



Two of the three closest to Jesus were known as the sons of Thunder. But was it about them that led Jesus to bring them in close to him? Let take an inside look at the lives of James and John.

Characteristics of the sons of thunder:

- **Passionate**

"And he sent messengers on ahead, who went into a Samaritan village to get things ready for him; ⁵³ but the people there did not welcome him, because he was heading for Jerusalem. 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?" Luke 9:52-54

- **Zealous**

"James, son of Zebedee and his brother John (to them he gave the name Boanerges, which means "sons of thunder")" Mark 3:17

- **Ambitious**

"Then James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came over and spoke to him. "Teacher," they said, "we want you to do us a favor." ³⁶ "What is your request?" he asked. ³⁷ They replied, "When you sit on your glorious throne, we want to sit in places of honor next to you, one on your right and the other on your left." ³⁸ But Jesus said to them, "You don't know what you are asking! Are you able to drink from the bitter cup of suffering I am about to drink? Are you able to be baptized with the baptism of suffering I must be baptized with?" Mark 10:35-36

- **Bold**

"The members of the council were amazed when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, for they could see that they were ordinary men with no special training in the Scriptures. They also recognized them as men who had been with Jesus." Acts 4:13