

The Early Roman Empire

Aims
of the
lesson:

Understand the transition to the Empire after the Republic.

Gain familiarity with the Julio-Claudian Emperors.

Gain familiarity with the 'Five Good Emperors'



Julius Caesar

Full name: Gaius Julius Caesar

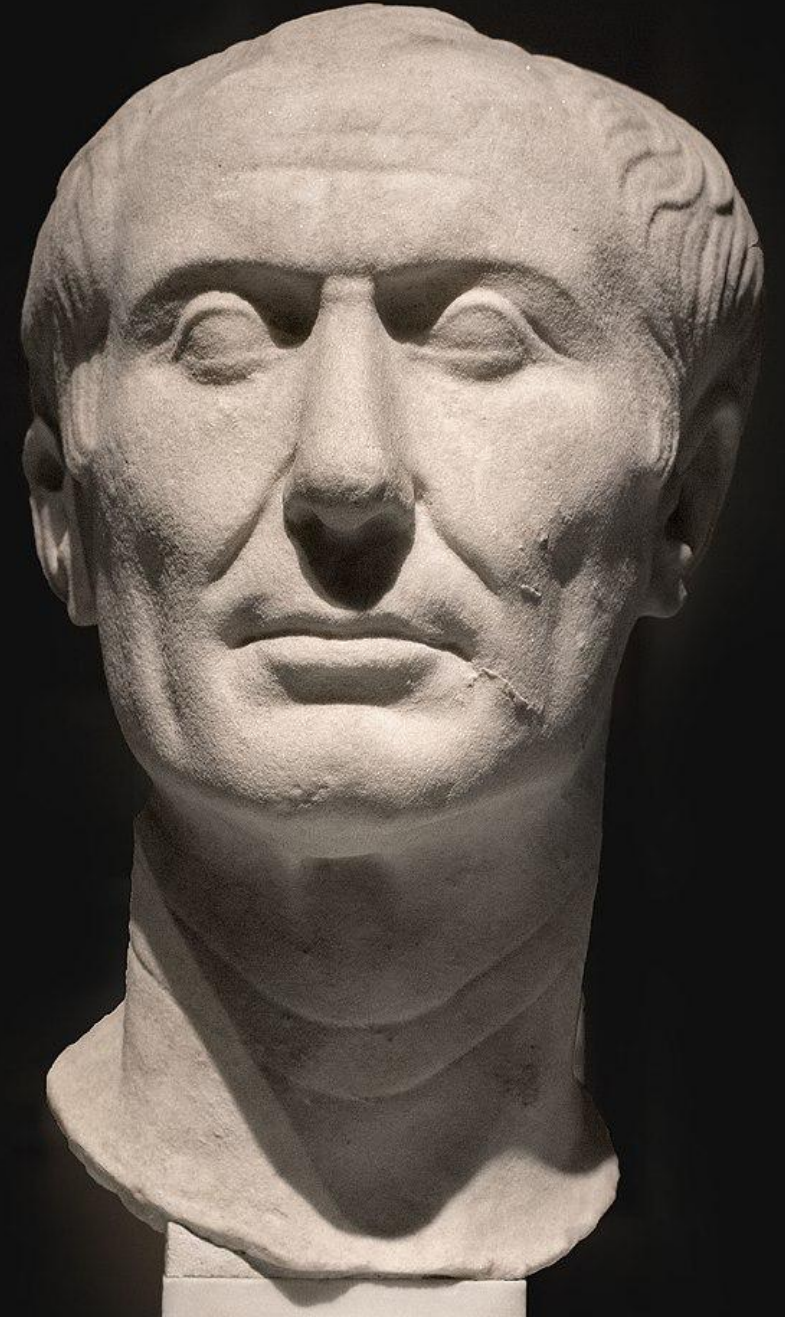
Born 100 BCE

Died 15th March 44 BCE (the Ides of March)

First decreed dictator in 49 BCE

Reformed the calendar on 1st January 45 BCE, which we still use today!

Part of the First Triumvirate with Crassus and Pompey



The Civil War

- Following Caesar's assassination, there was a power vacuum.
- The Second Triumvirate (Marc Antony, Octavian and Lepidus) defeated Caesar's assassins.
- Competition between Caesar's heirs, Marc Antony and Octavian, after the Triumvirate crumbled.
- Ended with the Battle of Actium in 31 BCE where Octavian defeated Antony and Cleopatra.



Augustus

Born 63 BCE as Gaius Octavius (called Octavian in English)

Named in Caesar's will as his adopted son and his heir

Defeated Antony to gain control of the Empire



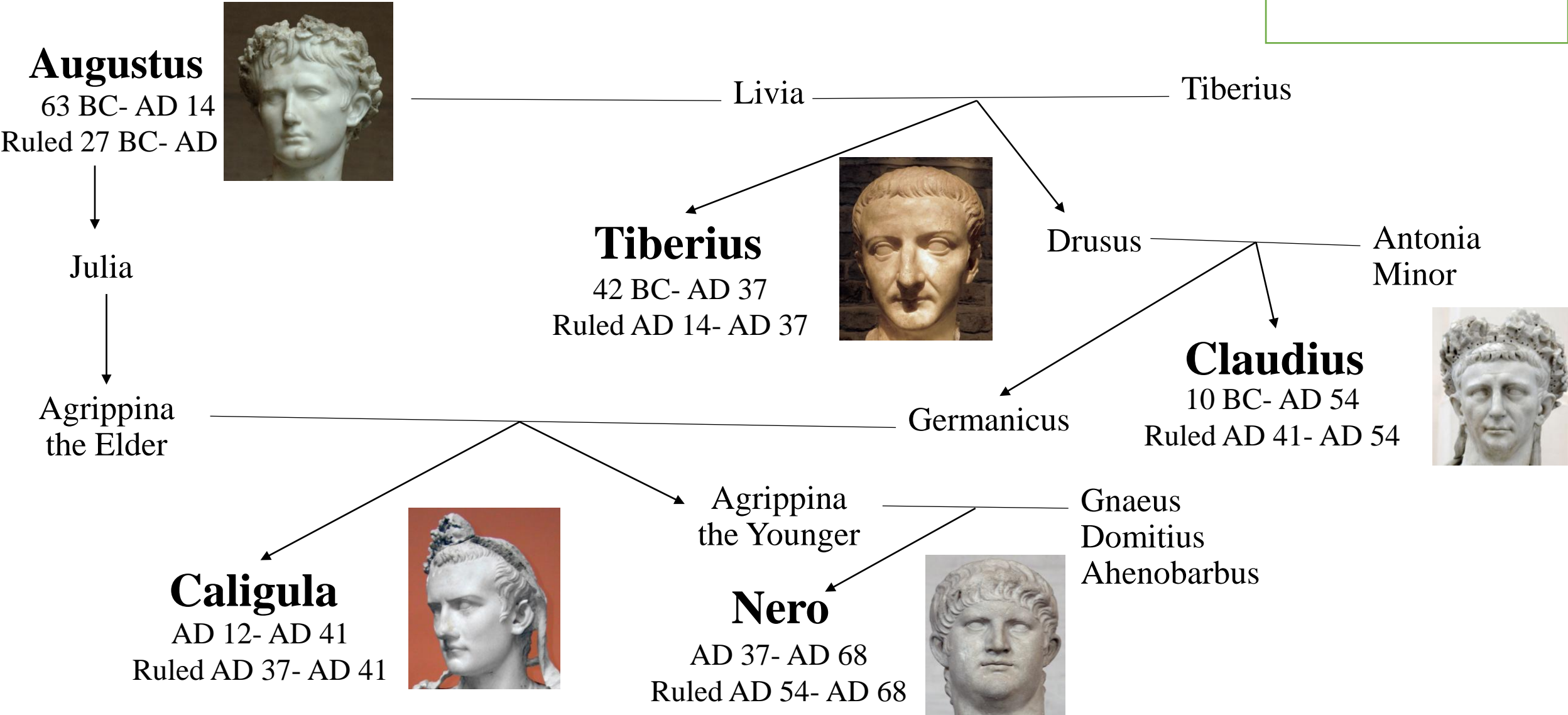
Became *Princeps Civitatis* (First Citizen) and took the title of *Augustus* in 27 BCE

Became *Pontifex Maximus*, the most important priest in Rome, in 13 BCE.

Died 14 CE, aged 75

The Julio-Claudian Family Tree

Key:
Married ———
Children ———>



Year of the Four Emperors: AD 69

- The end of the Julio-Claudian dynasty was after the death of Nero
- Four emperors followed each other in quick succession

Galba: Declared himself emperor in June 68 CE after Nero's death and survived until 1st January 69 CE.

Otho: Emperor on the day of Galba's murder. Lasted about three months.

Vitellius: Declared emperor by legions during Otho's reign. Strong military power.

Vespasian: Declared emperor by legions in Egypt and Syria. Marched on and seized Rome. Senate recognised him on 21st December 69 CE.

The Five Good Emperors

Nerva, 30-98 CE, ruled 96-98 CE.



Trajan, 53-117 CE, ruled 98-117 CE.



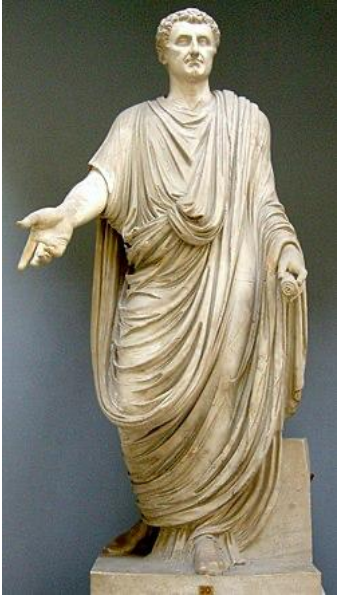
Hadrian, 76-138 CE, ruled 117-138 CE.



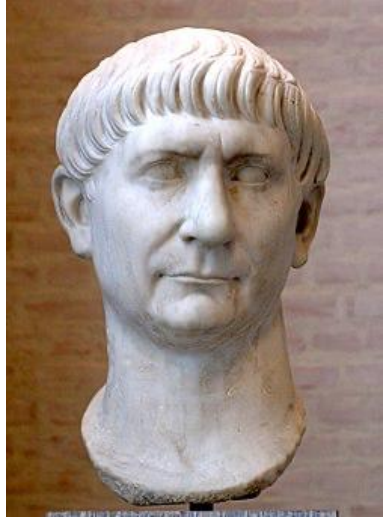
Antoninus Pius, 86-161 CE, ruled 138-161 CE.



Marcus Aurelius, 121-180 CE, ruled 161-180 CE.



Nerva



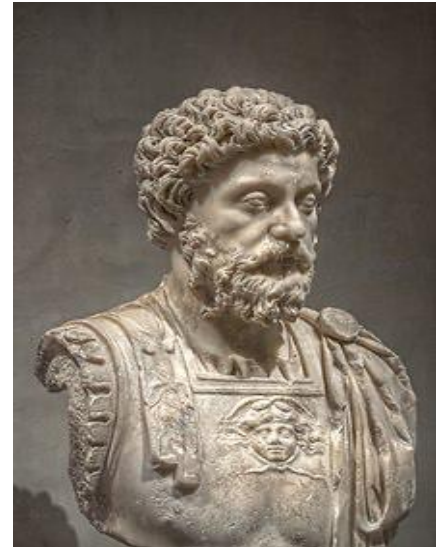
Trajan



Hadrian



Antoninus Pius



Marcus Aurelius

Any questions?