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ST. MARK.



THIS Evangelist was born of Jewish parents, of the tribe of Levi, and is by St. Peter called his son, having been a disciple of that Apostle, by whom it is said he was converted.

St. Mark's gospel contains several things omitted by the other Evangelists, in their histories of our Saviour. He preached in Egypt, where he established a church: he travelled in Lybia, and converted many to the faith of his Master.

When St. Mark was preaching in his church at Alexandria, some of the idolatrous inhabitants broke in upon him, and dragged him by his feet through the streets, till his flesh was torn off his bones, and he expired under their hands. They afterwards burned him.

His martyrdom is supposed to have happened in the reign of Nero, the Roman Emperor, an æra remarkable for the persecutions of the church of Christ, which, so far from suppressing, greatly increased her members.