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THE FALLEN HEROES OF FAITH – LESSON 9

FIVE LITTLE KNOWN APOSTLES

There is but scant information on the works and martyrdom of the five apostles of whom we write today.

Jude, who is credited with the epistle by that name was of the original twelve. He was also called Thaddaeus and Judas (not Iscariot) the brother of James. He was crucified in Edessa in A.D. 72

Bartholomew preached in several countries, traveling even as far as India where he translated the gospel of Mark into their language. It was there in India that he was brutally beaten over a drawn-out period of time, then beheaded by the Hindus.

Luke, who is credited with the gospel of Luke and the Book of Acts, travelled extensively with Paul. It is reported that he was hung on an olive tree by the pagan priests in Greece.

Simon Zelotes preached the gospel in Mauritania, Africa, and even into Britain. It was in Britain where he was crucified in A.D. 74 as Britain was under Roman influence.

Barnabas, also at one time a travel companion of Paul is supposed to have been killed in A.D. 73.

It becomes quite clear that all the Apostles did, in fact carry out Jesus' final instructions recorded in Matthew 28:19, ***"go ye therefore, and teach all nations..."*** and Acts 1:8, ***"...unto the uttermost parts of the earth."*** They all became missionaries bearing the gospel.

Over the years, America has also had that missionary vision to evangelize the world. God has favored us for it. I pray that we continue to do so as we now must resist the current pressure to shut down the gospel.