



Christian Martyrs

"AND OTHERS had trial of cruel mockings and scourgings, yea, moreover of bonds and imprisonment: They were stoned, they were sawn asunder, were tempted, were slain with the sword: they wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins; being destitute, afflicted, tormented; (Of whom the world was not worthy:)" -Hebrews 11:36-38

The following information is from [WIKIPEDIA.COM](https://en.wikipedia.org)...

A Christian martyr is one who, without seeking his own death or any harm to others, is murdered or put to death for his religious faith or convictions. Many Christian martyrs suffered cruel and torturous deaths like [stoning](#), [crucifixion](#), and [burning at the stake](#). The word 'martyr' comes from the Greek word translated "witness". Martyrdom is a form of [religious persecution](#).

The first Christian martyr was [Saint Stephen](#) as recorded in the [Acts of the Apostles](#) (6:8-8:3) who was stoned to death for his faith. Stephen was killed (i.e., martyred) for his support, belief and faith in [Jesus](#) of [Nazareth](#) as the [Messiah](#). There were probably many other early Christian martyrs besides Stephen since Saul, later-known as the [Apostle Paul of Tarsus](#), is mentioned as bringing many murderous threats against the disciples or followers of Jesus (Acts 9:1ff.).

The first Christian Martyr in England was Saint Alban, a roman citizen, who lived in Verulamium and, when sheltering a Christian priest, converted to Christianity. When he refused to worship the Roman gods, he was executed. It is believed that the executioner's eyeballs fell out. Since then, Verulamium grew and changed its name to [Saint Albans](#).

In subsequent centuries, especially during periods of widespread [inquisition](#) and [Protestant Reformation](#), many Christians were martyred on charges of [heresy](#).

There are many incredible stories, ancient and contemporary, of Christian martyrdom.

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Early Christian martyrs

- [Saint Stephen](#) was stoned and some 2,000 other Christians suffered at the time of Stephen's persecution.
- [James the Great](#) (Son of [Zebedee](#)) was [beheaded](#) in 44 A.D.
- [Philip the Apostle](#) was crucified in 54 A.D.
- [Matthew the Evangelist](#) killed by a [halberd](#) in 60 A.D.
- [James the Just](#), beaten to death by a club after being crucified and stoned.
- [Matthias](#) was stoned and beheaded.
- [Saint Andrew](#), St. Peter's brother, was crucified.
- [Mark](#) was beaten to death.
- [Saint Peter](#), crucified upside-down.
- [Apostle Paul](#), beheaded in Rome.
- [Saint Jude](#) was crucified.
- [Saint Bartholomew](#) was crucified.
- [Thomas the Apostle](#) was killed by a spear.
- [Luke the Evangelist](#) was hanged.
- [Simon the Zealot](#) was crucified in 74 A.D.

[John the Evangelist](#) was cooked in boiling hot oil but survived and died of old age circa 110 A.D.

2nd and 3rd century A.D.

- [Polycarp](#) of Smyrna, probably around 160 A.D.
- [Ignatius of Antioch](#) in 107 A.D.

- [Justin Martyr](#) of Palestine in 168 A.D.
- The Martyrs of Scili (in North Africa, about 180 A.D.)
The [Passio Sanctorum Scilitanorum](#) is regarded as the oldest Christian text in the Latin language.
- [Perpetua and Felicity](#) of Carthage in 202 A.D.
- [Origen](#) of Alexandria, about 250 A.D.
- [Saint Januarius](#) of Naples, Italy in 305 A.D
- [Saint Philomena](#) of Corfu, Greece (died in Rome) about 305 A.D

Middle Ages Period, 5th century to 15th century

- [John Huss](#) (Jan Huss), [1415](#)
- [Jerome of Prague](#), [1416](#)
- [Joan of Arc](#) (Jeanne d'Arc), [1431](#)

Reformation period, 16th century

- [Felix Manz](#), [1527](#)
 - [Patrick Hamilton](#), [1528](#)
 - [George Blaurock](#), [1529](#)
 - [Thomas More](#), [1535](#)
 - [William Tyndale](#), [1536](#)
 - [Margaret Pole](#), [1541](#)
 - [George Wishart](#), [1546](#)
 - [Hugh Latimer](#), [1555](#)
 - [Nicholas Ridley \(martyr\)](#), 1555
 - [Rowland Taylor](#), 1555
 - [John Hooper](#), 1555
 - [John Rogers \(religious\)](#), 1555
 - [William Hunter \(Protestant martyr\)](#), 1555
 - [Lawrence Saunders](#), 1555
 - [Thomas Cranmer](#) (Anglican martyr), 1556
 - [Dirk Willems](#), [1569](#)
 - [Margaret Ball](#), [1584](#)
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