

Contents

<i>List of Illustrations</i>	page viii
<i>Acknowledgments</i>	xi
<i>Maps</i>	xiii
I Egypt and the Social World of the New Testament	i
II The Social Milieu of Early Christians in Egypt: Who Were the First Readers of the New Testament Gospels?	18
III “In those days a decree went out . . .”: The Herodian Kingdom and the Augustan Provincial Census System	31
IV “But these words seemed to them an idle tale”: Discrimination and the Struggle for Women’s Equality in Early Christianity	51
V “The Carpenter’s Son”: The Family and Household of a Craftsman	65
VI “In those days Mary set out . . .”: Travel by the Lower Classes in Roman Times	87
VII “In that region there were shepherds living in the fields . . .”: An Occupation on the Margins of Society	115
VIII Afterword	135
<i>Notes</i>	138
<i>Bibliography</i>	165
<i>Index Locorum</i>	183
<i>General Index</i>	189