

picture by CH Welch
pg. 13 TAOTR

Acts: When and why?

Part 3: Dates – the end of the Acts

Wayne Stewart

More dates



**“Josephus Son of
Mathias”
became
“Flavius Josephus”**

CHAPTER 8.

WHAT OTHER ACTS WERE DONE BY AGRIPPA UNTIL HIS DEATH; AND AFTER WHAT MANNER HE DIED.

1. WHEN Agrippa had finished what I have above related at Berytus, he removed to Tiberias, a city of Galilee. Now he was in great esteem among other kings. Accordingly there came to him Antiochus, king of Commalena, Sampsigeratnus, king of Emesa, and Cotys, who was king of the Lesser Armenia, and Polemo, who was king of Pontus, as also Herod his brother, who was king of Chalcis. All these he treated with agreeable entertainments, and after an obliging manner, and so as to exhibit the greatness of his mind, and so as to appear worthy of those respects which the kings paid to him, by coming thus to see him. However, while these kings staid with him, Marcus, the president of Syria, came thither. So the king, in order to preserve the respect that was due to the Romans, went out of the city to meet him, as far as seven furlongs. But this proved to be the beginning of a difference between him and Marcus; for he took with him in his chariot those other kings as his assessors. But Marcus had a suspicion what the meaning could be of so great a friendship of these kings one with another, and did not think so close an agreement of so many potentates to be for the interest of the Romans. He therefore sent some of his domestics to every one of them, and enjoined them to go their ways home without further delay. This was very ill taken by Agrippa, who after that became his enemy. And now he took the high priesthood away from Matthias, and made Elioneus, the son of Cantheras, high priest in his stead.
2. Now when Agrippa had reigned three years over all Judea, he came to the city Cesarea, which was formerly called Strato's Tower; and there he exhibited shows in honor of Caesar, upon his being informed that there was a certain festival celebrated to make vows for his safety. At which festival a great multitude was gotten together of the principal persons, and such as were of dignity through his province. On the second day of which shows he put on a garment made wholly of silver, and of a contexture truly wonderful, and came into the theater early in the morning; at which time the silver of his garment being illuminated by the fresh reflection of the sun's rays upon it, shone out after a surprising manner, and was so resplendent as to spread a horror over those that looked intently upon him; and presently his flatterers cried out, one from one place, and another from another, (though not for his good,) that he was a god; and they added, "Be thou merciful to us; for although we have hitherto revered thee only as a man, yet shall we henceforth own thee as superior to mortal nature." Upon this the king did neither rebuke them, nor reject their impious flattery. But as he presently afterward looked up, he saw an owl [\(22\)](#) sitting on a certain rope over his head, and immediately understood that this bird was the messenger of ill tidings, as it had once been the messenger of good tidings to him; and fell into the deepest sorrow. A severe pain also arose in his belly, and began in a most violent manner. He therefore looked upon his friends, and said, "I, whom you call a god, am commanded presently to depart this life; while Providence thus reproves the lying words you just now said to me; and I, who was by you called immortal, am immediately to be hurried away by death. But I am bound to accept of what Providence allots, as it pleases God; for we have by no means lived ill, but in a splendid and happy manner." When he said this, his pain was become violent. Accordingly he was carried into the palace, and the rumor went abroad every where, that he would certainly die in a little time. But the multitude presently sat in sackcloth, with their wives and children, after the law of their country, and besought God for the king's recovery. All places were also full of mourning and lamentation. Now the king rested in a high chamber, and as he saw them below lying prostrate on the ground, he could not himself forbear weeping. And when he had been quite worn out by the pain in his belly for five days, he departed this life, being in the fifty-fourth year of his age, and in the seventh year of his reign; for he reigned four years under Caius Caesar, three of them were over Philip's tetrarchy only, and on the fourth he had that of Herod added to it; and he reigned, besides those, three years under the reign of Claudius Caesar; in which time he reigned over the forementioned countries, and also had Judea added to them, as well as Samaria and Cesarea. The revenues that he received out of them were very great, no less than twelve millions of drachme. [\(23\)](#) Yet did he borrow great sums from others; for he was so very liberal that his expenses exceeded his incomes, and his generosity was boundless. [\(24\)](#)

Ant. xix. 8,2 by Josephus

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The wars of the Jews Book 2 by Josephus

6. So now riches flowed in to Agrippa by his enjoyment of so large a dominion; nor did he abuse the money he had on small matters, but he began to encompass Jerusalem with such a wall, which, had it been brought to perfection, had made it impracticable for the Romans to take it by siege; but his death, which happened at Cesarea, before he had raised the walls to their due height, prevented him. He had then reigned three years, as he had governed his tetrarchies three other years. He left behind him three daughters, born to him by Cypros, Bernice, Mariamne, and Drusilla, and a son born of the same mother, whose name was Agrippa: he was left a very young child, so that Claudius made the country a Roman province, and sent Cuspius Fadus to be its procurator, and after him Tiberius Alexander, who, making no alterations of the ancient laws, kept the nation in tranquillity. Now after this, Herod the king of Chalcis died, and left behind him two sons, born to him of his brother's daughter Bernice; their names were Bernie Janus and Hyrcanus. [He also left behind him] Aristobulus, whom he had by his former wife Mariamne. There was besides another brother of his that died a private person, his name was also Aristobulus, who left behind him a daughter, whose name was Jotape: and these, as I have formerly said, were the children of Aristobulus the son of Herod, which Aristobulus and Alexander were born to Herod by Mariamne, and were slain by him. But as for Alexander's posterity, they reigned in Armenia.

$$37 + 7 = 44$$

The history of Herod Agrippa I. is a chequered one. Josephus records (Ant. xix. 8,2) that Herod died in 'the 7TH year of his reign, and the 54TH year of his life'. Again he tells us (Bell. Jud. ii., xi. 6) that Agrippa died soon after the completion of his third year as King over *all Judaea*. Now let us see whether we can arrive at the date by these two items.

1. When did Herod begin his reign?

Secular history supplies the answer: '*Not many days*' after the accession of Gaius. When was that? '*March 16th, A.D. 37*'. If we add A.D. 37 and 7 together, we have the date of Herod's death as A.D. 44.

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2. When did Herod begin to reign over ALL JUDAEA?

Gaius was murdered on January 24th, A.D. 41, and on the accession of Claudius (Ant. xix. 8, 2) Herod was made King of Judaea and Samaria. Add to A.D. 41 the 3 years of Herod's reign, and again we get A.D. 44.

3. A threefold cord is not easily broken.

Josephus makes a casual remark to the effect that Herod died during a festival held in honour of Claudius 'for his safety'. Claudius returned to Rome from Britain in January, A.D. 44, after an absence of six months. The festival at Caesarea, the Roman Capital of Palestine, was where Herod the King died that same year. Again A.D. 44.

We can now fix the 12th chapter of Acts down upon the calendar of the world.

ACTS

ACTS
1
AD 30

ACTS
12
AD 44

ACTS
28
AD ?



[https://www.worldatlas.com/articles/
what-was-the-great-fire-of-rome.html](https://www.worldatlas.com/articles/what-was-the-great-fire-of-rome.html)

July 19, AD 64

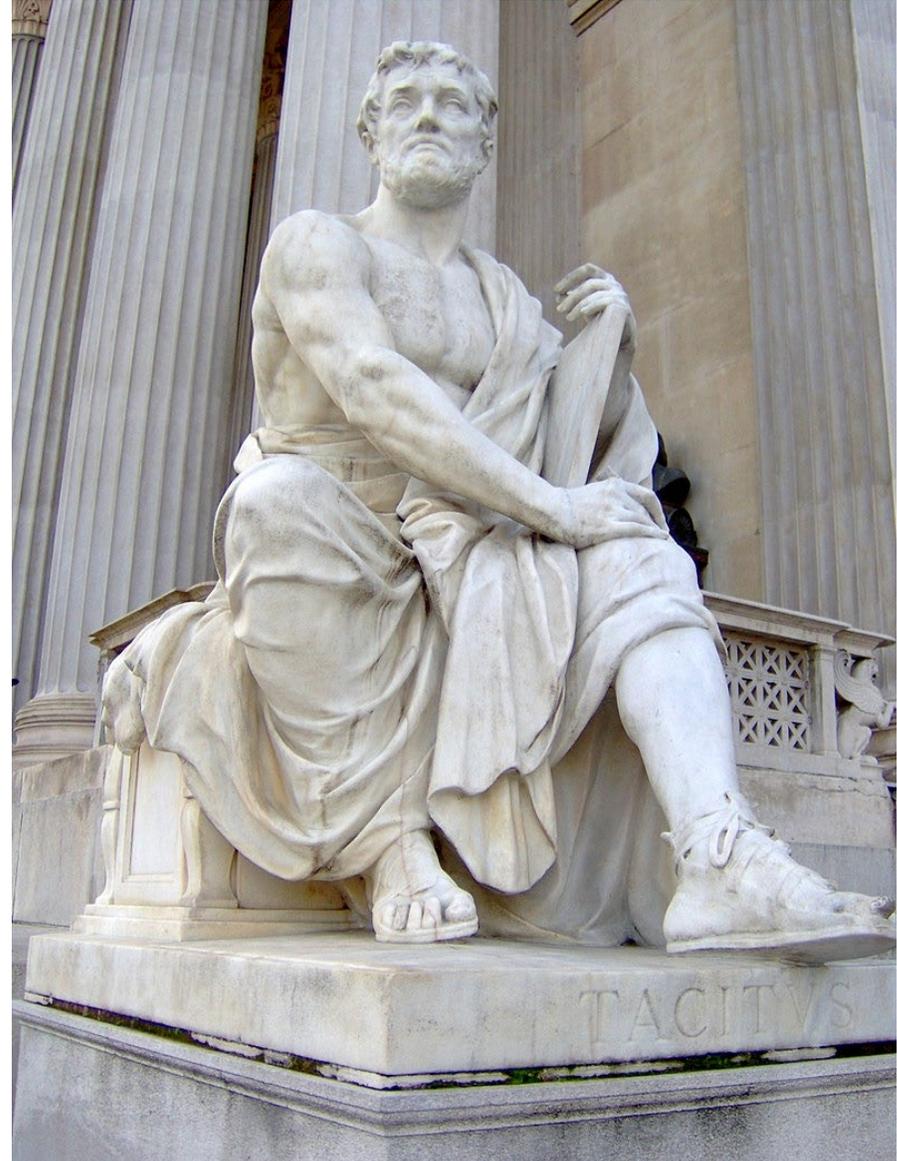


The Fire of Rome, by Karl von Piloty, 1861. According to Tacitus, Nero targeted Christians as those responsible for the fire.

 [More details](#)

Tacitus (AD 56 – 120)

- Roman historian
- Mentions Christ in his Annals



Such indeed were the precautions of human wisdom. The next thing was to seek means of propitiating the gods, and recourse was had to the Sibylline books, by the direction of which prayers were offered to Vulcanus, Ceres, and Proserpina. Juno, too, was entreated by the matrons, first, in the Capitol, then on the nearest part of the coast, whence water was procured to sprinkle the fane and image of the goddess. And there were sacred banquets and nightly vigils celebrated by married women. But all human efforts, all the lavish gifts of the emperor, and the propitiations of the gods, did not banish the sinister belief that the conflagration was the result of an order. Consequently, to get rid of the report, Nero fastened the guilt and inflicted the most exquisite tortures on a class hated for their abominations, called Christians by the populace. Christus, from whom the name had its origin, suffered the extreme penalty during the reign of Tiberius at the hands of one of our procurators, Pontius Pilatus, and a most mischievous superstition, thus checked for the moment, again broke out not only in Judaea, the first source of the evil, but even in Rome, where all things hideous and shameful from every part of the world find their centre and become popular. Accordingly, an arrest was first made of all who pleaded guilty; then, upon their information, an immense multitude was convicted, not so much of the crime of firing the city, as of hatred against mankind. Mockery of every sort was added to their deaths. Covered with the skins of beasts, they were torn by dogs and perished, or were nailed to crosses, or were doomed to the flames and burnt, to serve as a nightly illumination, when daylight had expired. Nero offered his gardens for the spectacle, and was exhibiting a show in the circus, while he mingled with the people in the dress of a charioteer or stood aloft on a car. Hence, even for criminals who deserved extreme and exemplary punishment, there arose a feeling of compassion; for it was not, as it seemed, for the public good, but to glut one man's cruelty, that they were being destroyed.

Annals (written ca. AD 116), book 15, chapter 44

Henryk Siemiradzki:
Nero's torches



27 BC–68 AD: Julio-Claudian dynasty [[edit](#)]

Main article: [Julio-Claudian dynasty](#)

Portrait	Name	Reign	Succession	Life details
	Augustus Imperator Caesar <i>Augustus</i>	16 January 27 BC – 19 August AD 14 (40 years, 7 months and 3 days)	Grandnephew and adopted son of Julius Caesar , became emperor as a result of settlement with the Roman Senate	23 September 63 BC – 19 August AD 14 (aged 75) ^[10] Died probably of natural causes, possibly poisoned by his wife Livia in favor of her son Tiberius.
	Tiberius <i>Tiberius Caesar Augustus</i>	18 September 14 – 16 March 37 (22 years, 5 months and 26 days)	Stepson, former son-in-law and adopted son of Augustus	16 November 42 BC – 16 March AD 37 (aged 77) ^[11] Died probably of natural causes, possibly murdered at the instigation of Caligula
	Caligula (formally Gaius) <i>Gaius Caesar Augustus Germanicus</i>	18 March 37 – 24 January 41 (3 years, 10 months and 6 days)	Grandnephew and adoptive grandson of Tiberius, great-grandson of Augustus	31 August 12 – 24 January 41 (aged 28) ^[12] Murdered in a conspiracy involving the Praetorian Guard , senators and freedmen
	Claudius <i>Tiberius Claudius Caesar Augustus Germanicus</i>	24 January 41 – 13 October 54 (13 years, 8 months and 19 days)	Uncle of Caligula, grandnephew of Augustus, proclaimed emperor by the Praetorian Guard and accepted by the Senate	1 August 10 BC – 13 October AD 54 (aged 63) ^[13] Probably poisoned by his wife Agrippina , in favor of her son Nero
	Nero <i>Nero Claudius Caesar Augustus Germanicus</i>	13 October 54 – 9 June 68 (13 years, 7 months and 27 days)	Grandnephew, stepson, son-in-law and adopted son of Claudius, great-great-grandson of Augustus	15 December 37 – 9 June 68 (aged 30) ^[14] Committed suicide after being declared a public enemy by the Senate

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Roman_emperors



ACTS

ACTS
1
AD ?30

ACTS
12
AD 44

ACTS
28
<AD 64

I want to establish/falsify the following:

We have therefore the following approximate dates:

Acts 1,2	A.D. 29-31	The date of the Crucifixion and of Pentecost.
Acts 3 to 11		
Acts 12	A.D. 44	The date of Herod's death.
Acts 13 to 20		
Acts 21	{ A.D. 56 }	The date of Paul's arrest at Jerusalem.
Acts 22 to 27	{ or }	
	{ A.D. 58 }	
Acts 28	{ A.D. 59 }	The date of Paul's arrival at Rome.
	{ or }	
	{ A.D. 61 }	
Acts 28	{ A.D. 61 }	The date of the conclusion of the 'two years'.
	{ or }	
	{ A.D. 63 }	

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