Contents

Abbreviations xv

Introduction: The Latin Texts of Late Antiquity 1

Chapter 1. The Aristocratic-Literary World 18

Chapter 2. The Socially Less Privileged: Decurions and Plebeians, Dependents and Slaves 41


Chapter 4. Social Turmoil: “New Men” and Bandits, Romans and Barbarians 94

Chapter 5. The Triumph of Christianity and Life in the Church 114

Chapter 6. Elite Women: Roman Aristocrats and Barbarian Queens 144

Chapter 7. Inappropriate Activities: Leadership, Necromancy, and Rebellion 169

Epilogue: Having the Last Word 192

Appendices

1. Roman Emperors 201
2. Selected Bishops of Rome (Popes) 203
3. Barbarian Rulers 205
4. Glossary 209
5. Sources Quoted 215

Bibliography 221

Index 233