

Signs of the Disciples



I have assembled this document to explain how the Apostles have come to be associated with the various Signs. Each entry lists an Apostle, their associated Sign and then some key attributes of that Sign. The following passages of Scripture (where applicable) and legends highlight the similarities, cementing the associations. We can look to the Apostles and their stories to better understand each Archetype (Sign) as we continue to learn and grow.

Enjoy!

-Ryven

Peter: ♈ **Aries** — brash, adventurous, aggressive, single-minded

Matthew 14:28; "Lord, if it's you," Peter replied, "tell me to come to you on the water."

Matthew 16:14-16; They replied, "Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, Jeremiah or one of the prophets." "But what about you?" he asked. "Who do you say I am?" Simon Peter answered, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God."

Matthew 16:22; "Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. "Never, Lord!" he said. "This shall never happen to you!"

Matthew 18:27; "Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, "Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother when he sins against me? Up to seven times?"

Matthew 19:27; Peter answered him, "We have left everything to follow you! What then will there be for us?"

Matthew 26:35 (33 is similar): "But Peter declared, "Even if I have to die with you, I will never disown you."

Matthew 26:69-75; Denial of Christ

(cross references in Luke and Mark omitted for space)

John 13:8; "No," said Peter, "you shall never wash my feet." ... "Then, Lord," Simon Peter replied, "not just my feet but my hands and my head as well!"

John 18:10; Then Simon Peter, who had a sword, drew it and struck the high priest's servant, cutting off his right ear. (The servant's name was Malchus.)

Simon the Zealot: ♉ **Taurus** — steadfast, conservative, security-oriented, sensual

No applicable Scripture – Simon the Zealot never speaks. I like to think this reflects the Taurean aptitude to sit tight and just hang out. Don't take that too seriously, though. Really the only thing we have that makes sense here is the connection to the Zealots – a group of Jewish rebels concerned with ousting Rome for religious purity and national security reasons.

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James the Lesser: ♊ Gemini – communicative, dualistic, quick-witted, multiplicative

Acts 15:19; "It is my judgment, therefore, that we should not make it difficult for the Gentiles who are turning to God. Instead we should write to them..

James 1:8 ; "A doubleminded man is unstable in all his ways."

Andrew: ♋ Cancer - family oriented, nurturing, protective, tenacious

John 1:41-42; The first thing Andrew did was to find his brother Simon and tell him, "We have found the Messiah" (that is, the Christ).

Like Simon, Andrew was a fisherman and Cancer rules ports and boats and such. The Apocryphal "Acts of Andrew" has many miracles associated with Cancerian themes of family, peace and tenacity: raising the dead, healing the blind, and so forth, he survives being placed amongst fierce animals, calms storms, and defeats armies simply by making the sign of the cross. There is also a great deal of moralising - Andrew causes an embryo which was illegitimate to die, and also rescues a boy from his incestuous mother, an act resulting in her laying false charges against them. God sends an earthquake to free Andrew and the boy. While being crucified, Andrew is still able to give sermons for three days.

John: ♌ Leo – grand, inspiring, 'in the spotlight', regal/noble

Mark 9:38; "Teacher," said John, "we saw a man driving out demons in your name and we told him to stop, because he was not one of us."

Mark 10:35; Then James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came to him. "Teacher," they said, "we want you to do for us whatever we ask."

Luke 9:54; When the disciples James and John saw this, they asked, "Lord, do you want us to call fire down from heaven to destroy them?"

John's Gospel is the only book where Jesus does not hide his identity, but makes claims like "I am the Way the truth and the Life" Also in his own Gospel, John describes himself as 'the one Jesus loved'

Phillip: ♍ Virgo – humble, servant-minded, analytical, detail-oriented

John 1:45; We have found him, of whom Moses in the law, and the prophets, did write, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph.

John 6:5 and 7; "Where shall we buy bread for these people to eat?" "Eight months' wages would not buy enough bread for each one to have a bite!"

Acts 8:35; Then Philip began with that very passage of Scripture and told him the good news about Jesus.

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Nathaniel (Bartholomew): ♎ Libra – artistic, judgmental, values-driven, social
John 1:46; "Nazareth! Can anything good come from there?" Nathanael asked. "Come and see," said Philip.

John 1:48-49; "How do you know me?" Nathanael asked. Jesus answered, "I saw you while you were still under the fig tree before Philip called you." "Rabbi, you are the Son of God; you are the King of Israel."

Two of Nathanael's best known miracles occur on the island of Lipari after his death, both of which involve the weight of objects (Libra of course being the Scales) and one includes a gigantic statue of the Saint.

Thomas: ♏ Scorpio – intense, secluded, truth-seeking, fearless

John 11:16; Then Thomas (called Didymus) said to the rest of the disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with him."

John 14:5; Thomas said to him, "Lord, we don't know where you are going, so how can we know the way?"

John 20:24; "Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe it."

Thomas is noticeably absent from the rest of the apostles who were hiding after Christ's death. He is also traditionally the only witness to Mary's Ascension. Another source claims he met the Magi in India.

James the Greater: ♐ Sagittarius – traveled, cultured, exaggerated, philosophical

Mark 10:35; Then James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came to him. "Teacher," they said, "we want you to do for us whatever we ask."

Luke 9:54; When the disciples James and John saw this, they asked, "Lord, do you want us to call fire down from heaven to destroy them?"

There is a road called the "Way of St. James" in Spain, arguably the furthest documented Apostolic journey. St. James has also made more than one seeming "appearance" to protect nations (Congo, Spain) from external conquerors.

Matthew: ♉ Capricorn – traditional, hierarchical, managerial, ambitious

Matthew was a tax collector, representing both banking and government which are under Capricorn's jurisdiction. Matthew also wrote the Gospel most relating Christ to genealogy, tradition and Law, more Capricorn endeavors. He is depicted in many art pieces as being accompanied by the Rev 4:7 "creature with the face of a human". This creature is Aquarius, the other sign governed by Saturn.

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Thaddeus (Jude): ♊ Aquarius – rebellious, altruistic, eccentric, distant

John 14:22; Then Judas (not Judas Iscariot) said, "But, Lord, why do you intend to show yourself to us and not to the world?"

St. Jude is most famous nowadays for being the patron saint of Lost Causes and the world-renowned children's hospital.

Judas Iscariot: ♋ Pisces – hidden, self-debasing, spiritually-attuned, illusory

Matthew 27:5; So Judas threw the money into the temple and left. Then he went away and hanged himself.

John 13:2; The evening meal was being served, and the devil had already prompted Judas **Iscariot**, son of Simon, to betray Jesus.

The Synoptic Gospels tell us that Judas Iscariot was the hidden betrayer of Jesus. Conversely, the Gospel of Judas (and other modern interpreters, like the musical "Jesus Christ, Superstar") explains that he alone had received the real hidden secrets of Christ and that his betrayal was a necessary plot devised by himself and Jesus.