

----- Caesar Augustus -----



3941b AM, 4651 JP, 63 BC

4554. When Cicero and Antonius were consuls, on the 9th day before the month of October, a son, Octavius, was born to Octavius and his wife Atia, who was the sister of Gaius Julius Caesar. {*Suetonius, Augustus, l. 2. c. 4,5. 1:155,157} Octavius was later called Caesar Augustus and it was in his reign that our Lord Jesus Christ, the Saviour of the world, was born. {#Lu 2:1,6,7}

3960c AM, 4670 JP, 44 BC

5114. In the sixth month after Octavius had come to Apollonia, he received news of his uncle's death. He left Epirus for Italy and at Brundisium, was received by the army, that had gone to meet him as Caesar's son. Without

any further delay, he immediately assumed the name of Caesar and took to himself the role of being his heir. All the more so, because he had brought a large amount of money with him, as well as the numerous forces that had been sent to him by Caesar. At Brundisium, he was adopted into the Julian family, from which point on he called himself Gaius Julius Caesar Octavius, instead of Gaius Octavius. {*Livy, l. 117. 14:147} {*Julius Obsequens, Prodigies, l. 1. c. 68. 14:309} {*Appian, Civil Wars, l. 3. c. 2. (9-11) 3:533-537} {*Dio, l. 45. (3,4) 4:413,415}

5118. A vast company of friends met Octavius as he was coming to Rome. As he entered the city, the globe of the sun seemed to be on his head, and bent round just like a bow, putting a crown, as it were, upon the head of the man who was later to be so famous. {*Velleius Paterculus, l. 2. c. 59. s. 5,6. 1:179} {*Julius Obsequens, Prodigies, l. 1. c. 68. 14:309}

"When he entered the city with a large number around him, the sun was included in the circle of a pure and unclouded sky and surrounded him with the inmost part of the circle."

5120. Octavius called his friends together and that night ordered them all to be ready the next morning, with a good number of followers, to meet him in the forum. Octavius went to Gaius, the brother of Antony, the city praetor. Gaius

told him he accepted his adoption. It was the Roman custom to interpose the authority of the praetor in an adoption, and his acceptance was registered by the scribes. Then Octavius immediately left the forum and went to Antony, the consul. {*Appian, Civil Wars, l. 3. c. 2. (14) 3:541} [K370] The consul entertained him haughtily, (but this was not out of contempt, but fear) scarcely admitting him into Pompey's gardens and gave him little time to speak with him. {*Velleius Paterculus, l. 2. c. 60. s. 3. 1:181}

3960d AM, 4670 JP, 44 BC

5131. At age nineteen, Caesar Octavius gathered an army, of his own accord and at his own expense. This occurred on the 12th of the Calends of October. (September 20th) He himself wrote about this in the breviary of his affairs and it was inscribed in the Ancyran Marble. {*Augustus, l. 1. c. 1. 1:345} {Gruter, Inscriptions, p. 230.} Before the departure of Antony from the city, (which took place in the following October) Octavius was commended to the Senate through Cicero and others who hated Antony. Octavius tried to gain the favour of the people and to gather an army. {*Plutarch, Antony, l. 1. c. 16. s. 3. 9:173} He prepared forces against Antony, both for his own safety and that of the state. He stirred up the old soldiers who had been sent into the

colonies. {*Livy, l. 117. 14:149} Florus stated: {*Florus, l. 2. c. 15. s. 4,5. 1:303}

"Octavius Caesar was pitied for his youth and the wrongs he endured. He was gracious for the sake of the majesty of the name that he had assumed. He called the old soldiers to arms and then, as a private citizen, (who would believe it?) took on the consul."

5136. When he began to prepare an army, he was almost twenty, and it was fifty-seven years from that time to his death. Maximus the monk, in his calculations, also assigned the same length of time to his government.

3961a AM, 4670 JP, 44 BC

5149. When Octavius Caesar came to hold office, he endeavoured to win the people to himself.

3961b AM, 4671 JP, 43 BC

5259. Octavius was not content with his earlier adoption, made by the last will of Julius Caesar, and so he had it confirmed by a decree of the people in a full assembly of their wards (which Antony had prevented the previous year). By public authority, he then assumed the name of Gaius

Julius Caesar Octavius. {*Appian, Civil Wars, l. 3. c. 13. (94) 4:129} {*Dio, l. 46. (47) 5:97}

3969a AM, 4678 JP, 36 BC

5552. After Caesar Octavius had settled his affairs in Sicily, he entered Rome from Sicily on the Ides of November (November 13th), and made a speech. This was noted in the marble triumphal records. {Gruter, Inscriptions, p. 297.} {*Suetonius, Augustus, l. 2. c. 22. 1:181} {*Dio, l. 49. (15) 5:371} {Orosius, l. 6. c. 18.} He had a gold statue erected for him in the rostrum which showed his image, with this inscription: {*Appian, Civil Wars, l. 5. c. 13. (130) 4:593}

"Peace, long disturbed, he re-established on land and sea."

3977 AM, 4687 JP, 27 BC

5835. When Caesar was consul for the seventh time, he read a speech in the Senate saying that he would resign his government and turn it over to the Senate and the people. [K497] When he had ended his speech, many spoke and expressed the desire that he alone should take the whole administration of the government upon himself. Finally, they convinced him to assume the whole government, though many believed that this was just a ruse on his part. {*Dio, l.

53. (2) 6:199} {*Dio, l. 53. (11) 6:217,219} He did this on the 7th of the Ides of January (January 7th), as recorded on the Marble Tables of Narbon. {Gruter, Inscriptions, p. 229.}

5839. When Caesar had settled everything and organised the provinces into a certain form, he was surnamed Augustus. {*Livy, l. 134. 14:163} [K498] This name was given to him in his seventh consulship and at the request of Plancus, with the consent of the whole Senate and the people of Rome. {*Dio, l. 53. (16) 6:235} {*Velleius Paterculus, l. 2. c. 91. s. 1. 1:243} Suetonius wrote: {*Suetonius, Augustus, l. 2. c. 7. s. 2. 1:159}

"The motion of Munatius Plancus, that Caesar should be called Augustus, prevailed (though some were of the opinion that he should be called Romulus, as if he had also been a founder of the city), not only because it was a new, but also a more honourable, name. [E768] The sacred places and those in which anything is consecrated by augural rites, are called Augusta, from the increase in dignity, or from the movements or feeding of birds, as Ennius also indicated, when he wrote: After by augury augustus illustrious Rome had been founded."

3982b AM, 4692 JP, 22 BC

5900. Herod sent his sons, Alexander and Aristobulus, whom he had by Mariamme the Asmonean, to Rome to Caesar, to

be raised there. They stayed at the house of Pollio, who was a good friend of Herod. Caesar entertained the young men very courteously and gave Herod the power to select one of his sons as the heir to his kingdom. Caesar also gave him Trachonitis, Batanea and Auranitis. {*Josephus, Antiq., l. 15. c. 10. s. 1. (342,343) 8:165}

3988 AM, 4698 JP, 16 BC

5953. When Caesar had courteously entertained Herod at Rome, he returned his sons, who had finished their instructions in the liberal sciences. {*Josephus, Antiq., l. 16. c. 1. s. 2. (6,7) 8:211} Caesar went into Gaul. {*Dio, l. 54. (20) 6:333}

3996 AM, 4706 JP, 8 BC

6001. When Augustus was the high priest, he restored the incorrect intercalation of the year which had been decreed by Julius Caesar, but which had later, through negligence, been incorrectly intercalated. {*Suetonius, Augustus, l. 2. c. 31. s. 2. 1:197} In thirty-six years, twelve days were intercalated where only nine days ought to have been intercalated. Therefore, Augustus commanded that twelve years should pass without any leap year at all, so that those extra three days, which had been added over thirty-six years by the over-

zealous priests, would be eliminated in the following twelve years. {*Pliny, l. 2. c. 6. (36) 1:191} {Solinus, c. 3.} {*Pliny, l. 18. c. 57. (211) 5:323,325} {Macrobius, Saturnalia, l. 1. c. 14.} [E786]

6002. When he corrected the year, Augustus called the month of Sextilis August, after himself, rather than naming the month of September after himself, even though he was born in that month. He did this because he had first been consul in the month of Sextilis, and also had won many great victories in that month. {*Suetonius, Augustus, l. 2. c. 31. s. 3. 1:197}

3999a AM, 4708 JP, 6 BC

6028. After the days of his ministry were finished, Zacharias returned home and his wife Elizabeth conceived a son by him and hid herself away for five months, saying: {#Lu 1:23-25}

"Thus hath the Lord dealt with me in the days in which he looked on me, to take away my reproach among men."
[K527]

6029. When Herod received Augustus' letters, he was overjoyed because he had been restored into his favour and had been given the power to do what he wanted with his sons.

3999b AM, 4709 JP, 5 BC

6041. In the sixth month after John was conceived, the angel Gabriel was sent by God to Nazareth in Galilee, to the most blessed virgin Mary, who was betrothed to Joseph.

4000a AM, 4709 JP, 5 BC

The Seventh Age of the World

6059. Jesus Christ, the Son of God, was born of the most blessed virgin Mary at Bethlehem in the fulness of time. {#Mt 1:25 2:1,5 Ga 4:4} Mary wrapped him in swaddling clothes and laid him in a manger, because there was no room in the inn. {#Lu 2:7}

4001b AM, 4711 JP, 3 BC

6111. Caesar divided the other half of Herod's dominion into two parts, one for each of Herod's sons. Herod Antipas was given Galilee with the little country of Peraea. [K541]

4017b AM, 4727 JP, 14 AD

6205. At about the same time, the first letter of his name fell down from the inscription of his statue in the Capitol, after it

was struck by a flash of lightning. The soothsayers said that he would live only a hundred days after that, because the letter C denoted a hundred in Roman numerals. Also, he should be canonized as a god, because AESAR, which was the rest of his name, meant god in the Etruscan language. {*Dio, l. 56. (29) 7:67} {*Suetonius, Augustus, l. 2. c. 97. s. 2. 1:297}

6206. Meanwhile, Augustus wrote a summary of his doings, which he wanted to have engraved in tables of brass and placed over his tomb. {*Suetonius, Augustus, l. 2. c. 101. s. 4. 1:309} {*Dio, l. 56. (33) 7:73} An example of this, which was written on the Ancyran Marble so often mentioned by us, was the census described earlier, that he had recently taken. On his last day, he called his friends and asked them whether it seemed to them that he had played the comedy of life aptly. He added this remark: {*Suetonius, Augustus, l. 2. c. 99. s. 1. 1:303}

Since well I played my part, all clap your hands
And from the stage dismiss me with applause.

6207. He added that he had found Rome made of clay, but left it to them made of marble. He was not referring to the appearance of its buildings, but rather to the strength of the empire. {*Dio, l. 56. (30) 7:69} So Augustus ended his days at

Nola in Campania when Pompeius Sextus and Appuleius Sextus were consuls and so were named on his tomb. {*Velleius Paterculus, l. 2. c. 123. s. 2. 1:311} {*Suetonius, Augustus, l. 2. c. 100. s. 1. 1:303} {*Tacitus, Annals, l. 1. c. 5. 3:251} {*Tacitus, Annals, l. 1. c. 7. 3:255} {*Dio, l. 56. (31) 7:71} He died in the same house and room where his father Octavius had died. {*Suetonius, Augustus, l. 2. c. 100. s. 1. 1:303} {*Tacitus, Annals, l. 1. c. 9. 3:259} He died on the 14th of the Calends of September (August 19th), which was on the same day that he was first made consul. {*Suetonius, Augustus, l. 2. c. 100. s. 1. 1:303} {*Dio, l. 56. (30) 7:69} [E809]

6208. Tiberius did not announce the death of Augustus before he had killed Agrippa Postumus. To the captain who killed him and brought back word that he had done as Tiberius had ordered, he replied that he had not ordered it and that the captain would have to give an account to the Senate. At that time, Tiberius tried to avoid this reproach, for later his silence consigned that matter to oblivion. {*Suetonius, Tiberius, l. 3. c. 22. 1:347} {*Tacitus, Annals, l. 1. c. 6. 3:251,253} {*Dio, l. 57. (3) 7:119,121} [K555] After all things that the circumstances required had been done, it was announced that Augustus was dead and that Tiberius Nero was emperor. {*Tacitus, Annals, l. 1. c. 5. 3:251}