

ANDREW: A SOUL WINNER FOR JESUS
John 1:35-42

Introduction:

1. Do you know who the very first disciple of Jesus was?
 - a. Few would answer “Andrew” but he was the first disciple and one of the first two apostles to be called.
 - b. He was the brother of Simon who was given the nickname “Peter” by Jesus.
 - c. Peter overshadows Andrew, but Andrew brought Peter to Christ.

2. Andrew appears to have been a disciple of John the baptizer.
 - a. John came to prepare the way for Christ (Mark 1:1-11).
 - b. John pointed out Jesus to Andrew and another disciple saying, “Behold the Lamb of God!”

3. Andrew and the other disciple followed Jesus.
 - a. Jesus asked, “What do you seek?”
 - b. They replied, “Where are you staying?”
 - c. Jesus answered, “Come and see.”
 - d. They spent the day with Jesus and became believers in Him.

4. Despite his being first in becoming a disciple, Andrew is not well known, nor does the New Testament say much about him.

5. Like countless thousands of others, Andrew was an effective worker for the Lord whose works will only be known in the Judgment.

Discussion:

- I. **ANDREW WAS A FISHERMAN BY OCCUPATION.**
 - A. He was the son of Jonah (Matt. 16:17) and the younger brother of Simon called Peter (John 1:40).
 1. Andrew and Simon were originally from Bethsaida (John 1:44).
 2. They had moved to Capernaum on the Sea of Galilee and owned a house there (Matthew 4:12,13; Mark 1:29).
 3. They were partners in a fishing operation with James, John and Zebedee (Luke 5:10).

 - B. Andrew, Peter, James and John were the first four formally called to be disciples {learners} of Jesus (Matthew 4:18-22).

1. It was some time later they were called to be apostles {one sent on a mission; an ambassador} (Luke 6:12-16).
2. All apostles were disciples but not all disciples were apostles.

II. ANDREW BROUGHT PEOPLE TO JESUS.

A. Andrew brought his brother, Simon, to Jesus.

“He first found his own brother Simon, and said to him, ‘We have found the Messiah {which is translated, the Christ}’” (John 1:41).

1. Had he never brought another, he would have done great work.
2. Ben Franklin was a pioneer preacher who baptized thousands.
3. Samuel Rogers who taught him the Gospel said: “... if I had done no more for my Master than to be instrumental in giving to the world Ben Franklin, I would have no reason to be ashamed; but would feel that I had by no means lived and labored in vain.” (Search for the Ancient Order, Vol. 1, p. 103).
4. If Peter was the spiritual father of those saved on Pentecost, Andrew was their spiritual grandfather for he taught Peter who taught them (1 Cor. 4:15).

B. Andrew brought a boy to Jesus who had five barley loaves and two fish (John 6:1-14).

1. A great multitude followed Jesus and He taught them.
2. He asked Philip, “Where shall we buy bread, that these may eat?” testing him.
3. Philip said, “Two hundred denarii worth of bread is not sufficient for them that every one of them may have a little.”
4. Andrew said, “There is a lad here who has five barley loaves and two small fish, but what are they among so many?”
5. Jesus multiplied the loaves and fishes and fed the multitude.
6. There were twelve baskets of fragments left over.
7. Matthew says those who ate were 5,000 men besides women and children (Matt. 14:21).
8. Philip saw an impossibility, but Andrew saw a possibility.

C. Certain Greeks (proselytes) had come to the Passover and wished to see Jesus (John 12:20-22).

1. They came to Philip for he was of Bethsaida, a Greek city.
2. Philip told Andrew and they together told Jesus.
3. These Greeks were just the beginning of the countless number of Gentiles who would eventually come to the Lord.

D. Andrew was a soul winner, i.e. a personal worker.

- 1. He began first with his own family by bringing Peter to Christ.**
- 2. It is often harder to win one's own family than others.**
- 3. The church is growing rapidly in Africa because Africans are very evangelistic starting with their own family and friends.**

III. ANDREW LIVED IN THE SHADOW OF HIS BROTHER, SIMON.

A. Simon Peter was the oldest for he was known as "Simon, son of Jonah" (Matt. 16:17).

- 1. Andrew was the younger brother of Peter for often he is called "Andrew, Simon Peter's brother"(John 1:40; 6:8; Luke 6:14).**
- 2. Andrew became a disciple of Christ first, but Peter soon overshadowed him.**
- 3. Peter, James and John seem to have had a special relationship with Jesus (Mark 5:37; Mark 9:2; Matt. 26:37).**
- 4. Only one time was Andrew included in this "inner circle" (Matt. 24:3; Mark 13:3).**

B. Peter appears to have been the natural leader of the apostles.

- 1. His name always appears first in the list of the apostles (Matt. 10:2-4; Mark 3:16-19; Luke 6:14-16; Acts 1:13).**
- 2. He was the spokesman for the apostles on several occasions (Acts 1:15ff.).**
- 3. He confessed that "Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God" at Caesarea Philippi and was given "the keys of the kingdom" (Matt. 16:13-19).**
 - a. Peter was privileged to open the doors of the kingdom on Pentecost to the Jews (Acts 2).**
 - b. He also preached the Gospel first to the Gentiles at the household of Cornelius (Acts 10, 11).**

C. Despite Peter's greater prominence, there is never a hint of jealousy, envy or rivalry on Andrew's part.

Conclusion:

- 1. Andrew's name is from "andreas" in the Greek which means "manly."**
- 2. According to Eusebius and other early writers, Andrew preached in Scythia (Southern Russia), Lydia, Thrace and Achaia.**
- 3. Tradition says Andrew was crucified in the year 69 on an X shaped cross.**
- 4. Andrew followed the Great Commission (Matt. 28:19, 20; Mark 16:15,16).**

