

A SON OF THUNDER
MATT. 4:18-22 / 6-23-19 / PM

I. JAMES' LIFE.

- A. Two of the twelve were named James.
 - 1. James the son of Alphaeus.
 - 2. James the son of Zebedee.
 - 3. Jesus' brother and the first pastor of the Jerusalem church was also named James.
- B. Name: "Same as Jacob which means "heel-catcher" or "supplanter".
- C. Home: Bethsaida then Capernaum.
- D. Family.
 - 1. Father: Zebedee—Mat. 4:21.
 - 2. Mother: Salome (maybe Mary's sister) — John 19:25, Mark 15:40.
 - 3. This means James and John were Jesus' first cousins.
- E. Occupation: Fishermen and partners with Peter and Andrew. Man of affluence—Mark 1:20.
- F. Calling: Matt. 4:21-22.
- G. Nickname:--Mark 3:17, Luke 9:52-55.
- H. One of the three closest disciples to Jesus having witnessed three things the others didn't.
 - 1. Raising of Jarius' daughter from the dead.
 - 2. Transfiguration.
 - 3. In Garden of Gethsemane with Jesus.
- I. His mother and her sons made a request from Jesus—Matt. 20:20-24, Mark 10:35.

II. JAMES' LESSONS.

- 1. We should try to reach our family for Christ.
- 2. John didn't say much but he made an impact for Jesus through those he brought to him.
- 3. We should seek to serve and not seek to be served (Sit on right and left of Jesus). Jesus defined true greatness as service and sacrifice.

4. We should learn to obey Jesus immediately—**Matt. 4:22**--- **Jesus called them, 22 and immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.**
5. He willingly forsook everyone and everything for Christ (family and family business). God doesn't always ask us for everything but he does want to know that he could ask us for everything—Matt. 10:37.
6. Zeal for God can be misplaced if it isn't tempered by wisdom.
7. You are probably as close to God as you want to be. James chose to be close to Jesus and was successful—James 4:8.