

## The Four Gospels of the Bible, The 12 are Chosen

### Luke 6:12-15

<sup>13</sup> When morning came, he called his disciples to him and chose twelve of them, who he also designated apostles... (NIV)

*At about that same time he climbed a mountain to pray. He was there all night in prayer before God. The next day he summoned his disciples; from them he selected twelve he designated as apostles: Simon, whom he named Peter, Andrew, his brother, James, John, Philip, Bartholomew, Matthew, Thomas, James, son of Alphaeus, Simon, called the Zealot, Judas, son of James, Judas Iscariot, who betrayed him.*

### Climbed a Mountain

A mountain signifies a heavenly experience; as though by physically attaining higher elevation, one can be closer to God. Mountains are mentioned in both the Old and New Testament as having significance to events and occurrences. Here, Jesus prays for guidance and direction in the selection of the twelve.

### How many to choose from..."

Notes indicate that at least 72 were among the prospects for disciple. Why did he choose twelve? Perhaps in conjunction with the twelve tribes of Israel; but maybe for other reasons too.

### What of Judas Iscariot?

Did God make a mistake in the selection of Judas? No, but Judas made a mistake in choosing to betray Jesus and then not repenting of his sin. God's plan and providence must have prepared the crucifixion of Christ in the selection of Judas; yet, the mystery of God's plan and purpose leave us unable to confirm the precision or preparation to such details and events.