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Report on the dendrochronological analysis of the panel „John the Steadfast“ (Cranach, d. Ä., Inv.-No. 46.179.2)

The analysed panel (20, 6 x 14, 5/14, 7 cm) is made of one beechwood board. Using the master chronology of beech wood following dating could be obtained:

Board I	85	growth rings	1524 – 1440
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The youngest ring was formed out in the year 1524.

For the manufacturing of beech wood panels normally only the bark was removed and the entire tree was used. Therefore an earliest felling date can be derived for the year 1524. With a minimum of 2 years for seasoning an earliest creation of the painting is possible from 1526 upwards.

Prof. Dr. Peter Klein