

Gunnar Heinsohn (November 2013)

Creation of the First Millennium CE:

Sketch for a Debate with Tree Ring Experts, Historians of Christianisation, and Polish Archaeologists on the Furnishing of the 1st Millennium With 1,000 Years of Historical Narratives.¹

(Excerpt from: HOW MANY YEARS WERE THERE IN THE FIRST MILLENNIUM CE? [WIE VIELE JAHRE HAT DAS ERSTE JAHRTAUSEND?])

The demise of Truso (*Baltic Pompei*) after the 10th century „remains an open question“. (Marek F. Jagodzinski, *Truso: Miedzy Weonodlandem a Witlandem / Between Weonodland and Witland*, Elblag: Muzeum Archeologiczno-Historyczne w Elblagu, 2010, p. 109.)

„There was a rapid, sometimes catastrophic, collapse of many of the pre-existing tribal centres. These events were accompanied by the permanent or temporary depopulation of former areas of settlement. Within a short time new centres representative of the Piast state arose on new sites, thus beginning [in 966] the thousand-year history of the Polish nation and state.“ (Andrzej Buko, *Archeologia Polski. Wczesnosredniowiecznej: Odkrycia – hipotezy – interpretacje*, Warszawa: Wydawnictwo TRIO, 2011, p. 464.)

The unbelievably slow progress of Christianisation across Europe — which proceeded in phases that resembled each other but which were separated by several hundred years — is one of the major enigmas in the history of the 1st millennium CE: “A very important result of [Christianisation’s comparative archaeology; GH] is the fact that in quite different periods one finds similar conditions under which the spread of the Christian faith follows the same pattern. / Some readers will be surprised that the process in which Europe became Christian was stretched over more than 1,000 years“ (Heinrich-Tamáska/Krohn/Ristow 2012a, 9).²

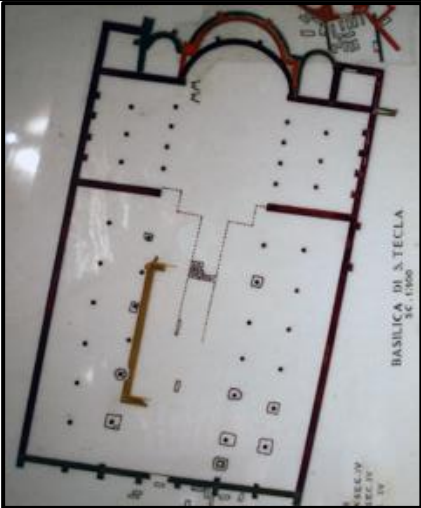
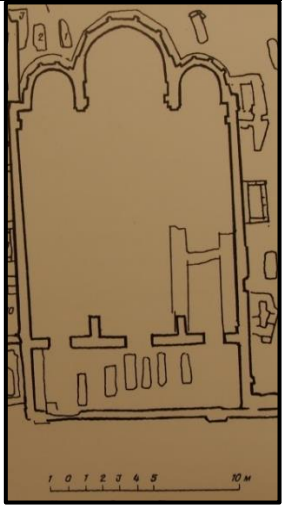
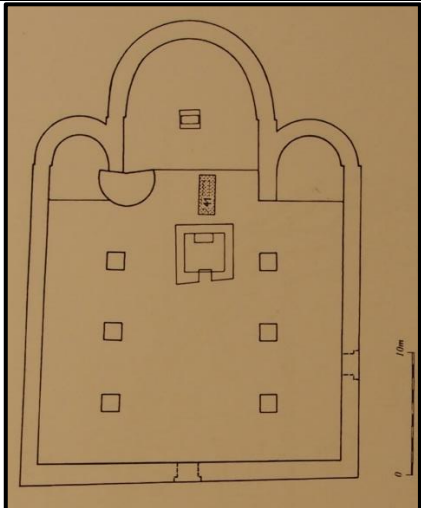
The most striking features of the turbulent conditions that preceded Christianity’s strangely repetitive triumphs can be seen in archaeological evidence of vast catastrophic events:

¹ Thanks for editorial help go to Clark Whelton (New York).

² German original: “Als grundsätzlich bedeutsames Ergebnis erscheint die Tatsache, dass sich zu ganz unterschiedlichen Zeiten unter ähnlichen Voraussetzungen dieselben Muster der Ausbreitung des christlichen Glaubens abgespielt haben. / Überraschend ist möglicherweise für den einen oder anderen Leser, dass sich der Prozess, in dem Europa christlich wurde, über mehr als 1000 Jahre hinzog.“

- (1) layers of dark earth mixed with remains of kitchen charcoal, along with roof beams and roof tiles that suddenly crashed down, burying Roman habitats, were followed, **around 235 CE**, by a deadly plague from Egypt's Pelusium
- (2) a catastrophe, tied to Justinian's comet or to a lethal rain of elephant rocks thrown by Allah, brought the Late Roman Empire to a sudden end, followed by a deadly plague out of Egypt's Pelusium around **530/40 CE**;
- (3) to the East of the river Elbe, a cataclysm brought many Slavic sites to a sudden end, followed by permanent depopulation of many tribal centers around 940/50 CE.

After each catastrophe, Christian baptistries were built at some of the surviving sites or at newly built settlements. These buildings for those who were lucky enough to survive the disasters were soon followed by churches with three apses. In some

| Christian three-apse churches built after global conflagrations that are — in three different areas of Europe — assigned three different dates. | | |
|--|---|---|
| Roman South-West [4th c.] (Milan, Santa Tecla; www.storiadimilano.it/citta/Piazza_Duomo/Tecla.JPG) | Roman South-East [6th/7th c.] (Eski-Kermen/Krim; Plontke-Lüning 2012, 358) | Slavic North-East [10th/11th c.] (Gniezno/Gnesen; Bukowska 2012, 461) |
|  |  |  |

sites, the baptistries may have been buried at the time such churches were built or soon thereafter. For reasons not yet understood, no region was permitted to enter Christianity with a church built in a style reflecting an architectural evolution of 300 or more years.

What's wrong with the idea that three major earth-shaking catastrophes happened in the 1st millennium CE? Nothing, say the scientific daters. Tree rings, e. g., are supposed to have experienced dramatic downturns at 237 CE, 536/540 CE, and 942 CE.³ Historians, of course, may feel more secure to have such respectable confirmation for a chronology that, for a thousand years, has appeared to be unshakeable. At the most, they may concede that no person (or a group of scholars) capable of convincing their fellow citizens that they were living in the year 800 CE, 900 CE or 1000 CE etc. after Christ has ever been identified. However, they believe someone must have correctly identified the AD date, right down to the month and day.

Archaeologists may be pleased too when proponents of fictitious centuries in the first millennium CE are ridiculed for playing „semantic games“ (Baillie 2013). You can have a lively controversy if a particular historical narrative has been employed twice or thrice to fill a preconceived chronology. Those who claim such a multiplication will be answered with the counter-claim that each narrative is an independent and original story, i.e. each is genuine history deserving the decades or centuries assigned to them. The doubters can be told to stop playing semantic games, to look at the facts of scientific dating, and to get out of the debate. However, scientific dating brings limited consolation to archaeologists because there remains one annoying problem, and this problem is in an area of CE chronology of which they themselves are in charge: archaeological strata.

No one can play semantic games with archaeological strata. You cannot employ one and the same stratum two or three times to fill a time span you automatically take for granted even if you have never thought about its creation. Neither can you present three distinct strata as just one stratum. Thus, it is not easy to play stratigraphic games. What is possible, of course, is that

³ E.g., M. Baillie, *To whom it may concern: Those who discuss the 'phantom time' hypothesis enjoy semantic games with historical documents. However, scientists have their own approach to issues of chronology*, 2013, circulated file.

simultaneous strata from two different sites can be used to represent two different time spans, even if the two sites are quite close to one another.

Still, archaeologists may be reluctant to embrace the tree daters or astronomical retro-calculators. To identify human history they cannot resort to mathematics (like the Fomenkoists), the heavens, or to ice layers, forests and C-14-levels. They are archaeologists. They have to focus on the remains of human habitats to make a point in the writing of human history. Even if they strongly believe in three 1st millennium CE catastrophes they still would love to show at least one site in Europe that exhibits those three cataclysmic devastations on top of each other stratigraphically. Yet, out of thousands of sites in all geographical corners of Europe, neither South nor East or North has a single site with the following stratigraphy:

| Typical stratigraphy expected — after three earth shaking catastrophes — for the 1st millennium CE for thousands of European settlements that, however, so far have not been confirmed in a single site (all dates rounded). | |
|---|--|
| 950 onwards | Building period (no more annihilating catastrophe up to today) |
| 940/50s | <u>3rd catastrophe</u> |
| 520-940/50s | Building period with repairs to former splendor as well as fresh construction in new styles und technologies plus innovative small finds not seen in the lower stratum (fibulae, beads, swords etc.) |
| 530s | <u>2nd catastrophe</u> |
| 290-530s | Building period with repairs to former splendor as well as fresh construction in new styles und technologies plus innovative small finds not seen in the lower stratum (fibulae, beads, swords etc.) |
| 230s | <u>1st catastrophe</u> |
| 1-230s | Building period with characteristic architecture, technology, and small finds (fibulae, beads, swords etc.) |

One should not ask for too much, the reader may interject. Why not be satisfied with a few hundred (or at least a few) sites exhibiting just two devastating catastrophes? Moreover, one should focus on major Roman metropolises, for which such a continuity may be claimed to have the highest probability. This advice is well taken. Yet, the result remains the same. So far, there is no such site.

| Typical stratigraphy expected for just two major catastrophes hitting thousands of European sites in the 230s and 530s that, however, so far have not been confirmed in a single site (all dates rounded) | |
|--|---|
| 530s | 2nd catastrophe (with no recovery) |
| 290s-530s | 2 nd Imperial building period with repairs to former splendor plus a fresh abundance of brick and marble architecture in new styles und technologies as well as innovative small finds not seen in the lower stratum (fibulae, beads, swords etc.) |
| 230s-280s | Period of so-called Barracks Emperors |
| 230s | 1st catastrophe |
| 1-230s | 1 st Imperial building period with an abundance of chracteristic brick and marble architecture plus very peculiar small finds (fibulae, beads, swords etc.) |

Okay, the reader may say, let's lower our expectation even more. Is there at least evidence for just one catastrophe in any one site? Yes, there is, in plenty of them, and because there is only one in any individual site, the author assigns the same date to all „three“ catastrophes.

| Proposed contemporaneity of the three periods — now stretched over 700 years — that all end in catastrophic annihilation [230s;530s; 940s], are all found at the same stratigraphic depth, and must, therefore, end simultaneously in the 230s CE (all dates rounded). | | |
|--|---|---|
| <p>Roman WEST: 1 to 235 (End in 230s Empire catastrophe with dark earth plus Pelusium Plague, and followed by baptistries and, later three apse-churches for Christianisation)</p> <p><i>Roman „Archaika“⁴ of 3rd c. in Merovingian tombs of „6th“ c.</i></p> | <p>Roman EAST: 290[=1] to 530[=235] (End in Justinian's comet and/or Allah's elephant stone shower plus Pelusium Plague, and followed by baptistries and, later, three apse-churches for Christianisation)</p> <p><i>Merovingian Dynasty (not 6th but 2nd third of 3rd c.)</i></p> | <p>Slavic NORTH-EAST: 6 th c.[=1] to 950[=235] (End in Ottonian-dated Slavic tribal catastrophe, and followed by baptistries and , later three apse-churches for Christianisation in Bohemia, Poland, Russia, and Scandinavia)</p> <p><i>Polish Piasts [Mieszko baptised 966]; Chech Přemyslids; Russia's Vladimir I [bap. 988] (not 10th but 2nd third of 3rd c.)</i></p> |

⁴ See A. Mehling, „Archaika als Grabbeigaben: Studien an merowingerzeitlichen Gräberfeldern“, *Tübinger Texte*, 1998, vol. 1.

Within their respective areas, small finds in the strata of the „three“ periods“ (which supposedly end some 700 years apart [230s, 530s, 940s]) are strikingly similar, not because the „later“ items are heirlooms from the „earlier“ periods but because they all come from the same time span conventionally dated 1-235 CE. Each geographical area [Roman West; Roman East; Slavic North-East plus Scandinavia], in the 1st millennium, undergoes **just one annihilating catastrophe** at the same time ca. 235 CE. Therefore, each area has between 1 CE and 1000 CE only some 300 years of genuine archaeological strata, along with non-recycled history.

To illustrate the bewildering time-spans between very peculiar and similar items, let's focus on so-called millefiori glass beads. In Truso, they appear after the year 800. Yet, in Rome they are already in fashion in the 1st c. CE.

| | |
|--|---|
| <p style="text-align: center;">Roman millefiori glass bead (in high fashion from 50 BCE – 3rd c. CE) [wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/3/3a/Roman_millefiori.jpg/220px-Roman_millefiori.jpg]</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">Millefiori glass bead from Truso, the Baltic Pompei (in high fashion from 800-850 CE; Jagodzinski 2010, 102)</p> |
|  |  |

Such a huge time gap for millefiori beads causes problems, and not only for Polish archaeologists who, on 9th c. beads, clearly see „classic techniques“ (Jagodzinski 2010, 102) of the first two centuries at work. The Scandinavians do not fare any better: “Also in the case of the G a-beads a continuity of production from the Roman Period must be considered. The close likeness in these beads through this considerable time span [1-200 to 800-1000; GH] is remarkable and in some cases identical

pattern and colour combinations can be noticed. To evaluate these not very consistent indications is not easy. The connection with the Mediterranean classical millefiori tradition [fashionable in Rome's 1st c.; GH] is undisputable“ (Callmer 1977, 98).

| Truso, the Baltic Pompei, identified in 1983 at Janów Pomorski/Hansdorf by Marek Jagodzinski | |
|---|---|
| Location of Truso (Jagodzinski 2010, 112) | Catastrophically port of Truso strangeld under mud (Jagodzinski 2010, 87) |
| | |

The excavators cannot even resort to the heirloom theory because their sites simply do not have strata from the first to the 8th century, whose inhabitants could have handed down such beautiful pieces. Truso jumps right from the La Tène Period (ending around 1 CE) to the 8th century, and it is the La Tène Period in which millefiori beads begin their fashion run. Yet, if the enigmatic hiatus of Truso from the 1st to the middle of the 8th century is correctly identified as a fictitious period, the beads are right where we should expect them to be.

What happened to 1st millennium CE chronology? Why was it inflated with imaginary centuries? Was there a conspiracy at work? The author is aware of theories pointing in that direction. But instead he favours the idea that there was a profound sense of helplessness after the widespread devastation and death toll of the 230s, devastation that not only cost the lives of so many but also caused a loss of continuity in calendrical computation. For the survivors, it was time for a new start. There might have been a powerful charm in the idea of a „year 1000 CE,“ which was described in Scripture as a fateful date. Someone selected that year – maybe Michael Psellos (1017-1078 – a choice favoured by Jan Beaufort [University of Würzburg), or Frutolf von Michelsberg (+1103). Very soon after the decision to settle on a year called 1000 AD — i.e. sometime in the beginning of the 2nd millennium CE — the need arose to furnish the centuries of the 1st millennium with credible history, even though the true length of that millenium was unknown at the time. To accomplish such a difficult task — in a world without the science of archaeology nobody could verify assumed centuries against proven stratigraphies — chronologically parallel blocks of history in different geographical regions were put into a chronological sequence. This arduous work appears to have followed a simple principle. The more east and north the region of available historical narratives was located, the later it was dated, and — an initially unintended, proto-racist, consequence — the more backward it was thought to be.

Thus, German tribes such as Franks or Thuringians etc. were supposedly capable of religion, church building, and warfare things the Slavs just would not get for another 500 years. By eliminating the fictitious centuries between them, however, the differences are counted in years, rather than in centuries.

| | | | |
|---|--|---|--|
| Contemporaneity of dynasties whose west-to-east geographical sequence was turned - <i>cum grano salis</i> (i.e., with slight overlaps) into a chronological earlier-to-later sequence to deliver a full 1,000 years of history to the 1st millenium whose true lenght was unknown in the 11th c. when that ardous work was begun. | | | |
| Western Franks („Merovingians“) | Central Franks („Carolingians“) | Eastern Franks („Ottonians“) | Slavic nations East of Otto- nians (Polish Piasts; Chech Přemyslids; Russ. Vladimir) |

The history block — with genuine though in the 11th c. not yet verifiable stratigraphical substance — from 1 to 235 as seen from the south-western central capital, Rome, received the 1st millennium's earliest time span of 1 to 235.

The genuine — though as yet not verified by the spade — decades immediately before 1 CE and right after 235 CE were turned into the time span 235-285 for Barracks-Emperors et al.

The genuine history block 1 to 235 as perceived from the south-eastern imperial border capitals with their own emperors, especially from Milan and Constantinople, received the time span 285-520 without stratigraphical substance but with genuine additional information for the archaeologically genuine years 1-235. Thus, the block 285-520 contains phantom years but no phantom information. Christianity's first churches now dated to the 4th and 5th centuries of „Late“ Antiquity are built in the outmoded style of 1st and 2nd century Roman basilicas (with just one apsis) because they were really built in the 1st and 2nd century: “Santa Maria Maggiore so closely resembles a second-century imperial basilica that it has sometimes been thought to have been adapted from a basilica for use as a Christian church. Its plan was based on Hellenistic principles [BCE time; GH] stated by Vitruvius at the time of Augustus” (Miles 1993, 158). The many new churches — now dated to the late 5th century — were erected after the frightening plague in the period of Marcus Aurelius of the 170s. By recycling sources from his period but from eastern origin those churches came into being only 300 years later. As a result, in the history of religion, Christianity is seen as an extreme exception puzzling by two miracles: (1) For reasons unknown the new faith was not prepared to build churches during the first three centuries of its existence. (2) For more unknown reasons it decided to resort to a Basilica style out of fashion since 300 years when the building eventually began.

The contemporaneous western Franks („Merovingians“), the northern central Franks („Carolingians“), and, finally, the north-eastern Franks („Ottonians“) were put into a sequential chronological order of 500-1000, until the year 1000 CE was reached with Otto III.

Thus a geographical sequence from west to east was turned into a chronological sequence from earlier to later. Although such a technique can temporarily hide the contemporaneity of all the periods involved it cannot hide the striking similarity —







albeit invisible for the chronology creators of the 11th/12th century CE— of artifacts (beads, fibulae, helmets etc.) that suddenly had found themselves stretched over some 700 years from the 3rd to the 10th century CE.

Translation of West-East geographical sequence (below) into earlier-later chronological sequence for the 1st millennium CE (above)


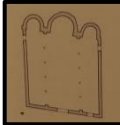
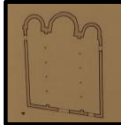



| | | | | | |
|---|----------------------|-------------------|--------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|
| (6) Slavic North-East (Polish Piasts; Přemyslids; Russ. Vladimir) | | | | | |
| (5) Frankish East (Ottonians) | | | | | |
| (4) Frankish North (Carolingians) | | | | | |
| (3) Frankish West (Merovingians) | | | | | |
| (2) Roman South-East (Byzantium) | | | | | |
| (1) Roman South-West (Rome) | (2) Roman South-East | (3) Frankish West | (4) Frankish North | (5) Frankish East | (6) Slavic North-East |

The phantom centuries within the 1st millennium were of no major concern until stratigraphy-focused excavations began in the 20th century. Since then, small finds as well as the true stratigraphical depth of coins have been reported ever more carefully: “The review of coin finds above has shown us the considerable difficulties involved in the handling of coin dates. / The constant use , up to BP XII, of old and very old coins as pendants is most notable“ (Callmer 1977, 170).

So far not a single site touched by the spade (out of roughly 2.500 Roman cities, and a multitude of that in *villae rusticae*) has revealed enough strata for the stretch of 1,000 years expected for the 1st millennium CE. Where building layers are found for 1-235, they are missing for 285-520. Where they are found for 6th/7th to the 10th century (Slavic North-East), they are missing — roughly speaking — from 1-700. Therefore, *ad hoc* theories had to be devised to explain away early south-western Roman items from the 2nd/3rd c. that were found in south-eastern „late“ antiquity strata assigned to the 5th/6th c. or even — in more eastern Slavic territories — to the 9th/10th century. Thus was born the now ubiquitous theory of heirlooms or private museums of supposed 1st millennium art collectors.

| Common manner of dating characteristic finds (here: millefiori beads) by a pre-conceived chronology that also provides the only clear guidance for tree-ring daters, astronomical retro-calculators, C14ers etc. | | |
|--|---|--|
| Europe's South-West | Europe's South-East | Europe's North and North East |
| 11 th c. (conventionally) | 11 th c. (conventionally) | 11 th c. (conventionally) |
| 900-1000 | 900-1000 |  triple apses-church 900-1000 Catastrophe; baptistry ; |
| 800-900 | |  [<i>Weonod</i>] |
| 700-800 | | [<i>Weonod</i>] |
| 600-700 | [<i>Venethi</i>] | -Tribal Slavs of unknown origin |
| 500-600 |  triple apses-church [<i>Venethi</i>] Catastrophe; baptistry ; | |
| 400-500 |  | |
| 300-400 | | |
|  triple apses-church 200-300 Catastrophe; baptistry; | | |
| 100-200  [<i>Venedi</i>] | | |
| 1CE -100 CE [<i>Venedi</i>] | | |
| LA TÈNE PERIOD up to 1 BCE | LA TÈNE PERIOD up to 1 BCE | LA TÈNE PERIOD up to 1 BCE |

An alternative approach would be to give the precise location of strata above the La Tène Period ending around 1 CE. Thus, pre-conceived dates will have to give way for stratigraphical depth:

| Idealized spreadsheet for sorting characteristic finds (here: millefiori beads, and three apse-churches) by stratigraphic depth. The only guidance revealed to tree-ringers, retro-calculating astronomers, C14-daters etc. would be the stratigraphical location in relation to the latest La Tène stratum. | | |
|---|--|--|
| Europe's South-West | Europe's South-East | Europe's North and North East |
| 11 th c. (conventionally) | 11 th c. (conventionally) | 11 th c. (conventionally) |
| Frankish Kingdoms | | Polish Piast Kingdom |
|  triple apses-church Catastrophe; baptistry ; Third stratum after La Tène |  triple apses-church Catastrophe; baptistry; Third stratum after La Tène |  triple apses-church Catastrophe; baptistry; Third stratum after La Tène |
| Second stratum after La Tène | Second stratum after La Tène | Second stratum after La Tène |
| First stratum upon late La Tène  | First stratum upon late La Tène  | First stratum upon late La Tène  -Tribal Slavs (<i>Venedi=Venethi=Weonod</i>) |
| Late LA TÈNE PERIOD up to 1 BCE with earliest millefiori beads | Late LA TÈNE PERIOD up to 1 BCE with earliest millefiori beads | Late LA TÈNE PERIOD up to 1 BCE with earliest millefiori beads |

By sorting material finds stratigraphically, one immediately understands, example given, that Slavic tribal beginnings around 600 CE are no longer hampered with the perennial question of where the Slavs came from. They were in Poland since La

Tène. They never left in the 3rd century for unknown territories, only to return 300 years later from territories no less unknown. The major enigmas of Slavic history are born out of chronological confusion. The *Venedi* of Pliny the Elder (23-79 CE; *Historia naturalis* IV) are the same as the *Venethi* mentioned together with *Sclavoni* by Jordanes (+652 CE). Finally, *Venedi*=*Venethi* are the same as the *Weonod*-people mentioned by Wulfstan (9th/10th c. CE). The *Venedi*=*Venethi*=*Weonod* are struck by the 230s catastrophe as were their immediate western neighbours of the Wielbark/Willenberg culture (probably tied to Germanic Gepids). The assumed continuity of the Wielbark culture into the 4th-6th centuries is derived from burial grounds with no settlements assigned to them (the famous twin-theory of settlements with no cemeteries / cemeteries with no settlements). The 4th-6th c. dates are not obtained by stratigraphic judgement but by opening coin catalogues that assign 5th and early 6th c. dates to the Roman rulers minted on coins found in those burials (Jagodziński 2013). Since, however, the 1-230 period of the „early“ empire stratigraphically runs parallel to the 290-520 period of „Late“ Antiquity (with „4th/5th“ c. churches in 1st/2nd c. architecture) these coins actually belong to the 2nd and the early 3rd century, i.e. to the very Wielbark culture ending in the 230s.

| Selection of simultaneous emperors now dated some 300 years apart. (So-called Late Antiquity emperors in bold letters; Heinsohn 2013; Beaufort 2013) | | | |
|---|---------|--|--------------------|
| Emperors residing in Rome | | Rulers residing in Treves, Mediolanum, Sirmium, Thessaloniki, Nikomedia, Antiochia, Naissus, Palmyra etc. (see next table with residences of individual emperors) | |
| Severus Alexander | 222-235 | | |
| Elagabal | 218-222 | | |
| Caracalla | 211-217 | Anastasios (491-518) | 207-234 |
| Septimus Severus | 193-211 | Zenon (474-491) Iulius Nepos (474-480) | 190-207 190-196 |
| Commodus | 180-192 | Leo I (457-474) | 173-190 |
| Marcus Aurelius | 161-180 | Maiorian (457-461) Marcian (450-457) | 173-177 166-173 |
| Antoninus Pius | 138-161 | Valentinian III (425-455) | 141-171 |
| Hadrian | 117-138 | Theodosius II (408-450) | 124-166 |
| Traian | 98-117 | Honorius (395-423) | 111-139 |

| | | | |
|--|-----------|---|--|
| | | Arcadius (395-408) | 111-124 |
| Nerva | 96-98 | Theodosius I (379-395) Valentinian II (375-392) | 95-111 91-108 |
| Domitian | 81-96 | Valentian I (364-375) Valens (364-378) | 80-91 80-94 |
| Servius Cornelius Salvidienus Orfitus | 82 office | Orfitus (270-369), praefectus urbi (Ammiannus Marcellinus (XIV, 6:1)) | |
| Titus | 69-81 | Iovian (363-364) | 79-80 |
| Vespasian | 69-79 | Iulian (361-363) | 77-79 |
| Nero | 54-68 | Constantius II (337-361) Constans (337-350) Constantine II (337-340) | 53-77 53-66 53-56 |
| Claudius | 41-54 | Constantine the Great (306-337) | 22-53 |
| Caligula | 37-41 | Licinius (308-324) | 24-40 |
| Tiberius | 14-37 | Maximinus Daia (310-313) | 26-29 |
| Maxentius (306-312; outside Rome) | 22-28 | Galerius (305-311) | 21-27 |
| Gaius Caesar (formerly Octavian) | 0 -14 | Diocletian (284-305) | 0 -21 |
| Probus (276-282) | -8/-2 | | |
| Gaius Caesar (formerly Octavian) | -12/ 0 | | |
| Aurelian (270-275) | -14/-9 | Postumus (260-269) | -25/-15 |
| Gaius Caesar (formerly Octavian; up to Pontifex Maximus when he disappears from public life) | -30/-12 | Odoenathus (263-267) Gallienus (253-268) Valerian (243-260) | -24/-17 -31/-16 -31/-24 |
| Gaius Caesar (formerly Octavian) | -44/-31 | Decius (249-251) Philippus Arabs (244-249) Marcus Antonius Marcus Antonius Gordianus (238-44) | -35/-33 -40/-35 -44/-30 -46/-40 |
| Iulius Caesar | -59/-44 | | |
| Gnaeus Pompeius | -69/-48 | Crassus | -69/-53 |

The simultaneous rule of Roman *imperatores* now dated some 300 years apart does not mean that they were the same men in the disguise of different names (for such a confusion see, e.g. Korth 2013). The **290-520**-rulers do live in the **1-230**-period but

they do not reside in Rome. They have their own border capitals whose architecture was always recognized as exhibiting a striking similarity with 1-230–Rome albeit in a miniature version (in detail Heinsohn 2013, passim).

| Imperial rulers and residences beyond Rome (Heinsohn 2013 after Barnes 1982, 48-87) | | | |
|---|--|-------------------------------------|--|
| Ruler | Residences (alphabetically) | Travels + military campaigns | Travels to Rome |
| Diocletian | Antiochia, Nicomedia, Sirmium | 84 | 1 together with Maximianus |
| Maximianus | Aquileia, Milan, Treves | 36 | 1 , plus the one with Diocletian, 2 lacking proof |
| Constantius I. Chlorus | Treves | 13 | 0 |
| Galerius | Antiochia, Serdica, Thessaloniki | 28 | 0 |
| Severus | Milan | 4 | 0 |
| Maximinus | Antiochia, Caesarea, Nicomedia | 23 | 0 |
| Great-Constantine | Arles, Constantinople, Nicomedia Serdica, Sirmium, Thessaloniki | 142 | 2 out of which 1 with sons Constantinus and Constantius |
| Licinius | Naissus, Nicomedia, Sirmium | 27 | 0 |
| Crispus | Treves | 9 | 0 |
| Constantinus | Treves | 7 | 1 with father Constantine |
| Constantius | Antiochia | 11 | 1 with father Constantine |
| Constans | Milan, Naissus | 2 | 0 |
| Dalmatus | Naissus | 1 | 0 |
| | | | |
| Sum | | 387 | 4 proven visits to Rome (1,034%) |

At the end of the 20th century, the manner of chronologically shooting from the hip was getting complicated. Too-quick attempts at dating no longer worked because archaeologists were ever more systematically reporting destruction layers and debris levels that, in the past, had been quickly removed to reach supposedly more interesting stuff beneath. *Dark earth*, sand dunes, many meters of mud, elevated water levels, charcoal layers, fallen roofs on top of splendid mosaic floors, kitchen food and garbage etc. on top of Roman building levels, all are recorded from Egypt's Memphis to Paris and London. Yet, all these discoveries are not — as one would expect — sorted in a spreadsheet of comparative stratigraphic depth that immediately would reveal the contemporaneity of finds now stretched over a period of some 700 years (from 235 to 940/50). The archaeologists — unknowingly — derive their dates from time spans created by translating Europe's west-eastern geographical direction of ethnic entities into earlier-to-later European historical narratives. In order to be consistent with a pre-fabricated chronology, archaeologists unknowingly betray their own craft, and are, then, forced to come forward with ideologies rationalizing a 500 year Germanic headstart in the building of Christian kingdoms over Slavic builders of strikingly similar Christian kingdoms .

By liberating the 1st millennium of its „geographical“ phantom periods the history of Christianisation no longer has to be stretched over a 1,000 years in a series of repetitive pattern. It follows quite a reasonable evolution.

| Stratigraphy based history of Europe's Christianisation | | |
|--|--|--|
| Architecture | Author's dates | Mainstream dates |
| Romanesque style begins uninterrupted evolution of churches | Since 1000=300 (ca. 700 fictitious years) | Since 11th c. |
| Three apses-churches (Trinitarian Catholicism beats Arianism) | Up to ca. 300 | 4th c. or 6th/7th c. or 10th/11th c. |
| Massive increase in baptistries | Soon after 230s | Soon after 230s or 530s or 940s |
| Earth shaking catastrophe | 230s | 230s or 530s or 940s |
| Massive increase of church building (Milan Basilica Vetus etc.) | 170s onwards (after Marcus Aurelius Plague) | Late 5th century |
| Early basilicas in Rome with one apsis in 1 st c. architecture, | 1st century | 4th century (mysterious absence of churches from 1 st to 4 th c.) |

Apart from all the chronological confusion, the archaeological craft is employed quite appropriately and impressively most of the time. Therefore, we now have — within the 1st millennium — identified major mega-catastrophe shaking the earth in three regions of Europe (South-West [230s]; South-East [530s], and Slavic North-East [940s]) within the 1st millennium. This provides a new chance for astronomers, tree-ringers and C-14ers etc. to prove these geographically derived dates „scientifically“. The only guidance they should receive is the stratigraphical location of the items to be scrutinized. If they all come from a stratum immediately upon the latest La Tène stratum their dates should all fall into the same time-span. When their results are in, and, still, differ by some 700 years scientific daters may begin to realize that their methods either have a problem (less probable) or are employed with a lack of professional rigor (more probable). That process of reevaluation can still be delayed but no longer be stopped because it has already started. Whilst Irish oak Chronology-Pope Mike Baillie is not ready to give up a single year of the 1st millennium, the Larssons from Sweden are already down to only 782 years (Larsson/Ossowski Larsson 2013). Thus, there are some 218 first millennium Baillie-years that cannot be matched by an equivalent of 218 Larsson-years.

Let the work begin!

Prof. Dres. Gunnar Heinsohn
 ul. Piwna 66 / 6
 PL-80-831 GDANSK
 POLAND
 0048 [0]58 3010659

Beim Steinernen Kreuz 7
 D-28203 BREMEN
 GERMANY
 0049 [0]421 702184

Mobile: 0048 506362 103

- Baillie, M. (2013), *To whom it may concern: Those who discuss the 'phantom time' hypothesis enjoy semantic games with historical documents. However, scientists have their own approach to issues of chronology*, circulated file
- Barnes, T.D. (1982), *The New Empire of Diocletian and Constantine*, Cambridge/Mass & London: Harvard University Press
- Beaufort, J. (2013), *Einige Heerführer und Kaiser von Caesar bis Diocletian gemäß Heinsohn-These mit um 284 Jahre rückdatierten Soldatenkaisern*, PDF-posting, May
- Buko, A. (2011), *Archeologia Polski. Wczesnosredniowiecznej: Odkrycia – hipotezy – interpretacje*, Warszawa: Wydawnictwo TRIO
- Callmer, J. (1977), *Trade Beads and Trade in Scandinavia ca. 800-1000 AD*, Bonn: Habelt & Lund: CWK Gleerup, 1977
- Heinrich-Tamáska, O., Krohn, N., Ristow, S., Hg. (2012a), „Vorwort“, in Dies., Hg., *Christianisierung Europas: Entstehung, Entwicklung und Konsolidierung im archäologischen Befund / Christianisation of Europe: Archaeological Evidence for it's creation, development and consolidation. Internationale Tagung im Dezember 2010 in Bergisch Gladbach*, Regensburg: Schell & Steiner
- Heinrich-Tamáska, O., Krohn, N., Ristow, S., Hg. (2012b), *Christianisierung Europas: Entstehung, Entwicklung und Konsolidierung im archäologischen Befund / Christianisation of Europe: Archaeological Evidence for it's creation, development and consolidation. Internationale Tagung im Dezember 2010 in Bergisch Gladbach*, Regensburg: Schell & Steiner
- Heinsohn, G. (2013), *Wie viele Jahre hat das Erste Jahrtausend u.Z.? [How Many Years in the First Millennium CE?]*, forthcoming
- Jagodziński, M.F. (2010), *Truso: Miedzy Weonodlandem a Witlandem / Between Weonodland and Witland*, Elblag: Muzeum Archeologiczno-Historyczne w Elblagu
- Jagodziński, M.F. (2013), *Roots of Truso*, forthcoming
- Korth, H.-E. (2013), *Der größte Irrtum der Weltgeschichte: Von Isaac Newton 1689 entdeckt - bis heute unvorstellbar*, Leipzig:Engelsdorfer Verlag
- Larsson, L.-Å., Ossowski Larsson, P. (2013), „In search for a correct and continuous Middle European Oak chronology: an abstract“, *cybis.se*, www.cybis.se/forfun/dendro/hollstein/hollsteinintro3/index.php
- Mehling, A. (1998), „Archaika als Grabbeigaben: Studien an merowingerzeitlichen Gräberfeldern“, *Tübinger Texte*, vol. 1, 214 pages
- Miles, M. R. (1993), "Santa Maria Maggiore's Fifth-Century Mosaics: Triumphal Christianity and the Jews", *Harvard Theological Review*, vol. 86, no. 2, 155–172
- Urbanczyk, P. (2010) , „Czy Wulfstan byl w Truso? / Did Wulfstanin visit Janów Pomorski?, in Jagodzinski, M.F. (2010), *Truso: Miedzy Weonodlandem a Witlandem / Between Weonodland and Witland*, Elblag: Muzeum Archeologiczno-Historyczne w Elblagu, 31-36