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Nathaniel S. Katz, Not Just by Jove: The Emperor in Roman Oaths.

Historia 70 (2021) pp. 494-523.

Using Greek papyri from Egypt and Latin tablets from Herculaneum and Pompei, argues that the language of oaths shows how ordinary Romans responded to imperial messaging. While oaths included Augustus' divinity and Vespasian's children, they ignored the divi. Similarly, literary sources see oaths by the emperor's genius as controversial, but documents show that, once genius oaths began, their popularity grew, regardless of an emperor's preferences. Oaths did not unthinkingly follow imperial messaging or share the elite sources' concerns. - Choosing Oaths. - Dynasty, Divinity, and Deities in Oath Formulas. - The Emperor's Genius in Oaths. - Pp. 508-520: Appendix: Oath Formulas from Augustus to Carinus and Numerian.

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