Contents

Intr	oduction —— 1
Overview of Previous Scholarship —— 4	
	Text Transmission in Antiquity —— 8
	Factors Affecting the Transmission of Texts —— 10
1	The Great Persecution, the Emperor Julian and Christian Reactions —— 2
1.1	Laws against Astrologers and Magicians before the Fourth
	Century —— 24
1.2	The Great Persecution —— 27
1.3	Constantine —— 31
1.4	Christian Reactions to the Great Persecution —— 35
1.5	Julian and the Constantinian Dynasty —— 54
1.6	Christian Reactions to the Emperor Julian — 57
1.7	Conclusion —— 60
2	Fahrenheit AD 451 – Imperial Legislation and Public Authority — 62
2.1	Magic Trials under the Emperor Valens — 64
2.2	The Theodosian Dynasty —— 69
2.3	Philosophy and Astrology — 77
2.4	Curiosity and Illness —— 85
2.5	Rutilius Namatianus and the Burning of the Sibylline Books —— 91
2.6	Magic and Hellenist Trials in the Fifth Century — 93
2.7	Codex Justinianus —— 96
2.8	Religious Inquisitions in the Age of Justinian —— 102
2.9	Conclusion —— 109
3	Holy Men, Clerics and Ascetics —— 111
3.1	Book-Burning in the Acts of the Apostles —— 111
3.2	Ecclesiastical Law in Late Antiquity —— 114
3.3	Philosophy and Heresy —— 116
3.4	Zacharias' Life of Severus —— 124
3.5	"I Give You Power to Trample on Serpents" —— 132
3.6	Individuals Renouncing their Past —— 137
3.7	Philosophy and Magic —— 144
3.8	Conclusion —— 146



4 M	laterialist Philosophy —— 149	
4.1	Materialist Philosophies in Late Antiquity —— 151	
4.2	Christianity and Ancient Materialist Philosophy —— 157	
4.3	Augustine's Letter to Dioscorus —— 163	
4.4	The Eschatological Cities of Babylon and Jerusalem —— 174	
4.5	Prudentius and Epicurus —— 182	
4.6	Polemics against Materialist Philosophies in the East — 186	
4.7	Conclusion —— 195	
5 M	Noral Disapproval of Literary Genres —— 198	
5.1	John Chrysostom and the Decline of Ancient Philosophy —— 200	
5.2	Libanius' Complaints — 209	
5.3	The Decline of Libraries in Rome —— 212	
5.4	The Jerome–Rufinus Controversy —— 217	
5.5	Christianity and Classical Literature — 220	
5.6	Christianity and Paideia —— 231	
5.7	Conclusion —— 235	
5.7	Conclusion	
6 D	estruction of Libraries —— 238	
6.1	A Temple Destroyed in Antioch —— 239	
6.2	The Palatine Library in Rome —— 241	
6.3	The Library of Alexandria —— 243	
6.4	The Sack of Rome —— 256	
6.5	The Library of Constantinople —— 258	
6.6	Conclusion —— 260	
7 T	he Post-Roman Successor States —— 262	
7.1	Burning and Confiscation of Books after the Fall of Rome — 263	
7.2	Ecclesiastical Law —— 278	
7.3	Isidore of Seville —— 281	
7.4	Membra Disiecta —— 289	
7.5	Conclusion —— 294	
Concl	lusion —— 296	
Bibliography —— 303		
	rimary literature —— 303	
Secondary literature —— 310		

Index of persons —— 325

Subject index —— 330

Index of passages --- 338