

ROMAN EMPERORS OF NEW TESTAMENT TIMES

Emperor	Description of Reign
Augustus Caesar (31 BC – AD 14)	Emperor at Christ’s birth (Luke 2:1); ushered in the <i>Pax Romana</i> , so helpful to the spread of Christianity; greatest Roman emperor ever.
Tiberius (AD 14-37)	Emperor of Christ’s public ministry; appointed Pilate as procurator of Judea (3:1).
Caligula (AD 37-41)	Irrational and insane; viewed himself as deity; banished Herod Antipas from his tetrarchy in AD 39.
Claudius (AD 41-54)	Partially paralyzed; the Emperor of Paul’s early ministry; many famines during his reign (Acts 11:28); expelled Jews from Rome in AD 49 (18:2).
Nero (AD 54-68)	Renowned for his brutality; suspected of starting a fire in Rome; Emperor of Paul’s later ministry, who probably decreed his death; lighted his gardens by burning Christians alive; committed suicide on June 9, AD 68.
Galba, Otho, Vitellius (AD 68-69)	Three Roman generals who attempted to seize the Roman throne.
Vespasian (AD 69-79)	General of Judea and Syria, who finally established himself as Emperor; his son Titus crushed Jerusalem in AD 70.
Titus (AD 79-81)	Mastermind of the destruction of Jerusalem in AD 70.
Domitian (AD 81-96)	Competent but cruel; implemented intense persecution of Christians; exiled the Apostle John to the Isle of Patmos.