

1. Kingdoms Collide:

Kingdom of God	Kingdom of Rome (man)
Jesus is Lord	Caesar is Lord

- Who do you place your faith (trust, confidence) in?
- Who establishes morals and ethical behavior?

2. Proclamations to the world:

Kingdom of God	Kingdom of Rome (man)
- “good news” of a King	- “good news” of a King
- establish Peace (shalom)	- establish Peace ( <i>Pax Romana</i> )
- bring <i>Order</i> out of the <i>Chaos</i>	- bring <i>Order</i> out of the <i>Chaos</i>

- Each has a distinct method of establishing “Peace” – you must choose which way is correct.

3. Method of Establishing Peace

Kingdom of God	Kingdom of Rome (man)
- Covenant	- Piety
- nonviolence	- War
- Justice	- Victory
- Peace	- Peace

Marked by forgiveness, justice, and love	Marked by power
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4. Review of Emperors:

- Julius Caesar, Augustus (Octavian), Tiberius, Caligula, Claudius, Nero (Galba, Otho, Vitellius), Vespasian, Titus, and Domitian.

5. Caesar Augustus

- Established the Imperial Cult
- Pergamum was 1<sup>st</sup> official worship site (26 BCE)
- Called ‘divine,’ ‘Lord,’ ‘savior,’ and ‘son of god:’

“For at the first of the games which his heir **Augustus** gave in honor of his apotheosis, a comet shone for seven successive days, rising about the eleventh hour, and was believed to be the soul of Caesar, who had been taken to heaven...” Suetonius, *The Life of Julius Caesar*, 88:1

- Caesar Augustus' birth was called the “good news” for the world.<sup>1</sup>

“...and since the birthday of the god Augustus was the **beginning of the good tidings** (good news) for the world...”

**Calendrical inscription from Priene, Asia Minor, c. 9 BCE**

- Priene Inscription: dated c. 9 BCE

**7. Herod the Great erected three temples to Caesar Augustus in Israel:**

- Caesarea Maritima
- Sebastia (formerly the city of Samaria)
- Omrit (northern entrance to Israel from Damascus) – discovered in 1998.

**8. “Good News” – concerns the arrival of a king**

- Old Testament: Isaiah 52: 7
- New Testament: Mark 1:1
- ‘good news’ was also used in the Roman world to announce the arrival of a king.

**9. Domitian:**

- Reigning Emperor while John is writing Revelation
- Attempts to revive the Imperial Cult
- Moves to make Emperor worship mandatory

**10. Do you bow down to Domitian if you live in Ephesus?**

**11. What method do you choose to establish “peace?”**

- More than just believing it on an intellectual level
- Must embody the principles and have faith that it is the best path to peace.

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[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Calendar\\_Inscription\\_of\\_Priene#:~:text=The%20Priene%20Calendar%20Inscription%20\(IK,the%20edict%20from%209%20BC.](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Calendar_Inscription_of_Priene#:~:text=The%20Priene%20Calendar%20Inscription%20(IK,the%20edict%20from%209%20BC.)