

The Apostle Matthias?

Two Camps of Interpreters:

- **Camp One:** Matthias was a _____
 - They point out that the Holy Spirit had _____ yet filled the Church with His baptizing power.
 - They say that Christ had not seen the need to _____ Judas during His 40-day post-resurrection ministry.
 - They point out that we read no more of Matthias after this brief _____.
 - They argue that God's proper choice for replacing Judas was the apostle _____, who would come along several years later.
- **Camp Two:** Matthias was God's _____
 - They highlight that the disciples had spent several days in prayer, united in spirit, which suggests they were spiritually _____ to make this decision.
 - Their _____ was appropriate; it was Judas's betrayal, not his death, that left the vacancy.
 - It is noted that these apostles had already received the _____ of the Holy Spirit by this time. (John 20:19-22)
 - They point out that Peter had a _____ basis for replacing Judas, as we pointed out in our last sermon when he quoted from Psalm 69.
 - They believed that the _____ was doing the choosing, not themselves. Acts 1:2, 24
 - Luke, writing under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, called the apostles "the _____" and Peter (ἐνδεκα one and ten + Peter = 12) (Acts 2:14) and "the twelve." (δώδεκα twelve) (6:2).
 - _____ himself, writing under the direct inspiration of the Holy Spirit, called the apostles the "twelve" (δώδεκα twelve). (I Corinthians 15:5)
 - The absence of Matthias' name in the Scriptures following this passage holds little significance, as nearly _____ the apostles, except for Peter and John, vanish from the biblical narrative.
 - Regarding the claim that Paul was chosen by God to be the twelfth apostle, it's worth noting that there was _____ vacancy among the apostles before Paul began his ministry.
 - The Apostle Paul _____ repudiated their choice of Matthias; he maintained his apostleship as unique and not to be identified with that of the twelve. (I Corinthians 15:7-10; Galatians 1:1, 11-17; 2:8)
 - Not only that, but we are told that there were _____ than just twelve people called apostles in the Bible. (Acts 14:14-15; Galatians 1:19; Romans 16:7-8)
 - Finally, the argument is made that the Lord Jesus Christ did not _____ this election at all. God is jealous for His Church and would not have permitted something that would have been so absolutely contrary to His will at the very outset of the Church Age.

My Conclusion: Taking all these things together, I would have to say that it is my conviction that Peter was right in his proposal to the Church, and that the early Church was _____ in electing Matthias as the 12th apostle of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Key Words: Apostles, Witness, Baptism, Resurrection, God's Will, Prayer, Relationship with Christ

Key Verses: Acts 1:21-26; 12:2; John 20:19-22; Psalm 69:25; 109:8; I Corinthians 15:5; 7-10; Galatians 1:1, 11-17; 2:8

Outline of Our Study

- I. **The Requirements vv. 21-22**
- II. **The Request vv. 23-25**
- III. **The Result v.26**

I. The _____ vv. 21-22 “Therefore, of these men who have accompanied us all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, beginning from the baptism of John to that day when He was taken up from us, one of these must become a witness with us of His resurrection.” (Acts 1:21–22, NKJV)

A. He had to have a _____, intimate relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ.

B. He had to have pertinent knowledge of the _____.

- 1. First, there is the fact of His _____.
- 2. Second, there is the _____ of His resurrection.
- 3. Third, there is the fact of His _____.

C. He had to have a perpetual faithfulness to the _____.

II. The _____ vv. “And they proposed two: Joseph called Barsabas, who was surnamed Justus, and Matthias. And they prayed and said, “You, O Lord, who know the hearts of all, show which of these two You have chosen to take part in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas by transgression fell, that He might go to His own place.”” (Acts 1:23–25, NKJV)

A. **The Problem:** Based on the information available, _____ men were equally qualified and fulfilled the requirements.

B. **The _____:** They brought their decisions before God and entrusted them to His Throne.

III. The _____: “And they cast their lots, and the lot fell on Matthias. And he was numbered with the eleven apostles.” (Acts 1:26, NKJV)

A. **The Submission:** You will note that they did not make this an _____ of popularity but of principle.

B. **The _____:** They fully and faithfully accepted the Lord’s will.

Key Words: Apostles, Witness, Baptism, Resurrection, God’s Will, Prayer, Relationship with Christ

Key Verses: Acts 1:21-26; 12:2; John 20:19-22; Psalm 69:25; 109:8; I Corinthians 15:5; 7-10; Galatians 1:1, 11-17; 2:8