

Apostolic Fathers

Name: _____ Date: _____

Name	Location	Personal History	Best Known For	Special Notes
Clement				
Hermas				
Ignatius				
Polycarp				
Papias				
Barnabas				

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Clement	Rome	One of the elders of the church of Rome (Some say leading elder)	His letter to the church of Corinth on restoring harmony to a divided church. Urged Christian graces towards one another and to not rebel against the church elders and deacons as some were doing.	His letter almost received Conical status near the end of the 2nd Century. He wrote the letter in 95 or 96)
Hermas	Rome	Hermas had been a slave set free by his mistress, Rhoda. He married and became quite wealthy, but lost it during persecution. He was denounced by his children and lost interest in his wife.	Wrote <i>Shepherd of Hermas</i> - central theme was second repentance for sins after baptism. Oldest complete sermon known.	The work took a period of stages from 90 to 150 to complete. Used by the church in the 2nd and 3rd centuries as catechism.
Ignatius	Antioch	Was a Syrian arrested by Roman authorities for his faith in 110.	Wrote to the churches on his way to expected execution to attempt to eradicate heresies. His solution was to have ruling bishops in each of the local churches.	First to speak of a "Catholic" church. He held that the church could not baptize, celebrate the Eucharist, or perform a marriage without the bishop. First to recommend change in church government.
Polycarp	Turkey	Disciple of the apostle John., and a bishop to Smyrna. Fervently supported orthodox views.	Emphasized faith in Christ in his letters and the working out of that faith in daily living. Spent most of his time combating heretics.	Martyred for his faith in Smyrna in 155 or 156. First Christian written account of martyrdom
Papias	Hieropolis of Phrygia	Hearer of the apostle John.	His writings have been lost, but parts survive in Irenaeus and Eusebius writings.	Declared that Mark got the information for his gospel from Peter.
Barnabas	North Africa	Wrote from Alexandria	Writing of <i>Barnabas</i> around 70-130. Typical literature of area—allegorical. Declared Christian's keeping law not necessary, the work of Christ being sufficient.	Very anti-Judaic as almost to deny an historical connection between Judaism and Christianity.