

To 6b: "After 13 years, during which nobody was invested with the title Emperor, Rome once again saw the New August within its walls" ([44*], V. 3, p. 346).

To 7b: Otto III made his cousin Bruno pope.

8a. Philip was of regal descent

8b. Bruno was of regal descent (grandson of Otto I the Great) [44]

Both represent two family clans opposing John the Baptist.

9a. Negative attitude of Gospel towards king Herod, Philip, and on the contrary, favourable treatment of John the Baptist

9b. Inimical attitude of Roman national party to Germans Otto III and Bruno. In contrast, Crescentius was Roman national hero

10a. John's arrest and imprisonment by king Herod

10b. Crescentius' arrest and trial (sentenced to exile) by Otto's order [44]

To 9b: "Both the Pope and the Emperor were relatives and both were of German origin ... The Romans were not disposed amicably towards these blond saxons who had come to rule over their city and also the christian world. The young aliens could not command a reverential attitude towards themselves" ([44*], V. 3, p. 346).

To 10b: "After the appointment of the Pope (Bruno—A. F.) who was of royal origin, it was necessary to tame the city ... Mutinous Romans who had expelled John XV were put on trial ... Some of the popular leaders (of the mutiny—A. F.) including Crescentius were sent to exile" ([44*], V. 3, p. 347).

11a. "Amnesty" of John the Baptist, declared by Herod (and Philip). Though John the Baptist was imprisoned, he was not executed, but, on the contrary, enjoyed Herod's support (Mk 6:24-28)

11b. "Official amnesty" declared by Otto III (and Bruno) for Crescentius, who stayed in Rome, but was dismissed from politics (analogue of "house arrest") [44]

To 11b: "Not used to power, ... Gregory V (born as Bruno—A. F.) wanted to conquer Rome by his goodwill, and requested the young emperor, who was also amicably disposed, to rescind these orders. Crescentius swore allegiance and continued to live in Rome as a private citizen" ([44*], V. 3, p. 347).

12a. "Offence" against Philip and Herodias by John the Baptist

12b. "Offence" against pope Bruno by Crescentius. Expulsion of Bruno from Rome by John [44]

To 12b: The expulsion by John Crescentius of Bruno, the personal appointed of Otto III and Otto's cousin, was indeed an obvious "affront" to the entire Otto-Bruno clan.