

Contents

<i>Acknowledgements</i>	<i>page</i> ix
<i>Advice to readers</i>	x
<i>List of abbreviations</i>	xii
Introduction	1
Part I The Constantinian Empire	11
1 Constantinople: a new city and a new history	13
2 Constantine to Julian: the disintegration of a dynasty	44
Part II The Church in the Empire	65
3 Constantine's second revolution	67
4 Theology and the problems of authority	81
5 Nicaea and its aftermath	93
6 The reign of Constantius and the Arian triumph	108
7 The structure of chapter 21	121
Part III The Interlude of Julian	145
8 Gibbon and Julian: the history of an anomaly	147
9 Julian apostate: the failure of an alternative	161
10 Julian as persecutor: from toleration to the failure of repression	178
11 The sojourn at Antioch and the Persian disaster	196

Part IV	Barbarism: The First Catastrophe	215
12	Valentinian I and Valens: the turn to the west	217
13	The geography and historiography of the western Decline and Fall	253
Part V	The Triumph of Orthodoxy and the Last Emperor	277
14	The reign of Theodosius: triumphs preceding disaster	279
15	Ambrose of Milan: the church and the empire	293
16	Theodosius narrated and re-narrated: the death and rebirth of polytheism	309
Part VI	The Barbarisation of the West	333
17	The Gothic phase: the sack of Rome and the loss of the transalpine west	335
18	Vandals and Huns: the twin empires and the loss of Africa	371
19	Attila and Aetius: the Hun invasions of the west	391
20	The end of the western succession	415
Part VII	After the Fall: Towards a History Not Written	435
21	Ends and beginnings: the conclusion of Gibbon's third volume	437
22	The barbarian kingdoms and their laws: the beginnings of a medieval history	456
23	The <i>General Observations</i>	489
24	Gibbon's first trilogy and its successor volumes. Conclusion of the present series	501
	<i>Bibliography</i>	510
	<i>Index</i>	517