

Did Jesus Have Brothers?

There are several verses of Scripture which seem to indicate that the Lord Jesus Christ did have brothers.

Matthew 12:46: "While he yet talked to the people, behold, his mother and his brethren stood without, desiring to speak with him." See also Mark 3:31, 32.

Matthew 13:55: "Is not this the carpenter's son? is not his mother called Mary? and his brethren, James, and Joses, and Simon, and Judas?" See also Mark 6:3.

John 7:3, 5: "His brethren therefore said unto him, Depart hence, and go into Judaea, that thy disciples also may see the worlds that thou doest." "For neither did his brethren believe in him."

Acts 1:14: "These all continued with one accord in prayer and supplication, with the women, and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brethren."

1 Corinthians 9:5: "Have we not power to lead about a sister, a wife, as well as other apostles, and as the brethren of the Lord, and Cephas?"

Galatians 1:19: "But other of the apostles saw I none, save James the Lord's brother."

It is true that the word "brother" in the Bible may sometimes mean cousin or other relative. However, when so many verses link "brethren" with "mother" and even "sisters" (Mk 6:3), it becomes extremely probable that Jesus had half-brothers and half-sisters who were born to Mary and Joseph after His birth.