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A Biographical Study of Philip the Apostle

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Philip the Apostle

CHRONOLOGICAL SUMMARY

I. His first meeting with Christ
   A. Philip’s willingness—“The day following Jesus would go forth into Galilee, and findeth Philip, and saith unto him, Follow me” (John 1:43).
   B. Philip’s witness—“Philip findeth Nathanael, and saith unto him, We have found him, of whom Moses in the law, and the prophets, did write, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph” (John 1:45).
   C. Philip’s wisdom—“And Nathanael said unto him, Can there any good thing come out of Nazareth? Philip saith unto him, Come and see” (John 1:46).

II. His full-time ministry for Christ
    A. Philip and the Savior
       1. By the Galilean Sea—The wrong reaction: “When Jesus then lifted up his eyes, and saw a great company come unto him, he saith unto Philip, Whence shall we buy bread, that these may eat? And this he said to prove him: for he himself knew what he would do. Philip answered him, Two hundred pennyworth of bread is not sufficient for them, that every one of them may take a little” (John 6:5-7).
       2. In the upper room—The wrong request: “Philip saith unto him, Lord, show us the Father, and it sufficeth us. Jesus saith unto him, Have I been so long time with you, and yet hast thou not known me, Philip? he that hath seen me hath seen the Father; and how sayest thou then, Show us the Father?” (John 14:8-9).
    B. Philip and the seekers—“And there were certain Greeks among them that came up to worship at the feast: The same came therefore to Philip, which was of Bethsaida of Galilee, and desired him, saying, Sir, we would see Jesus. Philip cometh and telleth Andrew: and again Andrew and Philip tell Jesus” (John 12:20-22).

STATISTICS
First mention: Matthew 10:3
Final mention: Acts 1:13
Meaning of his name: “Lover of horses”
Frequency of his name: Referred to 16 times
Occupation: Apostle
Place of birth: Probably the Galilean city of Bethsaida (John 1:44)
Place of death: Tradition says he died at Hierapolis, a city near Colosse and Laodicia.
Important fact about his life: He led Nathanael to Christ (John 1:45-46).