### Military career

At around the age of 20, he became military tribune in Legio XIII Gemina, stationed at Poetovio (modern Ptuj, in Slovenia), then moving to Vindobona (modern Vienna in Austria). In the year 90 he was elected *Triumvir monetalis*, a magistracy that oversaw the coinage of Rome and was usually held by promising young men; this was part of the *vigintiviri*, a council of minor magistracies. Directly following this he became *Quaestor* of Crete and Cyrene, through which he could enter the Senate. Following this he became *Aedil* with imperial commendations, and in 98 was elected *Praetor*, allowing him to command armies.

In 99-101 Bassus was given command of Legio XI Claudia pia fidelis in Vindonissa (modern Windisch in Switzerland), followed by command in 101-102, in the First Dacian War, of a *vexillation*, a kind of special unit drawn from three legions, including Legio IV Scythica and Legio XII Fulminata. After this he held command of Legio X Fretensis, simultaneously with the position as *Praetor* of the legate of Judea. From 1 May to 31 August, 105 Bassus held the position of *Consul suffectus* of Rome, the highest magistracy in the empire and one that required careful selection; following this he was awarded with the Triumphal insignia and was admitted to the College of Pontiffs, the highest ranking position in state cult. Following this was a governorship of the imperial legate of Galatia and Kappadokia, and in 114/115 he was again commander of a *vexillation* drawn from four legions, including Legio III Gallica and Legio XIII Gemina, during the Parthian Wars. He was in 115-117 awarded a military distinction (*Dona militaria*), and served as governor of Syria-Phoenice-Kommagene, and it is this position that he owes the honors inscribed by Seleukeia-on-the-Euphrates in *IvP* III 21. In 117 he succeded Avidius Nigrinus as governor of Dacia under Trajan, during the insurgence of Dacians, and died in battle in the winter of 117/118, age 50.

His body was repatriated to Pergamon, where the new (and deified) emperor Hadrian ordered a state burial. Julius Quadratus Bassus’ body was carried by soldiers in solemn procession throughout the city, with the tomb being financed through public funds (Tybout (2016) 420-421).