



Andrew

Transformed People: The Twelve Apostles
(B.L. Newberry, Spring 2020)

Andrew's Fit within the Twelve



Luke 6:14-16

Peter

Andrew

James

John

Philip

Bartholomew

Matthew

Thomas

James (the less)

Simon

Thaddeus

Judas Iscariot

- You may recall from last week that Andrew (a Greek name meaning “manly”) was a member of the core group that spent the most time with our Lord.
- Andrew was the brother of Simon Peter and shared a home with him in Capernaum (originally from Bethsaida).
- Andrew, along with Peter, James, and John, was a net fisherman - a very physical activity.
- Andrew has strong leadership skills, but is more subdued than his brother Simon Peter.

Andrew - The First Called



- Andrew is often referred to as the “First Called” based on **John 1:35ff**.
 - He was a disciple of John the Baptizer
 - The other disciple was likely John himself (often choosing to not name himself)
- It is clear that Andrew is devout and seeking the Messiah.



17th Century by Vannini

Andrew's Character

Seeing Value in the Individual



- Andrew is likely most characterized as one who connects people to Christ. He sees great value in the one. This begins, literally, on Day 1 of his time with Jesus.

Look at **John 1:40-42** and then **John 12:20-22**.

- **Imagine if he hadn't connected Peter?**
- We have no Biblical account of Andrew teaching large crowds, yet more often than not, it is the individual connection that leads to conversion.
- **What is the worth of an “Andrew” in our congregation today?**

Andrew's Character

Seeing Value in the Overlooked



- Andrew was not nearly as bold or prominent as his brother Simon (or even James or John for that matter). Yet he had an uncanny ability to see potential in what others overlooked.
- The account of **John 6:1-12** is an excellent example of this characteristic trait in Andrew. Watch for the difference in Andrew's behavior compared to Philip's.
- **What is the take-away for us today? How does God typically function, based on scriptural examples?**

Andrew's Character

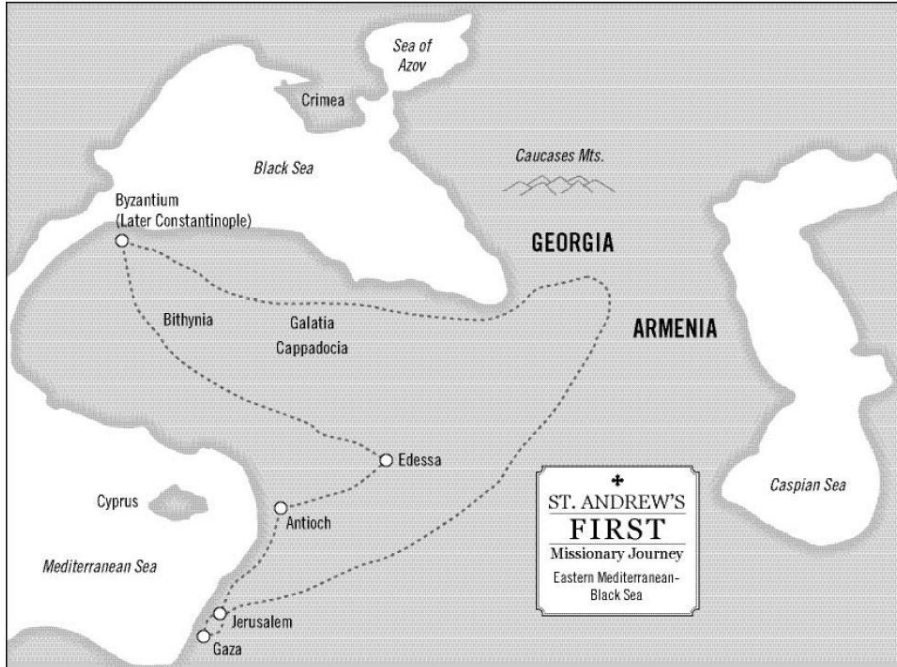
Seeing Value in Support Work



- As stated in passing earlier, Andrew is not spoken of too much in scripture. His name appears in scripture only 13 times. Of these, four times it is in a list of the twelve.
- There are only four stories that involved Andrew in a key way:
 - John 1:41 - When he tells his brother of Jesus
 - John 6:8 - The feeding of the multitude
 - John 12:22 - Andrew assisting in introducing the Greek visitors to Jesus
 - Mark 13:3 - Along with Peter, James, and John, he asks Jesus of times to come
- Andrew never seemed to seek attention or status (as others of the disciples did). Instead, he seemed content to work boldly behind the scenes.
- **What is the value of such a personality in our congregation today?**

Andrew's Possible Travels (1 of 4)

(Most of this is from historical, not Biblical sources)



Historical accounts claim that Andrew traveled extensively; though nothing of these travels is recorded in the Biblical accounts.

His believed first travel circuit began in Jerusalem and extended into modern day Turkey and on to Georgia and Armenia. Tradition says he returned to Jerusalem at this end of this circuit.

Andrew's Possible Travels (2 of 4)

(Most of this is from historical, not Biblical sources)



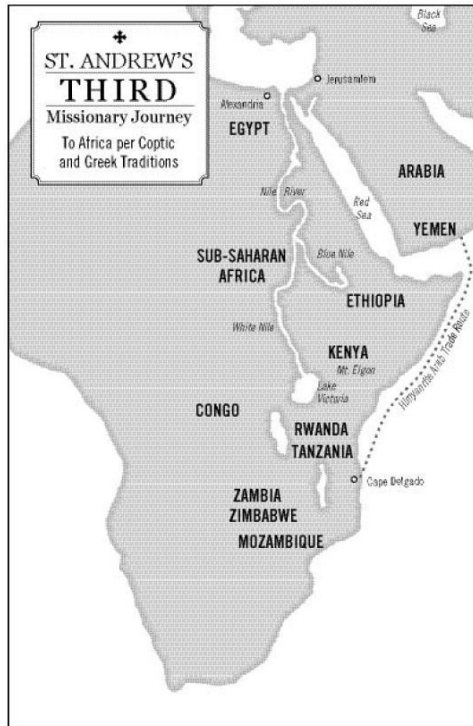
The second believed circuit followed the same route from Jerusalem, but after Antioch detoured by ship to Ephesus and Cyprus.

According to tradition, after Ephesus, he went to Antioch, Nicea, Pontus, and again Georgia.

From Georgia, several traditions say that he went to Parthia (Persia) and then to the present day area of the Pakistan-Iranian border.

Andrew's Possible Travels (3 of 4)

(Most of this is from historical, not Biblical sources)



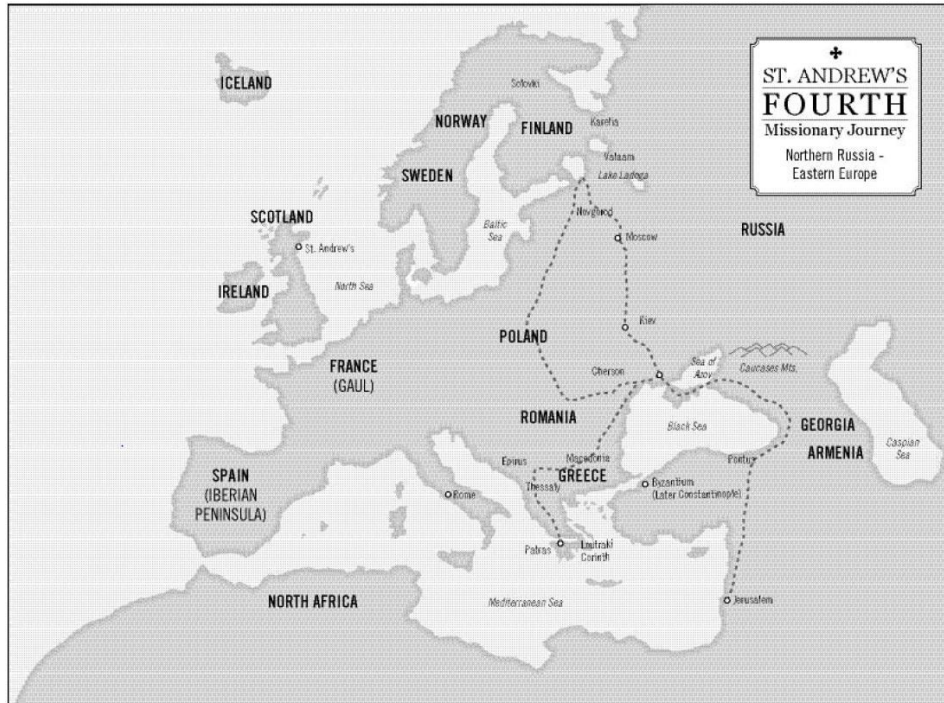
The third travel circuit is a bit less clear. If tradition is believed, it likely occurred around 49 AD. Why? It seems the only time that travel so far into Africa could have occurred. The sources for the African stories are Ethiopian Coptic traditions and an apocryphal Greek source.

The sources say that he went to the land of the Anthropofagi, located on the borders of Tanzania, Uganda, Rwanda and Congo.

Little is know of the details of these journeys and not all believe what is known is factual.

Andrew's Possible Travels (4 of 4)

(Most of this is from historical, not Biblical sources)



The believed fourth, and final, circuit of Andrew started again in Jerusalem. It extended up into much of modern Europe (Russia, Poland, Romania).

Few early texts exist to support the details of these travels. Much is tradition. There are discussions in 11th Century Russian writings, however.

After looping through northern Europe, he returned to Greece where tradition says he was Martyrd.

Stories of Andrew's Martyrdom

(Most of this is from historical, not Biblical sources)



- In Greece he was told to stop spreading the Gospel by the governor Aegeas (still believing in the Roman gods).
- When he refused, Andrew was sentenced to death by crucifixion in the city of Patras, in Achaia, in the year 60 AD.
- Tradition says he was crucified, possibly on a “X” cross, and was bound, not nailed. The flag of Scotland is the X-cross (The Saltire). Andrew is considered the patron saint of Scotland.



Closing Remarks



- We, too often, allow our pride or personal needs to drive us towards roles in our Christian walk that will bring recognition. Yet it is our Lord, Jesus, that should be the focus of all attention and praise.
- We can learn a great deal from Andrew on the value of humble acts that focus on the individual and the overlooked.
- Perhaps a powerful, immediate application of this lesson is in how we react to the current Covid-19 pandemic. It is overwhelming and somewhat paralyzing. Yet our focus on individuals and small, seemingly insignificant, acts of care will be powerfully magnified in the hands of our Master.