



# CROSS to CROWN (4)

Shalom Ministries International  
April 19, 2026

# People Transformed by Jesus' Resurrection

- Peter
  - “It is true! The Lord has risen and has appeared to Simon” (Luke 24:34).
  - Transformed from a fearful disciple who denied Jesus into a bold leader who preached to thousands, testifying to the resurrection.
- Thomas
  - Then he (Jesus) said to Thomas, “Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe.” Thomas said to him, “My Lord and my God!” (John 20:27-28).
- Paul
  - Transformed from a persecutor of Christians into the primary apostle to the Gentiles after encountering the resurrected Jesus on the Damascus Road.
- Early Church (Acts 2-4)
  - The apostles and early believers were emboldened to spread Christianity, despite persecution, by the conviction of the resurrection.
- Jesus' brothers

# Question

Did Jesus have brothers and sisters? How many sons and daughter did Mary and Joseph have (including Jesus)?

- 1 (Only Jesus)
- 3 (Jesus and probably 2 more)
- 5 children including Jesus
- 7+ (including Jesus)
- Don't know

“Isn't this the carpenter? Isn't this Mary's son and the brother of James, Joseph, Judas (Jude) and Simon? Aren't his sisters here with us?” And they took offense at him (Mark 6:3).

# Bible Teaches Jesus Had Brothers and Sisters

- While Jesus was still talking to the crowd, his mother and **brothers** stood outside, wanting to speak to him (Matthew 12:46).
- “Isn’t this the carpenter’s son? Isn’t his mother’s name Mary, and aren’t his **brothers** James, Joseph, Simon and Judas?” (Matthew 13:55).
- “Isn’t this the carpenter? Isn’t this Mary’s son and the **brother** of James, Joseph, Judas and Simon? Aren’t his **sisters** here with us?” And they took offense at him (Mark 6:3).
- After this he went down to Capernaum with his mother and **brothers** and his disciples. There they stayed for a few days (John 2:12).
- Jesus’ **brothers** said to him, “Leave Galilee and go to Judea, so that your disciples there may see the works you do...” For even his own **brothers** did not believe in him (John 7:3-5).

# Is Mary Perpetual Virginty?

- Some (Catholic) argue that Mary remained a virgin all her life
  - Mary was holy and would not have married and given birth to children, which is wrong.
- Mary only remained a virgin until Jesus was born
  - He (Joseph) did not consummate their marriage until she gave birth to a son. And he gave him the name Jesus (Matthew 1:25).
- Jesus was Mary's first-born son that implies she had other sons
  - She gave birth to her **firstborn**, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them (Luke 2:7).
- Mary is to be worshipped is not taught or implied
  - The angel went to her and said, "Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you....Do not be afraid, Mary; you have found favor with God" (Luke 1:28-30).
- We are to worship only God
  - "Away from me, Satan! Worship the Lord your God and serve him only" (Matthew 4:10).
  - It is sinful to worship Mary, the apostles, the angels.

# The Brothers of Jesus

- They were unbelievers during the ministry of Christ
  - For even his own brothers did not believe in him (John 7:5).
  - When his family heard about this, they went to take charge of him, for they said, “He is out of his mind” (Mark 3:21).
  - Jesus said to them, “A prophet is not without honor except in his own town, among his relatives and in his own home (family)” (Mark 6:4).
- Because of the poverty of Jesus and His family
  - Joseph and Mary took him to Jerusalem to present him (Jesus) to the Lord...and to offer a sacrifice: a pair of doves or two young pigeons (Luke 2:22-24).
  - Jesus replied, “Foxes have dens and birds have nests, but the Son of Man has no place to lay his head” (Matthew 8:20).
- His perfection generates rejection, jealousy, and hostility
  - This High Priest of ours understands our weaknesses, for he faced all of the same testings we do, yet he did not sin (Hebrews 4:15).

# The Resurrection of Jesus Changed Them

- Before the resurrection
  - His brothers were not the scene around His death.
  - When Jesus saw his mother there, and the disciple whom he loved standing nearby, he said to her, “Woman, here is your son,” and to the disciple, “Here is your mother.” From that time on, this disciple took her into his home (John 19:26-27).
- After the resurrection of Jesus, He appeared to His brother
  - That he was raised on the third day...and that he appeared to Cephas, and then to the Twelve. After that, he appeared to more than five hundred of the brothers and sisters at the same time... Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles, and last of all he appeared to me also (1 Corinthians 15:4-8).
- The rest of family were in the upper room on the day of Pentecost
  - They all joined together constantly in prayer, along with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brothers (Acts 1:14).

# The Life of James the Just

- Believing brother
  - Jesus appeared to him and saved him.
- He became an apostle
  - I saw none of the other **apostles**—only James, the Lord’s brother (Galatians 1:19).
- A pillar in the church
  - **James**, Cephas and John, those esteemed as pillars (Galatians 2:9).
- He directs the the Jerusalem council
  - “Tell **James** and the other brothers and sisters about this,” he (Peter) said, and then he left for another place (Acts 12:17).
  - **James** spoke up. “Brothers,” he said, “listen to me. Simon has described to us how God first intervened to choose a people for his name from the Gentiles (Acts 15:13-14).
  - When we arrived at Jerusalem, the brothers and sisters received us warmly. The next day Paul and the rest of us went to see **James**, and all the elders were present (Acts 21:17-18).
- His death
  - He was martyred in 62 AD by stoning (by the Sanhedrin under high priest Ananus). He was thrown from the temple pinnacle, survived, prayed for his killers, and was then killed by a blow from a fuller's club.

# James and Jude

- Humbleness
  - James, a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ (James 1:1).
  - Jude, a servant of Jesus Christ and a brother of James (Jude 1:1).
- A righteous man
  - James the Just, James the Righteousness
  - James commands believers to live a life of righteousness, a life of virtue, a life of obedience.
- A loving pastor
  - Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance (James 1:2-3).
  - Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry, because human anger does not produce the righteousness that God desires (James 1:19-20).
- A man of prayer
  - Therefore, confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective (James 5:16).

# Lessons from James and Jude

- Evidence of the resurrection:
  - Their conversion is attributed to seeing the risen Christ, a personal appearance to James, which transformed them from skeptics into believers.
  - Even those closest to Jesus, who observed his life firsthand, needed a divine turning point to accept him as Lord, showing that salvation is a result of God's calling.
- Humility over privilege:
  - Despite being blood relatives of Jesus, James and Jude did not boast of their status. They describes themselves as servants of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ, emphasizing humble faith.
- Hope for family conversion:
  - Their journey is a powerful reminder not to lose hope for loved ones who currently reject Jesus; those closest to the faith can become leaders in the kingdom.