

TIME LINE OF CALPURNIA'S LETTERS

<u>BACKGROUND</u>	<u>BC 4-AD 110/ 745-863 AUC</u>
BIRTH OF JESUS CHRIST	BC 4 / 745 AUC
Pliny (Gaius Plinius Secundus) the Elder, maternal uncle of Pliny the Younger (Gaius Plinius Secundus filius Lucius Caecilius) is born	AD 23/ 776 AUC
Death/Resurrection of Christ	AD 30 / 783 AUC
Josephus is Born	AD 37 / 790 AUC
Death/Assumption of Virgin Mother of Christ at Meryemana Evi, center of the Johannine Community	AD 55 / 808 AUC
On military duty as a "stoical" Equestrian Knight in Germany, Pliny the Elder meets follow officer, Titus, son of future Emperor Vespasian. (Plan begins to make Vespasian emperor.)	AD 56/809 AUC
Pliny the Elder returns to Rome. Begins <i>Natural History</i> and *works behind the scenes to end the Julio-Claudian line of emperors. Dedicates <i>Natural History</i> to Titus.	AD 59/812 AUC
Josephus decides to be a Pharisee "kin to a sect of Stoics, as the Greeks call them" (<i>Vita I</i>) after living as a member of two other Jewish sects for two years.	AD 62/815 AUC
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Pliny the Younger is born	62/ 815 during the Consulship of Marius Celsus & Asinius Gallus
Josephus appeals to Rome for Jewish priests; Nero's wife Poppaea befriends Josephus & secures the favor, plus others. (See <i>Vita</i>) Josephus & Pliny the Elder meet in Rome.	63 / 815
Nero burns Rome & persecutes Christians. (Titus & Pliny the Elder enlist Josephus to help the Christians & plot Nero's death.)	64 / 817 Consulship of Laecianus Bassus & Crassus Frugi
Nero kicks pregnant wife, Poppaea to death *in an argument over her "affair" with Josephus and the persecution of Christians.	Early 65 / 818
<p>* These events are speculation based on Calpurnia's Letters. Most dates are approximate.</p>	

Conspiracy of Lucius Calpurnius Piso (*Josephus's adoptive father who was married to Josephus's mother, Miriam Arria; also cousin of Lucius Caecilius [Piso?], father of Pliny the Younger; also related to Calpurnia on both maternal & paternal sides) to murder Nero.	65 / 818 Consulship of Licinius Nerva & Vestinus Atticus
Jewish Revolt begins. Vespasian commands Palestine. <i>Epistle to Titus</i> attributed to Paul the Apostle.	66 / 819 Consulship of Luddius Telesinus & Seutonius Paullinus II
After siege of Jotapata, Josephus is "adopted" by Vespasian, lives "among the Romans," & becomes Flavius Josephus. *Titus, Pliny the Elder & Josephus meet with Vespasian to plan for Vespasian's accession, to defeat the Jews, and to gain support of/from Stoics/Christians.	67 / 820 Month of Marius Consulship of Julius Rufus & Fonteius Capito
Nero commits suicide. End of Julio-Claudian line (Augustus, Tiberius, Caligula, Claudius, Nero). The Year of the Four Emperors: Galba, Otho, Vitellius.	68-69 / 821 Consulship of Catus Silius & Galerius Trachalus
Vespasian becomes emperor: Beginning of the Flavian Dynasty. Titus, son of Vespasian, destroys Jerusalem & Temple. * Titus, Pliny the Elder & Josephus develop plan to secretly support Christianity's growth into dominant Stoic/Jewish cult to replace Jewish Temple cults "in the hearts of men."	69/822 70/823
Pliny the Elder serves as procurator in Africa, *where he travels the Nile with Lucius Arria Piso, the man who will become Calpurnia's father. Pliny the Elder serves as procurator in Spain, where he is responsible for Vespasian's financial affairs and *meets Trajan (age 20). (Beginning of plan to make Trajan Vespasian's successor, after Titus.)	71/823 72/823 73/ 826
Fall of Masada in Palestine; Josephus begins his autobiography & <i>Jewish Antiquities</i>	74 / 827
M. Ulpius Traianus (Trajan) named Legatus to Syria, *where he cultivates connections with Stoic/(Christian?) enclave.	75 / 828
Eruption of Vesuvius~destruction of Pompeii~Pliny the Elder dies (age 55).Calpurnia is born; her mother dies in childbirth. At Misenum, Pliny the Younger (age 17) saves his mother from volcano. Vespasian dies. Titus becomes Caesar.	79 / 832
Domitian, Vespasian's younger son, accedes as emperor upon Titus's death.	81 / 834

Domitia Longina, Domitian's wife, befriends Josephus. (see <i>Vita</i>)	82 / 835
Pliny (age 21) serves as military tribune in Syria, where he becomes close friends with Stoic philosopher Artemidorus (age 40), whom he appreciates as a sincere sage of great integrity, *befriends Stoic/Christian sympathizers/converts, and meets Calpurnia's father who is one of them.	83 / 836
Domitia Longina, is exiled to Syria for Jewish cult affiliation (possibly Christian). *With the help of Josephus, she passes the silent support for Stoic/Christian cause to Pliny the Younger.	83 / 836
*Calpurnia's father (age 34) dies in Syria; * Pliny brings body back on his return to Rome; attends funeral. Calpurnia, *age 5, is adopted by her maternal aunt Calpurnia Hispulla, under protection of her maternal grandfather Calpurnius Fabatus. Calpurnia Hispulla decides to arrange eventual marriage of Calpurnia & Pliny, thus joining the Arria/Piso line again.	84 / 837
Philosophers (including Stoics) banished from Rome. Pliny lends "a considerable sum" of money, without interest, to philosopher friend Artemidorus upon this banishment.	89 / 842 Consulship of Aurelius Fulvus & Asinius Atratinus
Pliny (*age 29) marries daughter of Pompeia Celerina.	90 / 843 Consulship of Cocceius Nerva
Consul Acilius Glabro forced to fight in Amphitheatre, evidence that Roman order is corrupting.	91 / 844 Consulship of Acilius Glabro & Upius Traianus
Domitian "Terror" begins; *Pliny's wife dies of illness infecting his entire household.	93 / 846 Consulship of Pompeius Collega & Peducaeus Priscinus
Pliny's Stoic friends Mauricus, Gratilla, the Younger Arria (*Josephus' ½ sister and relative of Calpurnia) & Fannia are exiled; Pliny lends them money without interest. Fannia takes diaries of husband Helvidius into exile. *With encouragement from Josephus, Pliny supports Christian cult in Rome.	93 / 846 (August) 94/847
* These events are speculation based on Calpurnia's <i>Letters</i>. Most dates are approximate.	

Domitian executes his cousin, Consul Titus Flavius Clemens for becoming a member of the Jewish/Christian cult. Clemens <i>aka</i> (?) *Clement, 4 th Bishop of Rome A.D. 88-late 95 or early 96~See reference to Clement in <i>Philippians</i> IV.3. At least some of <i>I Corinthians</i> is ascribed to Clement by early tradition; the persecutions referred to in <i>I Corinthians</i> IV.7 & XIV.9 are thought to refer to Domitian~see Hegesippus in Eusebius's <i>Ecclesiastical History</i> . *Calpurnia Hispulla arranges marriage of Pliny (age 34) & Calpurnia (age 15).	95 / 848 Consulship of Titus Flavius Clemens
Calpurnia miscarries; Pliny writes sad news to her grandfather and aunt.	96 / 849 Consulship of M. Valens & A. Vetus
Domitian is assassinated by an ex-slave of Flavia Domitilla the Younger, banished wife of murdered Consul Clemens; Nerva is proclaimed Caesar.	96 / 849
Pliny begins to collect his <i>Letters</i> for publication, "not in historical order...but as they come" to him; Calpurnia begins to memorize them as copies of his letters arrive from addressees.	96-97 / 850 Consulship of Verginius Rufus
Nerva adopts Trajan: Era of Adoptive Emperors	97 / 850
Trajan (age 45) accedes as emperor on death of Nerva.	98 / 851
Trajan returns triumphant from the wars in Germany to Rome as Emperor.	Late 99 / 852
Calpurnia miscarries.	Late 99 / 852
Trajan grants Pliny "privileges of 3 children."	Late 99 / 852
Pliny writes to Calpurnia about his misery in her absence *while she is recuperating in Campania from miscarriage.	Late 99 / 852 Consulship: Senecio & Frontonianus
Pliny is named Consul with Cornutus Tertullus; on occasion of his consulship, he delivers <i>Panegyricus</i> tribute to Emperor Trajan, summarizing the qualities of a good ruler.	100 / 853 Consulship: Tertullus & Pliny
Pliny (age 38) withdraws from most legal practice to attend to his consulship (*and Calpurnia).	100 / 853
Pliny continues work with Imperial treasuries and public works.	101/854 Winter
Pliny asks Trajan for a month's leave of absence to take care of his farms. On the way to see Calpurnia's grandfather and aunt, they travel to Tifernum on Tiber to dedicate a temple Pliny had funded.	101/854 Late Spring
Pliny sells inherited land on Lake Como to Corellia, his mother's dearest friend, and explains sale to Calpurnia's grandfather.	101 / 854
Flavius Josephus (age 65) dies.	102 / 855
* These events are speculation based on Calpurnia's Letters. Most dates are approximate.	

Pliny wins defense of Julius Bassus, proconsul of Bithynia. Trajan names Pliny priestly augur to take place of Julius Frontius.	103 / 856
Pliny worries about the younger Fannia; she has contracted illness from Junia (Vestal Virgin) while nursing her.	104 / 857
Trajan's wife Pompeia Plotina (from Spain) becomes Augusta.	105 / 858
Pliny defends Varenus Rufus against Bithynians; charge dropped when Bithynian councilmen disagree.	106-107 / 859-860
Trajan's victory in Dacia; Trajan celebrates with many games.	106-107/ 859-860
*Pliny completes compilation of his <i>Letters</i> from the Domitian period for publication; *Calpurnia memorizes all of them.	108 / 861
*Pliny over-sees completion of Aqua Triana aqueduct	109 / 862
*Pliny oversees beginning of Baths of Trajan built over Nero's Golden House.	Early 110 / 863
*Pliny requests transfer away from Rome to spend more time with Calpurnia, an assignment close to Soranus & the Asclepion at Pergamum (in search of a cure for Calpurnia's infertility).	110 / 863 Spring
Trajan sends Pliny (age 48) with Calpurnia (age 31) to province of Bithynia. Pliny's trip takes longer than expected, with delays July-September due to hot weather & prevailing south-easterly winds at Ephesus, and again in Pergamum due to a fever.	110 / 863 June~ September 17
*Calpurnia (& possibly her husband) meets the Christian leader, Ignatius of Antioch, in Smyrna as he is being brought, in chains, en route to Rome for trial, via Ephesus & Troas.	110 / 863 Summer
*Pliny & Calpurnia stay in Ephesus with Claudia Aristian, (grand?)daughter of Timotheo (1 st bishop of Ephesus), & buy rooms from her for future visits.	110 / 863 Summer
Pliny & Calpurnia arrive in Nicomedeia, Bithynia	110 / 863 by Sept. 17
*Pliny sends Calpurnia back to Ephesus due to anonymous accusations circulating in a pamphlet alleging her collusion with members of the Christian cult in Bithynia.	111 / 864 Late Spring
<u>CALPURNIA'S LETTERS</u>	<u>111-113/ 864-866</u>
*Calpurnia takes in Stephanos, son of Stephanas (see <i>I Corinthians</i> , I,xvi & XVI,xv,xvii) and commissions him to paint the fresco of <i>Eros in Ruins</i> & <i>ΩΑΑ</i> on walls of her room in Ephesus. Writes to her husband daily, sometimes more often.	111 / 864 Early Summer
*Calpurnia begins helping the Johannines at Meryemana Evi. Stephanos's problems arise. Calpurnia travels with him to escape his demons. Commissions him to sculpt Plinii portraits.	111 / 864 Summer
*Calpurnia meets Soranus, famed gynecologist of Ephesus and goes to the Asclepion at Bergamum for treatment of infertility.	111 / 864 Fall

*Calpurnia meets/hosts Johannine guests who visit, with their books, mostly from the eastern provinces. She studies Egyptian texts (including <i>Isis Temple Scrolls</i>), Hebrew texts and apocrypha, as well as Gnostic texts and Christian Gospel materials (including <i>Pistis Sophia</i> , the Virgin Mother's <i>Prophecy Scrolls</i> , the Magdalene's <i>Sayings of Jesus</i> , and <i>Gospel of Thomas</i>)	111/ 864 Summer~ Winter 112
*Pliny sends books to Calpurnia during his travels and arranges with librarians indebted to the generosity of the Elder Pliny to have books sent to her from libraries throughout the Empire. Sends Calpurnia texts by, and belonging to the personal library of, Pliny the Elder. Asks for recipes & remedies. Asks Calpurnia to translate books by Josephus & Philo. Cautions her about dangerous content of her letters.	111~112 / 864~865
*Calpurnia returns to her husband's <i>Books of Letters</i> and reviews aspects of his life she had missed or ignored in her youth. Continues to work with the Johannines at Meryemana Evi. on <i>The Gospel of John</i> .	112 / 865 Spring
*Calpurnia works for Soranus as midwife.	112/865 Late Spring
*Stephanos is treated for his ailment—including abstinence from wine and herbal/mineral remedies prescribed by wisewoman in Pergamum & including certain exercises prescribed by Pliny's own physician and physical therapist.	112 / 865 Spring~ Summer
*With reluctant permission from Pliny, Calpurnia takes a trip to Rome and returns with Shroud & copies of other Gospels.	112 / 865 Early Summer
*Calpurnia translates Josephus's <i>Jewish Antiquities</i> , XVIII.63-66 (see text regarding Jesus, the Messiah, prophecies about Christ's coming, His life, crucifixion, re-appearance & Christian follower). Dio Chrysostom (<i>aka</i> Dio Prusaeus & Dio Cocceianus): The Greek Stoic philosopher/ orator from Bithynia, lived in banishment near the Black Sea from 82. Returned to Rome under Nerva/Trajan; back in Bithynia AD 112, defended successfully by Pliny in Prusa, where his wife and daughter are buried. [Similarities have been noted between his writing and certain New Testament passages, in particular Romans XII.] *Hosted by Pliny & Calpurnia in Ephesus. *Calpurnia writes to Pliny from Ephesus about the activities of Christians elsewhere & begins her argument implying he, his father, Pliny the Elder, & his Stoic friends (including Josephus & Dio Chrysostom), together with her father and grandfather were involved in the earlier work of the Christians.	112/865 Late Summer 112 / 865 Fall
*Calpurnia agrees to learn how to cook the recipes she copies for her husband and how to prepare the remedies. Pliny sends books by Vitruvius. Calpurnia begins to learn how to tell time, recognize the beginning of seasons, read maps, measure distance, determine direction by position of celestial bodies, and improve her memory.	112 / 865 Late Fall
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ROMAN TIME

Sundials were set from place to place utilizing calculations according to an *analemma*.

Egyptian obelisks were prized sundial pointers.

The Roman Day	Sunrise to sunrise: length of an hour varies according to season
24 hours / 12 hours & 12 hours	
Summer Solstice	Each of 12 daytime hours=1 ¼ hour (approx.75minutes)
I prima	4:27 – 5:24 AM
II secunda	5:42 – 6:58 AM
III tertia	6:58 – 8:13 AM
IV quarta	8:13 – 9:29 AM
V quinta	9:29 – 10:44 AM
VI sexta	10:44 – Noon
VII septima	Noon – 1:15 PM
VIII octava	1:15 – 2:31 PM
IX nona	2:31 – 3:46 PM
X decimal	3:46 – 5:02 PM
XI undecima	5:02 – 6:17 PM
XII duodecima	6:17 – 7:33 PM
Winter Solstice	Each of 12 daytime hours = ¾ hour (approx. 45 minutes)
I prima	7:33 – 8:17 AM
II secunda	8:17 – 9:02 AM
III tertia	9:02 – 9:46 AM
IV quarta	9:46-10:31 AM
V quinta	10:31-11:15 AM
VI sexta	11:15 – Noon
VII septima	Noon-12:44 PM
VIII octava	12:44-1:29 PM
IX nona	1:29-2:13 PM
X decimal	2:13-2:58 PM
XI undecima	2:58-3:42 PM
XII duodecima	3:42-4:27 PM
Vernal Equinox	Each hour contained exactly 60 minutes
Autumnal Equinox	Each hour contained exactly 60 minutes

DAYS OF THE WEEK	EACH DAY RULED BY DIFFERENT GOD
Etruscan Market Week	7 days of work + <i>Nunindae</i> (market/festivity day)
End of 1 st C. AD	Seven Planetary Days
<i>Dies Saturis</i>	Saturn's Day ~ Saturday
<i>Dies Solis</i>	Sun's Day ~ Sunday
<i>Dies Lunae</i>	Moon's Day ~ Monday
<i>Dies Martis</i>	Mars' Day ~ Tuesday (Mars = * Tiw)
<i>Dies Mercuris</i>	Mercury's Day ~ Wednesday (Mercury = *Woden)
<i>Dies Jovis</i>	Jove/Jupiter's Day ~ Thursday (Jove = *Thor)
<i>Dies Veneris</i>	Venus' Day ~ Friday (Venus = *Freya)
	*These last 4 days are named in English for
	Norse equivalents to the Roman gods.
THREE ESTABLISHED DAYS	OF THE ROMAN MONTH
(Counting	For Example:
back from these days	August 24 = 9 days before the Calends of September
calculates all other dates)	
<i>Calends</i>	First day of every month
<i>Ides</i>	15 th day of months having 31 days/
	13 th day of months having 30 days
<i>Nones</i>	9 th day before the <i>Ides</i> /
	(either the 5 th or 7 th day of the month)
ROMAN YEAR	
All years were counted	For Example:
<i>Ab Urbe Condita</i> ~	
"From the	Vesuvius erupted 9 days before the <i>Calends</i> of
Founding of the City"	September 832 A.U.C.
in 753 B.C.E.)	+
+ names of <i>Consules Ordinarii</i> of	During the Consulship of Imp.Vespasianus IX &
that year	Titus Caesar VII