**
- While he was yet speaking to the crowds, look! His mother and **brothers** took up a position outside seeking to speak to him. (Matthew 12:46)
- So someone said to him; Look! Your mother and your **brothers** are standing outside, seeking to speak to you. (Matthew 12:47)
- As an answer he said to the one telling him; **Who is my mother, and who are my brothers?** (Matthew 12:48)
- And extending his hand toward his disciples, he said; Look! **My mother and my brothers!** (Matthew 12:49)
- For whoever does the will of my Father who is in heaven, the same is my **brother**, and sister, and mother. (Matthew 12:50)
- Now his mother and his **brothers** came, and, as they were standing on the outside, they sent in to him to call him. (Mark

3:31)

- As it was, a crowd was sitting around him, so they said to him, Look! Your mother and your **brothers** outside are seeking you. (**Mark 3:32**)
- But in reply he said to them; Who are my mother and my **brothers**? (**Mark 3:33**)
- And having looked about upon those sitting around him in a circle, he said; See, my mother and my **brothers**! (**Mark 3:34**)
- Whoever does the will of God, this one is my **brother** and sister and mother. (**Mark 3:35**)
- Now his mother and **brothers** came toward him, but they were unable to get to him because of the crowd. (**Luke 8:19**)
- However, it was reported to him; Your mother and your **brothers** are standing outside wanting to see you. (**Luke 8:20**)
- In reply he said to them; My mother and my **brothers are these who hear the word of God and do it.** (**Luke 8:21**)
- This lack of faith on the part of his fleshly **brothers** prohibits identifying them with apostles of the same names, James, Simon, Judas. They are explicitly distinguished from Jesus disciples.
- After this he and his mother and **brothers** and his disciples went down to Capernaum, but they did not stay there many days. (**John 2:12**)
- The relationship these fleshly **brothers** of Jesus had with his mother Mary also indicates they were her children rather than more distant relatives. They are usually mentioned in association with her. Statements to the effect that Jesus was Mary's **firstborn**.
- And she gave birth to her son, the **firstborn**, and she bound him with cloth bands and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the lodging room. (**Luke 2:7**)
- And that Joseph had no intercourse with her until she gave birth to a son, also support the view that Joseph and Mary had other children.

- But he had no intercourse with her until she gave birth to a son, and he called his name Jesus. (**Matthew 1:25**)
- Even Nazarene neighbors recognized and identified Jesus as the **brother** of **James and Joseph and Judas and Simon**, adding; And his **sisters** are here with us, are they not?
- This is the carpenter the son of Mary and the **brother** of **James and Joseph and Judas and Simon**, is it not? And his **sisters** are here with us, are they not? So they began to stumble at him. (**Mark 6:3**)
- In the light of these scriptures, the question is asked; Why, then, should Jesus just before his death entrust the care of his mother Mary to the apostle John instead of to his **fleshly brothers**?
- Therefore Jesus, seeing his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing by, said to his mother; **Woman, see! Your son!** (**John 19:26**)
- Next he said to the disciple; See! Your mother! And from that hour on the disciple took her to his own home. (**John 19:27**)
- Manifestly because Jesus cousin, the apostle John, was a man who had **proved his faith**, he was the **disciple** whom Jesus loved so dearly, and this **spiritual relationship transcended that of the flesh**, in fact, there is no indication that his fleshly **brothers** were, as yet, disciples of Jesus.
- After Jesus resurrection his fleshly **brothers** changed their doubting attitude, for they were present with their mother and the apostles when assembled for prayer after Jesus ascension.
- With one accord all these were persisting in prayer, together with some women and Mary the mother of Jesus and with his **brothers**. (**Acts of Apostles 1:14**)
- This suggests that they were present also at the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost. Jesus **brother** James, who was singled out prominently among the older men of the older men in Jerusalem, wrote the letter bearing his name.
- But he motioned to them with his hand to be silent and told them

in detail how Yehowah brought him out of the prison, and he said, Report these things to James and the **brothers**. With that he went out and journeyed to another place. (**Acts of Apostles 12:17**)

- After they quit speaking, James answered, saying; Men, **brothers**, hear me. (**Acts of Apostles 15:13**)
- But on the following day Paul went in with us to James, and all the older men were present. (**Acts of Apostles 21:18**)
- But I saw no one else of the apostles, only James the **brother** of the Lord. (**Galatians 1:19**)
- James, a slave of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ, to the twelve tribes that are scattered about. Greetings! (**James 1:1**)
- Jesus **brother** Jude penned the book bearing his name.
- Jude, a slave of Jesus Christ, but a **brother** of James, to the called one's who are loved in relationship with God the Father and preserved for Jesus Christ. (**Jude 1:1**)
- As for you, beloved ones, call to mind the sayings that have been previously spoken by the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ. (**Jude 1:17**)
- Paul indicates that at least some of Jesus **brothers** were married.
- We have authority to lead about a sister as a wife, even as the rest of the apostles and the Lord's **brothers** and Cephas, do we not? (**1 Corinthians 9:5**)