

Handout 1: Revelation Introduction Part II

This calls for a mind with wisdom. The seven heads are seven hills on which the woman sits. They are also seven kings. Five have fallen, one is, the other has not yet come; but when he does come, he must remain for a little while. The beast who once was, and now is not, is an eighth king. He belongs to the seven and is going to his destruction.

Revelation 17:9-11

The two official lists of Roman Emperors

The Roman Historian Tacitus in his history, *The Annals*, begins his list of Roman emperors with Augustus Caesar (Octavian), but the Roman Historian Suetonius begins his list in *Lives of the Twelve Caesars* with Julius Caesar as the first of the Roman Emperors as does Dio Cassius in his *Roman History*. Book V of the *Sibylline Oracles* calls Julius “the first king” and 4 Ezra 12:15 refers to Augustus as “the second of the emperors.” Josephus, writing for both a Roman and Jewish audience in *Antiquities of the Jews*, identifies Augustus and Tiberius as the second and third emperors (18.2.2), Caligula as the fourth (18.6.10), and Julius as the first (29.1.11).

There were, therefore, two official lists in use in the first century AD.

Suetonius’ List	Tacitus’ List
1. Julius Caesar died AD 44	
2. Augustus Caesar died AD 14	1. Augustus Caesar
3. Tiberius died AD 37	2. Tiberius
4. Caligula died AD 41	3. Caligula
5. Claudius died AD 54	4. Claudius
6. Nero died AD 68	5. Nero
7. Galba died AD 69	6. Galba
8. Ortho died AD 69	7. Ortho
9. Vitellius died AD 69	8. Vitilleus
10. Vespasian died AD 79	9. Vespasian
11. Titus died AD 81	10. Titus
12. Domitian died AD 96	11. Domitian

LIST OF THE TEN ROMAN IMPERIAL PROVINCES

- Italy
- Achaia
- Asia
- Syria/Judea
- Egypt
- Africa
- Spain
- Gaul
- Britain
- Germany

→ Over

The word “gematria” noted the letter to number value of names, words, or phrases (see the document *The Significance of Numbers in Scripture* in the Documents/Scripture Study section).

TABLE 1

The gematria of “Neron Caesar” (an alternate spelling of Nero) and “Nero Caesar” in Hebrew (Hebrew is read from right to left)

nwrn rsq (Neron Caesar)		wrn rsq (Nero Caesar)	
Q	100	Q	100
S	60	S	60
R	200	R	200
N	50	N	50
R	200	R	200
W	6	W	6
N	50		
Total	666	Total	616

TABLE 2

The gematria of the six Roman numerals

I =	1
V =	5
X =	10
L =	50
C =	100
D =	500
Total	666

Note: the number M = 1,000 was two D’s (500) back to back

TABEL 3

The gematria for “Caesar god” in Greek = *kaisar theos*

K	20
A	1
I	10
S	200
A	1
R	100
Th	9
E	5
O	70
S	200
Total	616

The Church in the First Century

