

SAINT ISIDORE OF SEVILLE

CHRONICLE

Chronicon

SABBATISMUS

Saint Isidore of Seville (560–636)
Chronicon · Chronicle

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1. The first among us to draw out a brief series of times through generations and kingdoms, in a simple historical style, was Julius Africanus, under the emperor Marcus Aurelius Antoninus. Then Eusebius, bishop of Caesarea, 64 and the presbyter Jerome of holy memory, published a manifold history of chronological canons, ordered by both kingdoms and times.

2. After these, others and yet others, among whom especially Victor, bishop of the Church of Tunnuna, having reviewed the histories of the aforementioned, completed the deeds of the following ages up to the consulate of Justin the Younger. We have noted down a summary of these times, from the beginning of the world up to the reign of the Augustus Heraclius and of Sisebut, king of the Goths, with as much brevity as we could, adding alongside a descending line of the times, by whose indication the summary of the past age may be known.

1. God formed the creatures of all things in six days. On the first day He created light; on the second, the firmament of heaven; on the third, the form of the sea and the land; on the fourth, the stars; on the fifth, the fish and the birds; on the sixth, the beasts 65 and the cattle; and last of all, in His own likeness, the first man, Adam.

2. [230 from the creation of the world] Adam, at 230 years of age, begot Seth, who was born in place of Abel, and whose name is interpreted as *resurrection*, because in him was resurrected the just seed, which is that of the sons of God. [435] Seth, at 205 years of age, begot Enos, who

was the first to begin to call upon the name of the Lord. [625] Enos, at 190 years of age, begot Cainan, whose name is interpreted as *nature of God*. During the same time, Cain was the first to found a city before the flood, which he filled solely with the multitude of his own posterity.

3. [795] Cainan, at 170 years of age, begot Mahalalel, whose name is said to be *planting of God*. [960] Mahalalel, at 165 years of age, begot Jared, who is interpreted as *descending*, or *strengthening*. [1122] Jared, at 162 years of age, begot Enoch, who was taken up by God, and who is also said to have written certain things 66; but on account of their antiquity, they were refuted by the Fathers as of suspect faith.

4. [1287] Enoch, at 165 years of age, begot Methuselah, who, according to the series of years, is found to have lived for fourteen years after the flood. But he is not found to have been in the ark, on account of which some, with a false opinion, think that he was for a little while with his father Enoch, who had been taken up, until the flood should pass. In this generation the sons of God desired the daughters of men. [1404] Methuselah, at 167 years of age, begot Lamech. In this generation giants were born. In this age also, Jubal of the race of Cain discovered the art of music, whose brother, Tubal-cain, was also the inventor of the arts of bronze and iron.

5. [1642] Lamech, at 190 years of age, begot Noah, who was ordered by a divine oracle to build the ark, in the five hundredth year of his life. In these times, as Josephus relates, those

men, knowing that they could perish either by fire or by water, wrote down their studies on two columns, made of brick and stone, lest the memory of what they had wisely discovered should be destroyed. The stone column of these is said to have survived the flood, and to remain in Syria to this day.

6. [2242] In the six hundredth year of Noah, the flood is read to have occurred, whose ark Josephus relates came to rest on the mountains of Armenia, which are called 67 Ararat. Now Noah had three sons, from whom seventy-two nations arose: that is, fifteen from Japheth, thirty from Ham, and twenty-seven from Shem.

The first age ends after 2242 years.

7. [2244] Shem, in the second year after the flood, when he was one hundred years old, begot Arphaxad, from whom the nation of the Chaldeans arose. This 68 Shem is said to have been Melchizedek, who first after the flood founded the city of Salem, which is now called Jerusalem.

8. [2379] Arphaxad, at 135 years of age, begot Shelah, from whom came the ancient Salamites, or Medes. [2509] Shelah, at 130 years of age, begot Eber, from whom the Hebrews were named.

9. [2643] Heber, at 134 years of age, begot Peleg, in whose time the tower of Babel was built, and the division of languages occurred. The height of this tower is said to be four thousand paces, gradually narrowing from its wider base so that the impending weight might be more easily supported. They describe there marble

temples, adorned with precious stones and gold, and many other things that seem incredible. The giant Nimrod built this tower, who after the confusion of tongues migrated from there to the Persians, and taught them to worship fire.

10. [2773] Peleg, at 130 years of age, begot Reu. In these times, temples were first constructed, and certain princes of the nations began to be worshipped as gods.

[2905] Reu, at 132 years of age, begot Serug, under whom the kingdom of the Scythians arose, where Tanaus was the first to reign.

[3035] Serug, at 130 years of age, begot Nahor. The kingdom of the Egyptians takes its beginning, where Zoes was the first to reign.

11. [3114] Nahor, at 79 years of age, begot Terah, under whom the kingdom of the Assyrians and the Sicyonians arose. But the first to reign among the Assyrians was Belus, whom some consider to be Saturn, and the first among the Sicyonians was Aegialeus, from whom Aegialea was named, which is now called the Peloponnese.

12. [3184] Terah, at 70 years of age, begot Abraham. During the same time, Ninus, king of the Assyrians, reigned, who was the first to institute wars and invent the instruments of arms. In this age, the magical art was discovered in Persia by Zoroaster, king of the Bactrians. He was killed by King Ninus. The walls of Babylon were also built by Semiramis, queen of the Assyrians.

From the flood until the birth of Abraham, 942 years.

Here ends the second age, lasting 3184 years.

Third Age.

13. [3284] Abraham, at 100 years of age, begot Isaac, from the free woman Sarah. For he had first begotten Ishmael from the handmaiden Hagar, from whom came the nation of the Ishmaelites, who were later called Hagarenes, and finally Saracens.

14. [3344] Isaac, at 60 years of age, begot twins, the first of whom was Esau, from whom came the Idumeans, and the second Jacob, who was surnamed Israel, from whom the Israelites were also named. At this time the kingdom of the Greeks begins, where Inachus was the first to reign.

15. [3435] Jacob, at 91 years of age, begot Joseph. In these times Serapis, son of Jupiter, king of the Egyptians, upon dying, is translated among the gods, and the city of Memphis is founded in Egypt. Then, near Lake Tritonis, Minerva appeared in the form of a virgin, who is proclaimed to have been distinguished by many talents. For she is said to have been the inventor of craftsmanship; she discovered the shield and the bow, she taught how to set up a loom and to dye wools. In this age also, King Phoroneus, son of Inachus, became famous, who was the first in Greece to establish laws and judgments.

16. [3545] Joseph lived 110 years. From this time, Greece, with Argus reigning, began to have crops, seeds having been brought from elsewhere.

[3689] The 144 years of the Hebrews' servitude in Egypt are found after the death of Joseph. It

is written that Prometheus lived in these times, whom the fables imagine to have formed men from clay. Then also his brother Atlas discovered astrology, and was the first to consider the motion of the heavens and its principles. Then there was also Mercury, grandson of Atlas, skilled in many arts. And for this reason, after his death, he was translated among the gods. In this age also, Proclutus was the first to yoke a chariot, and at the same time Cecrops founded Athens, and from the name of Minerva called the inhabitants of Attica Athenians. He also, sacrificing an ox, was the first to command that Jupiter be worshipped in a pagan sacrificial rite. At this time Corinth was founded in Greece, and there the art of painting was discovered by Cleanthes. Then the Curetes and Corybantes first invented the rhythmic and consonant dance in arms. It is also written that at that time the flood under Deucalion and the fabulous conflagration of Phaethon occurred in Thessaly.

17. [3729] Moses ruled the people, liberated from Egyptian servitude, for 40 years in the wilderness. At this time the Jews, through Moses, began to have letters along with the law. Then the temple at Delphi is established; the vine is discovered in Greece.

18. [3756] Joshua, successor of Moses, rules the people for 27 years. In these times Erichthonius, prince of the Athenians, was the first in Greece to yoke a chariot.

19. [3796] Othniel, for 40 years. Cadmus reigns in Thebes, who first invented the Greek letters.

During the same time, Linus and Amphion were the first among the Greeks to become famous in the art of music; and at the same time the Idaean Dactyls discovered the metal iron in Greece.

20. [3876] Ehud, for 80 years. In these times, fables were invented: about Triptolemus, that, at the command of Ceres, carried by winged serpents, he distributed grain to the needy by flying; about the Hippocentaurs, that they were of a nature mixed of horse and man; about Cerberus, the three-headed dog of the underworld; about Phrixus and his sister Helle, that they crossed the sea carried by a ram; about the Gorgon, a prostitute, that she had hair of serpents and turned those who looked at her into stone; about Bellerophon, that he was conquered by a horse flying with wings; about Amphion, that with the song of his lyre, he moved stones and rocks.

21. [3916] Deborah, for 40 years. During the same time, Apollo fashioned the lyre and invented the art of medicine. At that time also the fable was invented about the craftsman Daedalus, and about Icarus his son, that having fitted wings to themselves, they flew. In this age, Picus first reigned over the Latins, who is said to have been the son of Saturn.

22. [3956] Gideon, for 40 years. In this age the city of Tyre is built. Another Mercury also discovered the lyre and handed it over to Orpheus. At this time Philemon first established a chorus at the Pythian games. Then also Linus the Thracian, famous in the art of music, is said to have

been the teacher of Hercules. The voyage of the Argonauts is also written about at that time.

23. [3959] Abimelech, for 3 years. This man killed his seventy brothers. Hercules laid waste to Ilium and in Libya killed Antaeus, the inventor of the art of wrestling.

24. [3982] Tola, for 23 years. In his times, Priam reigned in Troy after Laomedon. Then the fable was invented about the Minotaur, a beast enclosed in the labyrinth.

25. [4004] Jair, for 22 years. During the same time, Hercules established the Olympic contest. The nymph Carmentis discovered the Latin letters.

26. [4010] Jephthah, for 6 years. In his time Hercules, being in his fifty-second year, threw himself into the flames because of the pain of a disease. During the same time, Alexander abducted Helen, and the ten-year Trojan War arose.

[4017] Ibzan, for 7 years. The Amazons first took up arms.

[4025] Abdon, for 8 years. In his third year Troy was captured, and Aeneas came to Italy.

27. [4045] Samson, for 20 years. Ascanius, son of Aeneas, founded Alba. The fables of Ulysses, or of the Sirens, were also invented at the same time.

28. [4085] Eli the priest, for 40 years. The Ark of the Covenant is captured by foreigners. The kingdom of the Sicyonians ends.

[4125] Samuel and Saul, for 40 years. The kingdom of the Lacedaemonians arises. And in Greece, Homer is thought to have been the first

poet. From the promise to Abraham until David, 940 years.

The third age ends, through 4125 years.

The Fourth Age of the World.

29. [4165] David reigns for 40 years. Codrus, king of the Athenians, is killed, voluntarily offering himself to the enemy for the salvation of his country. And Carthage is built by Dido, while Gad, Nathan, and Asaph were prophesying in Judea.

30. [4205] Solomon reigns for 40 years. In the fourth year of his reign, this man built the temple in Jerusalem, and completed it in the eighth year.

31. [4222] Rehoboam reigns for 17 years. The kingdom of Israel is divided from Judah, under whom ten tribes were separated from two, and they began to have kings in Samaria. In this age Samos is founded, and the Erythraean sibyl is held to be illustrious.

32. [4225] Abijah reigns for 3 years. Under whom Abimelech, the high priest of the Hebrews, was held to be distinguished.

[4266] Asa reigns for 41 years. Achias, Amos, Jehu, Joel, and Azarias were prophesying in Judea.

[4291] Jehoshaphat reigns for 25 years. Elijah, and Elisha, and Obadiah, Azarias, and Micah were prophesying.

[4299] Joram reigns for 8 years. Elijah, and Elisha, and Obadiah were prophesying.

[4300] Ahaziah reigns for 1 year. Elijah is taken up, of whom seven notable miracles are numbered.

33. [4307] Athaliah reigns for 7 years. Jonadab, son of Rechab, is held to be a famous priest, etc. Jehoiada the pontiff, who alone, after Moses, is said to have lived one hundred and thirty years.

Joash reigns for 40 years. The prophet Zechariah is killed. Elisha dies, whose fourteen virtues are proclaimed. And Lycurgus the law-giver is held as distinguished in Greece.

Amaziah reigns for 29 years. Some assert that Carthage was founded at this time, but others earlier.

Azariah reigns for 52 years. The Olympiad is first established among the Greeks. A lamb speaks in Greece. King Sardanapalus is voluntarily consumed by fire. And the kingdom of the Assyrians is transferred to the Medes. At that time the poet Hesiod flourished. And Phidon of Argos discovered measures and weights. Hosea, Amos, Isaiah, and Jonah were prophesying in Judea in this age.

Jotham reigns for 16 years. Remus and Romulus are born, while Hosea, Joel, Isaiah, and Micah are prophesying in Judea.

Ahaz reigns for 16 years. In his time, Romulus founded Rome. And Sennacherib, king of the Assyrians, transferred the ten tribes from Samaria to the Medes, and sent Samaritans as settlers into Judea.

Hezekiah reigns for 29 years. Under whom Isaiah and Hosea prophesied. At this time, Romulus was the first to take soldiers from the people, and he chose one hundred of the most noble men from the people, who were called senators on ac-

count of their age, and fathers on account of their care and solicitude for the republic.

Manasseh reigns for 55 years. During the same time, Numa Pompilius ruled the Romans; he was the first among the Romans to establish pontiffs and Vestal virgins, and he filled the city with a multitude of false gods. He added two months to the year for the Romans, to their ten months; he dedicated January to the gods above, February to the gods below. At that time also the Samian sibyl flourished.

Amon reigns for 12 years. In his time, Tullus Hostilius, king of the Romans, was the first to conduct a census in the republic, something that was still unknown throughout the world, and he was the first to use the purple and the fasces.

Josiah reigns for 32 years. Thales of Miletus, the natural philosopher, flourished; having comprehended the eclipses of the sun with most acute investigation, he was the first to investigate the science of astrology, while Jeremiah, Huldah, and Zephaniah were prophesying in Judea.

Jehoiakim reigns for 11 years. In his third year, Nebuchadnezzar captured Judea and made it tributary. Then Daniel, Hananiah, Azariah, and Mishael flourished in Babylon.

Zedekiah reigns for 11 years. The king of Babylon, coming to Jerusalem a second time, led him captive with the people, after the temple was burned, in the 454th year of its construction. During the same time, the woman Sappho flourished in Greece with her varied poetry. Solon gave laws to the Athenians.

From David to the Babylonian exile, 485 years.

The fourth age ends, after four thousand, six hundred, and ten years.

The Fifth Age of the World.

The captivity of the Hebrews, for 70 years, during which the fire taken from the altar of God and hidden in a well, is found alive and recovered after the seventieth year of their return. During the same time of captivity, the story of Judith is written. Also Pythagoras, the philosopher and inventor of the art of arithmetic; and Pherecydes, the first writer of histories; and Xenophanes, the inventor of tragedies, are held as distinguished.

Darius reigns for 34 years. In his second year, the captivity of the Jews was ended; from which time there were not kings in Jerusalem, but princes, until Aristobulus. Then the Romans, having expelled their kings, began to have consuls.

Xerxes reigns for 20 years. Aeschylus, Pindar, Sophocles, and Euripides, writers of tragedies, are celebrated as distinguished. Herodotus also, the writer of histories, and Zeuxis the painter, are recognized.

Artaxerxes, also called Longimanus, reigns for 40 years. While he was reigning, Ezra the priest renewed the law which had been burned by the gentiles, and Nehemiah restored the walls of Jerusalem. Also Aristarchus, and Aristophanes, and Sophocles were considered writers of tragedies. Hippocrates the physician, and Socrates the philosopher, and Democritus also flourished.

Darius, also called Nothus, reigns for 19 years. This age had the philosopher Plato, and Gorgias the first rhetorician.

Artaxerxes reigns for 40 years. In his time, the story of Esther is taught to have been completed. Plato and Xenophon, the Socratics, are also held as distinguished.

48. [4859] Artaxerxes, also known as Ochus, reigns for 26 years. Demosthenes 82 is first recognized as an orator, and Aristotle is first proclaimed a dialectician. Plato dies.

49. [4863] Arses, son of Ochus, reigns for 4 years. The philosopher Xenocrates is held to be illustrious.

50. [4869] Darius reigns for 6 years. Alexander, overcoming the Illyrians and Thracians, then takes Jerusalem, and having entered the temple, offers sacrifices to God. Thus far the kingdom of the Persians stood. Henceforth begin the kings of the Greeks.

51. [4874] Alexander the Macedonian reigns for 5 years. For his last five years are counted in the order of time, in which he obtained the monarchy of Asia, after the kingdom of the Persians was destroyed. For his first seven are reckoned among the kings of the Persians. Henceforth begin the kings of Alexandria.

52. [4914] Ptolemy, son of Lagus, reigns for 11 years. He, capturing Judea, transferred very many of the Hebrews to Egypt. At this time Zeno the Stoic, Menander the comic poet, and Theophrastus the philosopher became famous. During the same time, the first book of Maccabees begins.

53. [4952] Ptolemy Philadelphus reigns for 38 years. He freed the Jews 83 who were in Egypt, and restoring the sacred vessels to Eleazar the high priest, he requested the seventy translators and had the divine Scriptures translated into the Greek language. During the same time, Aratus the astronomer is recognized, and silver coins are first minted at Rome.

54. [4978] Ptolemy Euergetes reigns for 26 years. Under whom Jesus, son of Sirach, composed the book of Wisdom.

55. [4995] Ptolemy Philopator reigns for 27 years. Defeated by him in battle, 60,000 armed men of the Jews fell. During the same time, the consul Marcellus took possession of Sicily.

56. [5019] Ptolemy Epiphanes reigns for 24 years. In his time occurred the events which the history of the second book of Maccabees contains. In this age, the Romans, having conquered the Greeks, ordered them to be free, saying: "It is impious for those to be slaves among whom philosophy first arose, the teacher of morals, the inventor of the liberal disciplines." During the same time, Ennius, the first distinguished Latin poet, is celebrated in Rome.

57. [5654] Ptolemy Philometor reigns for 35 years. Antiochus defeated him in battle and oppressed the Jews with various calamities. During the same time, Scipio conquered Africa. Terence the comic poet became famous.

58. [5083] Ptolemy Euergetes reigns for 29 years. At this time, with Brutus as consul, Hispania was obtained by the Romans.

84

59. [5100] Ptolemy Soter reigns for 17 years. Varro and Cicero are born. The Thracians are subjected to the Romans.

60. [5110] Ptolemy Alexander reigns for 10 years. Syria passed into the dominion of the Romans through the general Gabinius. The poet Lucretius is also born, who later killed himself in a fit of amorous passion.

61. [5118] Ptolemy, son of Cleopatra, reigns for 8 years. During the same time, Plotius Gallus was the first to teach Latin rhetoric at Rome. Then also Sallust the historiographer is born.

62. [5148] Ptolemy Dionysius reigns for 30 years. Pompey, having captured Jerusalem, made the Jews tributaries to the Romans. During the same time, Cato the philosopher became famous; Virgil is born in Mantua, Horace in Venusia. Then also Apollodorus, the teacher of Augustus, is held to be famous, and Cicero is celebrated for his oratorical praise.

63. [5150]. Cleopatra reigns for 2 years. She was the daughter of Ptolemy, king of the Egyptians, and was made the sister and wife of her brother Ptolemy. When she wished to defraud him of the kingdom during the civil war, she met Caesar in Alexandria while he was besieging the city, and through her beauty and debauchery, she obtained from Julius the kingdom for herself and death for Ptolemy. And the kingdom of Alexandria, in the third year of Cleopatra's reign, passed into the dominion of the Romans through Julius Caesar.

64. [5155] Gaius Julius Caesar reigns for 5 years. He, having previously been made consul, took possession of Gaul; he triumphed over Britain; finally, having engaged in civil war against Pompey, he obtained the monarchy of the entire empire. From his name, the succeeding emperors were called Caesars.

65. From the transmigration of Babylon to the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ, 587 years.

The fifth age is finished, through five thousand one hundred fifty-five years.

The Sixth Age of the World.

Octavius Augustus reigned for 56 years. This man, during his reign, after the Sicilian war, celebrated three triumphs: the Dalmatian, the Asiatic, and finally the Alexandrian against Antony, then the Spanish; then, after peace was secured on land and sea throughout the whole world, he closed the gates of Janus. Under his reign, the seventy weeks written of in Daniel are fulfilled, and with the kingdom and priesthood of the Jews ceasing, the Lord Jesus Christ is born of a Virgin in Bethlehem of Judea, in the 42nd year of his reign.

Tiberius, son of Augustus, reigned for 22 years. This man, because out of greed he would not send back the kings who came to him, caused many nations to withdraw from the Roman empire. In the eighteenth year of his reign the Lord was crucified, five thousand two hundred and twenty-nine years having passed from the beginning of the world.

Caius Caligula reigned for 4 years. He was savage in his avarice, cruelty, and luxury, and, transforming himself into the gods, he ordered a statue of Olympian Jupiter to be placed in the temple of Jerusalem under his own name. During the same time, Matthew the apostle was the first to write the Gospel in Judea.

Claudius reigned for 14 years. During his reign, the apostle Peter went to Rome against Simon Magus. Mark the evangelist also, preaching Christ in Alexandria, wrote the Gospel.

Nero reigned for 14 years. This man, given over to injustice, cruelty, and luxury, fished with golden nets. He prostituted and killed his mother and sister; he extinguished much of the senate; he lost many provinces and cities of the republic; he also burned the city of Rome, so that he might watch a spectacle of the destruction of Troy. In his time, Simon Magus, having proposed a dispute with the apostles Peter and Paul, saying that he was a certain great power of God, in the middle of the day, while he promised to fly to the father in heaven, was let go by the demons by whom he was being carried in the air—Peter adjuring them through God, while Paul was praying—and fell to his death. On account of his death, Peter was crucified by Nero, and Paul was beheaded with a sword. At this time, the poet Persius died. Lucan and Seneca were also killed by Nero's command.

Vespasian reigned for 10 years. This man, vigorous in military discipline, restored to the Republic by waging war many provinces which Nero had lost. He was unmindful of offenses and

bore lightly the insults spoken against him. In his second year, Titus captured and destroyed Jerusalem, where eleven hundred thousand Jews perished by famine and the sword. But besides these, one hundred thousand were also publicly sold.

Titus reigned for 11 years. This man was so very eloquent in both languages that he would plead cases in Latin and compose poems and tragedies in Greek; moreover, he was so very warlike that in the siege of Jerusalem, while serving under his father, he pierced twelve defenders with twelve arrow-shots. Furthermore, in his rule he was of such goodness that he punished no one at all, but would release those convicted of conspiracy against him and keep them in the same familiarity as he had held them before. Among all his deeds, this famous saying of his also stands out: that he had lost a day on which he had done nothing good.

Domitian, brother of Titus, reigned for 16 years. This man, the second after Nero, execrable in his pride, ordered himself to be called God and instituted a persecution of Christians by the pagans. Under him, the apostle John, exiled to the island of Patmos, wrote the Apocalypse. This man sent many senators into exile and put them to death; he also ordered all who were of the lineage of David to be killed, so that no one of the royal origin of the Jews would survive.

Nerva reigned for 1 year. A man moderate in his rule, he showed himself equal and accessible to all. In his time, the apostle John returned from

exile to Ephesus and, at the urgent request of the bishops of Asia, published the Gospel as the last of all.

Trajan reigns for 19 years. This man, with wondrous valor, extended the Roman empire far and wide into the East. He captured Babylonia and Arabia, and reached the borders of India, after Alexander, being liberal and tranquil toward all. Among his other sayings, that excellent one is reported, that when he was asked why he was so accessible to everyone, he replied that he was such an emperor to private citizens as he, when a private citizen, would have wished an emperor to be for himself. Simon Cleophas, bishop of Jerusalem, is crucified in his time, and John the apostle rests.

Hadrian reigns for 21 years. This man, envious of Trajan's glory, returned the eastern provinces to the Persians, and established the Euphrates river as the boundary of the Roman empire. He also subjugated the Jews, who had rebelled a second time, restored the city of Jerusalem, and called it Aelia after his own name. During the same time, Aquila Ponticus, the second translator after the Septuagint, arises; and Basilides the Heresiarch is recognized.

Antoninus Pius reigns for 22 years. He received such a cognomen on account of his clemency, because throughout the entire Roman kingdom, having burned the bonds, he forgave the debts of all: whence he was also called the father of the fatherland (*pater patriae*). He was the first to divide the empire of the Roman world, with

equal power, with Antoninus the Younger. While he was reigning, the heresiarchs Valentinus and Marcion are brought forth, and Galen the physician, born in Pergamum, is held to be famous in Rome.

Antoninus the Younger reigns for 18 years. Having set out against the Parthians, he captured Seleucia, a city of Assyria, with four hundred thousand men; he triumphed over the Parthians and Persians. During his reign arose Montanus, the author of the Cataphrygians, and Tatian, from whom came the heresy of the Encratites.

Commodus reigns for 13 years. This man was of great luxury. Under him Theodotion of Ephesus, the third translator, appeared; and Irenaeus, bishop of Lyon, is held to be distinguished in doctrine.

Aelius Pertinax reigns for 1 year. When the senate begged him to make his wife Augusta and his son Caesar, he refused, saying that it ought to be sufficient for him that he himself ruled unwillingly.

Severus Pertinax reigns for 18 years. This man waged many wars successfully: he conquered the Parthians, obtained Arabia, recovered Britain by warring, and had knowledge of letters and philosophy. In his time Symmachus, the fourth translator, is recognized; Narcissus, bishop of Jerusalem, is celebrated for his many virtues: Tertullian the African is held to be illustrious in the Church; Origen is educated in the studies of Alexandria.

Antoninus Caracalla, son of Severus, reigns for 7 years. He was impatient of lust: he took his stepmother as his wife. He accomplished nothing memorable. In his time, the fifth edition of the divine Scriptures was found in Jericho, the author of which is not apparent.

Macrinus reigns for 1 year. Reigning with his son, they accomplished nothing memorable due to the brevity of their time. For after one year, they were killed together in a military sedition.

Aurelius Antoninus reigns for 4 years. While he lived most obscenely, he too was killed in a military tumult. In his times the sixth edition was found in Nicopolis; Sabellius the heresiarch arises.

Alexander reigns for 13 years. He most gloriously conquered the Persians; he was favorable to the citizens. In his times Origen became famous in Alexandria, and in Rome Ulpian, the distinguished jurist.

Maximinus reigns for 3 years. This man was the first from the military body to be made emperor without a decree of the senate, and he persecutes Christians.

Gordian reigns for 6 years. He afflicted the rebellious Parthians and Persians. Returning victorious from the Persians, he perished by the fraud of his own men. In his times Zephyrinus, by the testimony of the Holy Spirit descending upon his head in the form of a dove, is ordained bishop of Rome.

Philip reigns for 7 years. This man was the first among the emperors to believe in Christ. It is also

taught that in his first year, the thousandth year of the city of Rome was completed.

Decius reigns for 1 year. In his times, it is taught that Saint Anthony the monk arose in Egypt, by whom monasteries were first founded.

90. [5451] Gallus, and Volusianus his son, reign for 2 years. Novatus, a presbyter of Bishop Cyprian, coming to Rome, founded the Novatian heresy.

91. [5466] Valerian with Gallienus reign for 15 years. Cyprian, first a rhetorician, then a bishop, is crowned with martyrdom. The Goths also devastate Greece, Macedonia, Asia, and Pontus. Valerian, initiating a persecution against the Christians, was captured by Sapor, king of the Persians, and there grew old in a life of disgrace.

92. [5468] Claudius reigns for 2 years. He defeats the Goths who were devastating Illyricum and Macedonia. Paul of Samosata is recognized as a heresiarch.

93. [5474] Aurelian reigns for 6 years. By waging war, he restored the Roman empire almost to its former boundaries; initiating a persecution against the Christians, he was struck by lightning and killed without delay.

94. [5475] Tacitus reigns for 1 year. The brevity of his life records no deeds worthy of history.

95. [5481] Probus reigns for 6 years. He, vigorous in military affairs and distinguished in civil life, restored to the Romans by warfare the Gauls which had been occupied by barbarians. In his time, the heresy of the Manichaeans arose.

96. [5483] Carus with his sons Carinus and Numerian reigns for 2 years. Carus, after he had triumphed over the Persians, while pitching camp as victor near the Tigris, was struck down by a bolt of lightning.

97. [5503] Diocletian and Maximian reigned for 20 years. Diocletian, having burned the divine books, persecutes Christians throughout the whole world. He was the first to order gems to be inserted into clothing and footwear, whereas previously the emperors had used only purple. These Emperors, however, waged various wars, and with the Persians defeated, Mesopotamia was recovered. Afterwards, having both relinquished the pinnacle of imperial power, they lived as private citizens.

98. [5505] Galerius reigns for 2 years. The brevity of his reign contributed nothing worthy of history.

99. [5535] Constantine reigns for 30 years. He prepared for war against the Persians; at his approach they were so terrified that they came as suppliants, promising to carry out his commands. Having also become a Christian, he gave permission for Christians to assemble freely and for basilicas to be built in honor of Christ. In these times the Arian heresy arises. The council of Nicaea is also convened by Constantine for the condemnation of Arius. Then also the schism of the Donatists arises. Around the same time, the cross of Christ was found in Jerusalem by Helena, Constantine's mother. Constantine, however, having been baptized at the very end of his life by

Eusebius, bishop of Nicomedia, was converted to the Arian dogma: alas, what sorrow! having used a good beginning, and with a bad end.

100. [5559] Constantius and Constans reigned for 24 years. Constantius, terrible for the cruelty of his character, suffered much from the Persians. Then, having become an Arian, he persecutes Catholics throughout the whole world. Relying on his favor, Arius, while proceeding to the church in Constantinople to dispute against our side concerning the faith, turned aside in the forum of Constantine for a necessary cause, and his bowels suddenly poured out along with his life. Around the same time, Athanasius and Hilary are celebrated for their doctrine and confession of the faith. The heresy of the Anthropomorphites arises in Syria, Macedonia, and Constantinople. Donatus, a writer on the art of grammar and teacher of Jerome, is held in high esteem in Rome. Antony the monk dies. The bones of the apostles Andrew and Luke are transferred to Constantinople.

101. [5561] Julian reigns for 2 years. He, having become emperor from being a cleric and a pagan, converts to the cult of idols and inflicted martyrdoms on Christians. He forbade Christians to teach or learn the liberal arts. And he, while out of hatred for Christ he had permitted the Jews to rebuild the temple in Jerusalem, and while Jews gathered from all the provinces were laying the new foundations of the temple, suddenly an earthquake arose in the night, and stones, shaken from the bottom of the foundations, were scat-

tered far and wide. A globe of fire also, coming out from the inner shrine of the temple, laid low very many of them with its blaze. Terrified by this, the rest, panic-stricken, confessed Christ unwillingly. And, lest they should believe this happened by chance, on the following night the sign of the cross appeared on the garments of all. Julian, however, proceeding against the Persians, when battle was joined, was struck by a javelin and perished.

Jovian reigns for 1 year. When he saw that he had been chosen emperor by the army, affirming that he was a Christian, he asserted that he could not preside over pagans. "And we," said the whole army, "who through Julian cast off the name of Christ, wish to be Christians with you." Having heard this, he accepted the scepters of the empire, and after establishing peace with the Persians, he returned; he immediately issued a law, restored the privileges to the Christians, and ordered the temples of the idols to be closed.

Valentinian and his brother Valens reign for 14 years. The Goths near the Ister were divided in two, under two kings, Fridigern and Athanaric. But Fridigern, overcoming Athanaric with the help of Valens, the Arian emperor, and at his persuasion, in gratitude for this favor, became an Arian from a Catholic, along with the entire Gothic people, and followed his error. At that time also, Ulfilas, bishop of the Goths, invented letters for the Goths in the manner of Greek letters, and translated both testaments into their own language. Photinus, Eunomius, and Apolli-

naris are also recognized as heresiarchs at the same time.

Gratian with his brother Valentinian reigns for 6 years. Ambrose, bishop of Milan, became famous in Catholic dogma. Priscillian introduced the unspeakable heresy of his name into Hispania. Martin, bishop of the city of Tours in Gaul, shone with many signs of miracles.

Valentinian with Theodosius reigns for 8 years. A synod in Constantinople. 150 holy Fathers are gathered by Theodosius, in which all heresies are condemned. Jerome the presbyter in Bethlehem is held famous throughout the whole world. Priscillian, accused by Ithacius, is killed by the sword by the tyrant Maximus. During the same time the head of John the Baptist was brought to Constantinople and buried at the seventh milestone of the city. Also, the temples of the gentiles throughout the whole world, by order of Theodosius, are overthrown at the same time. For until then they had remained untouched.

Theodosius, with Arcadius and Honorius, reigns for 3 years. During the same time, John the anchorite is held as distinguished by the miracles of his virtues; who also, when Theodosius consulted him, predicted his victory over the tyrant Eugenius.

Arcadius with his brother Honorius reigns for 13 years. In his times, Bishop Augustine is held as distinguished by the knowledge of his doctrine. John of Constantinople and Theophilus of Alexandria are also proclaimed as illustrious bishops. During the same time, Donatus, bishop

of Epirus, was held as distinguished by his virtues. He killed a huge dragon by spitting in its mouth; eight yokes of oxen could scarcely drag it to the place of burning, lest its putrefaction corrupt the air. During the same time, the bodies of the holy prophets Habakkuk and Micah are revealed by divine revelation. The Goths plunder Italy. The Vandals and Alans attack the Gauls.

Honorius, with Theodosius the Younger, his brother's son, reigns for 15 years. While they were reigning, the Goths captured Rome, and the Vandals, Alans, and Suebi occupied the Hispanias. At this time, Pelagius preached the dogmas of his error against the grace of Christ; for his condemnation, a council of 214 bishops was gathered at Carthage. At this time Cyril, bishop of Alexandria, was held as distinguished.

Theodosius the Younger, son of Arcadius, reigns for 27 years. The Vandals cross from Hispania to Africa. There they subvert the Catholic faith with Arian impiety. During the same time, Nestorius, bishop of Constantinople, devises the error of his perfidy; against whom the Synod of Ephesus, having been gathered, condemns his impious dogma. Also at this time, the devil, appearing in the form of Moses to the Jews in Crete, while promising to lead them through the sea on dry foot to the promised land, after many were killed, the rest who were saved immediately converted to the grace of Christ.

Marcian reigns for 6 years. At the beginning of his reign, the Council of Chalcedon is held, where Eutyches, along with Dioscorus, bishop

of Alexandria, are condemned. Moreover, in the sixth year of his reign, Theodoric, king of the Goths, enters Hispania with a huge army.

Leo the Great, with Leo the Lesser, reigns for 16 years in Alexandria, and Egypt, rejecting the Synod of Chalcedon, languishing in the error of Dioscorus the heretic, filled with an unclean spirit, barks with canine madness. During the same time, the heresy of the Acephali appeared, who attacked the Council of Chalcedon 102; they are called Acephali, that is, "without a head," because it is not found who first introduced this heresy, by the plague of which heresy very many of the Easterners still languish to this day.

Zeno reigns for 17 years. By him the heresy of the Acephali is defended, and the decrees of the Council of Chalcedon are rejected. This Zeno, seeking to kill his son Leo Augustus, his mother offered another of similar appearance in his place, and secretly made Leo himself a cleric, who lived in the clerical state until the times of Justinian. During the same time, the body of the apostle Barnabas and the Gospel of Matthew written in his own hand were found, through his own revelation.

Anastasius reigns for 27 years. He, championing the error of the Acephali, condemns to exile the bishops who defended the Synod of Chalcedon, and also censures and "corrects" the Gospels, as if composed by unlearned evangelists. At that time, Bishop Fulgentius became renowned for his confession of God and his knowledge. Thrasamund, king of the Vandals,

closes the Catholic churches in Africa, sends 120 bishops to Sardinia, and rages against the Catholics. During the same time at Carthage, a certain Arian named Olympus, while blaspheming the Holy Trinity in the baths, was visibly burned by three fiery darts, sent by an angel. Also, a certain Arian bishop named Barbas, while baptizing someone against the rule of faith, had said: "Barbas 103 baptizes you, in the name of the Father, through the Son, in the Holy Spirit," and immediately the water of that font which had been brought for the baptism disappeared completely. Seeing this, the one who was to be baptized immediately went to the Catholic Church and, according to the custom of the evangelical faith, received the baptism of Christ.

Justin the Elder reigns for 9 years. He, a lover of the Synod of Chalcedon, rejects the heresy of the Acephali. In his time, after Thrasamund, Childeric, born of the captive daughter of Emperor Valentinian, took up the kingdom among the Vandals; although bound by an oath to Thrasamund not to favor the Catholics in his kingdom, before he took up the kingdom, he ordered the bishops to return from exile and commanded them to restore their own churches.

Justinian reigns for 39 years. He, taking up the heresy of the Acephali, compels all the bishops in his kingdom to condemn the three chapters of the Council of Chalcedon. In Alexandria, the Theodosian and Gaian heresies arise. The Roman army enters Spain through the tyrant Athanagild. Belisarius the patrician triumphed wonderfully

over the Persians. He was then sent by Justinian to Africa and destroyed the nation of the Vandals. In Italy also, Totila, king of the Ostrogoths, is overcome by Narses the Roman patrician. During the same time, the body of Saint Anthony the monk, found by divine revelation, is brought to Alexandria and is buried in the church of Saint John the Baptist.

Justin the Younger reigns for 11 years. He destroyed those things which had been published against the Synod of Chalcedon, and commanded the people that the Creed of the 150 Fathers be sung at the time of the sacrifice. The Armenians then first receive the faith of Christ. The Gepids are extinguished by the Lombards. During the same time, Martin, bishop of Braga, is held to be renowned in Gallaecia for his prudence and doctrine of the Catholic faith. Narses the patrician, after he had overcome Totila, king of the Goths, in Italy under Justinian Augustus, terrified by the threats of Sophia Augusta, wife of Justin, invited the Lombards from Pannonia and brought them into Italy. At this time Leovigild, king of the Goths, by conquest brought certain rebellious regions of Spain under the power of his kingdom.

Tiberius reigns for 7 years. The Lombards, having driven out the Romans, enter Italy; the Goths, through Hermenegild, son of King Leovigild, are divided into two factions and are devastated by mutual slaughter.

Maurice reigns for 21 years. The Suebi, overcome by King Leovigild, are subjected to the

Goths; these same Goths, at the urging of the most religious prince Reccared, are converted to the Catholic faith. The Avars, fighting against the Romans, are driven back more by gold than by the sword. Thrace is occupied by the Huns. At this time, Bishop Leander in the Spains became famous for his doctrine of faith and sciences for the conversion of the Gothic people.

Phocas reigns for 8 years. Having been made emperor by a military sedition, he killed Maurice Augustus and many of the nobles. In his time, the Greens and the Blues wage civil war throughout the East and Egypt, and lay each other low with mutual slaughter. Also, most grievous battles of the Persians are stirred up against the republic; by whom the Romans, soundly defeated, lost very many provinces, as far as the river Euphrates, and, as they say, Jerusalem itself.

Heraclius is then in the fifth year of his reign. At the beginning of his reign, the Slavs took Greece from the Romans. The Persians took Syria, and Egypt, and very many provinces. In Hispania, likewise, Sisebut, king of the Goths, captured certain cities of the same Roman army, and converted the Jews who were subjects of his kingdom to the faith of Christ.

Therefore, from the beginning of the world up to the present era 654, that is, in the fifth year of the emperor Heraclius and the fourth of the most glorious prince Sisebut, there are five thousand eight hundred and fourteen years.

The remaining time of the age is uncertain to human investigation; for our Lord Jesus Christ

removed all questioning on this matter, saying: "It is not for you to know the times or the moments, which the Father has placed in his own power." And elsewhere: "But of that day," he says, "and hour, no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, but the Father alone." Let each one therefore think of his own passing, as Holy Scripture says: "In all your works, be mindful of your last end." For when each person departs from the world, that for him is the end of the age.