

# THE ROMAN EMPERORS OF THE NEW TESTAMENT

## AUGUSTUS

Caesar Augustus  
(Octavius)

27 BC-AD 14



## TIBERIUS

Tiberius Julius  
Caesar Augustus

AD 14-37



## CALIGULA

Gaius Caesar Augustus  
Germanicus (Caligula)

AD 37-41



## CLAUDIUS

Tiberius Claudius  
Caesar Augustus  
Germanicus

AD 41-54



## NERO

Nero Claudius Caesar  
Augustus Germanicus

AD 54-68



## VESPASIAN

Titus Flavius Caesar  
Vespasianus Augustus

AD 69-79



## TITUS

Titus Flavius Caesar  
Vespasianus Augustus

AD 79-81



## DOMITIAN

Titus Flavius Caesar  
Domitianus Augustus

AD 81-96



### [.....The Julio-Claudian Dynasty.....] [.....The Flavian Dynasty.....]

- o Adopted son of Julius Caesar
- o Made Judah a Roman province in AD 6
- o Promoted emperor worship
- o Pax Romana (Roman Peace) and civic projects

**Luke 2:1**

*In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered.*

- o Step-son of Augustus
- o Attempted to preserve the façade of the republic
- o The role of the emperor conformed back towards a traditional monarchy
- o Reigned during all of Jesus' adult life

**Luke 3:1**

*In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, Pontius Pilate being the governor of Judea...*

- o Nephew of Tiberius
- o Not mentioned in the New Testament
- o Attempted to erect a statue of himself in the Jewish temple
- o Called himself the brother of Jupiter

**2 Thessalonians 2:4**

*...he takes his seat in the temple of God, proclaiming himself to be God.\**

- o Uncle of Caligula
- o Kidnapped by guards and declared the emperor
- o Commanded all the Jews to leave Rome
- o Mocked by those in his home

**Acts 11:28**

*Agabus stood up and foretold by the Spirit that there would be a famine... (this took place in the days of Claudius).*

- o Son of Claudius' wife Agrippina
- o Ordered the persecution of Christians (AD 64-66)
- o Blamed the fire in Rome on the Christians
- o Committed suicide in AD 68

**Acts 12:1-2**

*Herod the king laid violent hands on some who belonged to the church. He killed James the brother of John ...*

- o First emperor from the equestrian class
- o Founded Flavian the Dynasty
- o Began construction of the Roman Colosseum
- o Overtook Judah during AD 66 Jewish Revolt

**Matthew 24:7**

*Nation will rise up against nation and kingdom against kingdom...*

- o Son of Vespasian
- o Sieged Jerusalem and burned Jewish temple in AD 70
- o Arch of Titus commemorates siege of Jerusalem
- o Eruption of Mt. Vesuvius

**Matthew 24:2**

*Truly I say to you, there will not be left here one stone upon another that will not be thrown down.*

- o Son of Vespasian
- o Last of Flavian Dynasty
- o Revived emperor worship
- o Oppressed Romans, Jews, and Christians
- o Revelation written during reign

**Revelation 1:9**

*I, John, your brother and partner in the tribulation and the kingdom and the patient endurance that are in Jesus.*

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\*This is not a reference to Caligula, but his attempt to erect his image in the Jewish temple may have come to mind when Paul wrote this.

