

Doctrine of The Bible's Caesars

Introduction:

1. Rome had been a Republic of Patricians under a Senatorial umbrella until one Gaius Julius Caesar crossed the Rubicon in approximately 50 B.C. He had just conquered Gaul (this was most of France, the Netherlands, Belgium and the south of Germany below the Rhine river. He also claimed (a claim questioned by many) that he crossed the Channel and had conquered the Island of Britain.
2. Patricians were noble family members who ruled areas because they had large estates and their rulership carried rights of primogeniture. They were more like noble aristocrats.
3. They were also Plutocrats or what we might today call “Billionaires.”
4. Very often the Senate would authorize a Senator who would rule as a Chief Magistrate for one year. There were always at least two appointed and very often three so that there would never be a Magistrate with sole power and thus lest likelihood of a “dictatorship.”
5. A consul might also be authorized to acquire an Army of 10,000 to 30,000 legionnaires for the purpose of garrisoning a Province and even as was very often the case expanding Roman hegemony.
6. Accompanying Caesar was an Army of veterans ready to make Julius the Emperor of all of Rome. Julius ruled Rome as Emperor from 49 B. C. until 44 B. C. when he was assassinated by several republicans led by Brutus and Cassius.

Biblical Caesars

1. Julius adopted Augustus as his son and heir. Because of opposition in the Senate; at the death of Julius the Senate did not make Augustus Caesar. His rise to power however soon made him a favorite of Caesar's Legions. Augustus (at that time he was known as Octavius) gathered an army while his loyalty was fresh.

2. The Patricians of the Senate wanted to remain the rulers of Rome but were fearful of three men: Mark Antony, Augustus and Marcus Lepidus. They were given 5 years by the Senate to again establish the Republic.

2.1 Augustus had only one real opponent, Mark Antony. Lepidius had apparently become a supporter of Augustus.

3. Augustus defeated Mark Antony at the battle of Actium claiming the Republic had been restored however he never stepped down as Emperor.

4. God had again intervened in a complicated set of circumstances to give the world "the times of the gentiles," thereby preparing the way for the coming of Jesus in His First Advent role.

4.1 The world had order and a perfect language for The King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

5. Biblical Caesars:

Julio-Claudian Caesars

49- 44 B.C. Julius Caesar 5 years

31 BC- 14 A.D. Augustus 45 years

14- 37 A.D. Tiberius 23 years

37- 41 A.D. Caligula 4 years

41- 54 A.D. Claudius 13 years

54- 68 A.D. Nero 14 years

Civil War Caesars

68-69 A.D. Galba 1 year

69 A.D. Otho

69 A.D. Vitellius

Flavian Caesars

69-79 A.D.	Vespasian	10 years
79-81 A.D.	Titus	2 years
81-96 A.D.	Domitian	15 years