

**1: EGYPT iii. Relations in Seleucid and Parthian " Encyclopaedia Iranica**

A. C. Johnson, *Roman Egypt to the Reign of Diocletian. (An Economic Survey of Ancient Rome, ed. by T. Frank, vol. II.)* Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins Press; London.

The Diocletian Persecution, a. Cureton, Lond. ; Vita Const. Oratio in Gordium mart. Die Zeit Constantins des Gr. Der Uebertritt Constantins des Gr. Rom und das Christenthum only comes down to a. Regierung und Christenverfolgung des Kaisers Diocletianus und seiner Nachfolger. Kaiser Diocletian und seine Zeit. The Persecution of Diocletian. Harnack in the "Theol. Constantin der Grosse und die Kirche. He was the son of a slave or of obscure parentage, and worked himself up to supreme power. He converted the Roman republican empire into an Oriental despotism, and prepared the way for Constantine and Constantinople. He associated with himself three subordinate co-regents, Maximian who committed suicide, , Galerius d. Galerius married a daughter of Diocletian the unfortunate Valeria , Constantius a nominal daughter of Maximian Theodora , after repudiating their former wives. Constantine, the son of the divorced Helena, married Fausta, the daughter of Maximian as his second wife father and son being married to two sisters. He was raised to the dignity of Caesar, July 25, Gibbon calls him a second Augustus, the founder of a new empire, rather than the restorer of the old. He also compares him to Charles V. In the first twenty years of his reign Diocletian respected the toleration edict of Gallienus. His own wife Prisca his daughter Valeria, and most of his eunuchs and court officers, besides many of the most prominent public functionaries, were Christians, or at least favorable to the Christian religion. He himself was a superstitious heathen and an oriental despot. Like Aurelian and Domitian before him, he claimed divine honors, as the vicar of Jupiter Capitolinus. He was called, as the Lord and Master of the world, Sacratissimus Dominus Noster; he guarded his Sacred Majesty with many circles of soldiers and eunuchs, and allowed no one to approach him except on bended knees, and with the forehead touching the ground, while he was seated on the throne in rich vestments from the far East. Although he long postponed the religious question, he had to meet it at last. It could not be expected, in the nature of the case, that paganism should surrender to its dangerous rival without a last desperate effort to save itself. In Diocletian issued in rapid succession three edicts, each more severe than its predecessor. Maximian issued the fourth, the worst of all, April 30, Christian churches were to be destroyed; all copies of the Bible were to be burned; all Christians were to be deprived of public office and civil rights; and at last all, without exception, were to sacrifice to the gods upon pain of death. Constantine, who then resided at the Court, on a solemn occasion at a later period, attributes the fire to lightning Orat. It was strengthened by the tearing down of the first edict by an imprudent Christian celebrated in the Greek church under the name of John , who vented in that way his abhorrence of such "godless and tyrannical rulers," and was gradually roasted to death with every species of cruelty. But the conjecture that the edicts were occasioned by a conspiracy of the Christians who, feeling their rising power, were for putting the government at once into Christian hands, by a stroke of state, is without any foundation in history. It is inconsistent with the political passivity of the church during the first three centuries, which furnish no example of rebellion and revolution. At best such a conspiracy could only have been the work of a few fanatics; and they, like the one who tore down the first edict, would have gloried in the deed and sought the crown of martyrdom. In speaking of the fire in the imperial palace of Nicomedia, he says: Baur rejects it as artificial and very improbable. But even here the churches were destroyed, and many martyrs of Spain St. Vincentius, Eulalia, and others celebrated by Prudentins , and of Britain St. Alban are assigned by later tradition to this age. The original name of Maximin was Daza. He must not be confounded with Maximian who was older and died three years before him. He was a rude, ignorant and superstitious tyrant, equal to Galerius in cruelty and surpassing him in incredible debauchery See Lact. He died of poison after being defeated by Licinius in He issued in autumn, , a fifth edict of persecution, which commanded that all males with their wives and servants, and even their children, should sacrifice and actually taste the accursed offerings, and that all provisions in the markets should be sprinkled with sacrificial wine. All the pains, which iron and steel, fire and sword, rack and cross, wild beasts and beastly men could inflict, were employed to gain the useless end. Eusebius was a witness of this persecution in Caesura, Tyre, and Egypt, and saw, with his own

eyes, as he tells us, the houses of prayer razed to the ground, the Holy Scriptures committed to the flames on the market places, the pastors hunted, tortured, and torn to pieces in the amphitheatre. Even the wild beasts, he says, not without rhetorical exaggeration, at last refused to attack the Christians, as if they had assumed the part of men in place of the heathen Romans; the bloody swords became dull and shattered; the executioners grew weary, and had to relieve each other; but the Christians sang hymns of praise and thanksgiving in honor of Almighty God, even to their latest breath. He describes the heroic sufferings and death of several martyrs, including his friend, "the holy and blessed Pamphilus," who after two years of imprisonment won the crown of life, with eleven others—a typical company that seemed to him to be "a perfect representation of the church. The charge of having escaped martyrdom by offering sacrifice is without foundation. To these was now added also the new class of the traditores, who delivered the holy Scriptures to the heathen authorities, to be burned. But as the persecution raged, the zeal and fidelity of the Christians increased, and martyrdom spread as by contagion. Even boys and girls showed amazing firmness. In many the heroism of faith degenerated to a fanatical courting of death; confessors were almost worshipped, while yet alive; and the hatred towards apostates distracted many congregations, and produced the Meletian and Donatist schisms. The number of martyrs cannot be estimated with any degree of certainty. The seven episcopal and the ninety-two Palestinian martyrs of Eusebius are only a select list bearing a similar relation to the whole number of victims as the military lists its of distinguished fallen officers to the large mass of common soldiers, and form therefore no fair basis for the calculation of Gibbon, who would reduce the whole number to less than two thousand. But there is no truth in the tradition which figures in older church histories that the tyrants erected trophies in Spain and elsewhere with such inscriptions as announce the suppression of the Christian sect. The story of the destruction of the legio Thebaica is probably an exaggeration of the martyrdom of St. Mauritius, who was executed in Syria, as tribunus militum, with seventy soldiers, at the order of Maximin. The martyrdom of Barlaam, a plain, rustic Christian of remarkable constancy, and of Gordius, a centurion who, however, was tortured and executed a few years later under Licinius, has been eulogized by St. A maiden of thirteen years, St. Agnes, whose memory the Latin church has celebrated ever since the fourth century, was, according to tradition, brought in chains before the judgment-seat in Rome; was publicly exposed, and upon her steadfast confession put to the sword; but afterwards appeared to her grieving parents at her grave with a white lamb and a host of shining virgins from heaven, and said: Rejoice with me, that I am forever united in heaven with the Saviour, whom on earth I loved with all my heart. Agricola and Vitalis at Bologna, Gervasius and Protasius at Milan, whose bones were discovered in the time of Ambrose Janurius, bishop of Benevent, who became the patron saint of Naples, and astonishes the faithful by the annual miracle of the liquefaction of his blood, and the British St. Alban, who delivered himself to the authorities in the place of the priest he had concealed in his house, and converted his executioner, are said to have attained martyrdom under Diocletian. This historian is so fully convinced of the "insigne et perpetuum miraculum sanguinis S. Januarii," that he thinks; it unnecessary to produce; my witness, since "tota Italia, et totus Christianus orbis testis est locupletissimus!

### 2: Project MUSE - Papyri from the Great Persecution: Roman and Christian Perspectives

*An Economic Survey of Ancient Rome Edited by Tenney Frank VOLUME II ROMAN EGYPT TO THE REIGN OF DIOCLETIAN By ALLAN CHESTER JOHNSON NE OF the most urgent needs of economists, historians, and classicists is now satisfied by this volume.*

Egypt again became the province of an empire, as it had been under the Persians and briefly under Alexander. As the principal source of the grain supply for Rome, it came under the direct control of the emperor in his capacity as supreme military chief, and a strong force was garrisoned there. Gradually, Latin replaced Greek as the language of higher administration. In Rome gave the Egyptians citizenship in the empire. The emperor ruled as successor to the Ptolemies with the title of "Pharaoh, Lord of the Two Lands," and the conventional divine attributes assigned to Egyptian kings were attributed to him. Rome was careful, however, to bring the native priesthood under its control, although guaranteeing traditional priestly rights and privileges. Augustus and his successors continued the tradition of building temples to the local gods on which the rulers and the gods were depicted in the Egyptian manner. The Romans completed the construction of an architectural jewel, the Temple of Isis on Philae Island Jazirat Filah, which was begun under the Ptolemies. A new artistic development during this period was the painting of portraits on wood, an art that originated in the Fayyum region. These portraits were placed on the coffins of mummies. The general pattern of Roman Egypt included a strong, centralized administration supported by a military force large enough to guarantee internal order and to provide security against marauding nomads. There was an elaborate bureaucracy with an extended system of registers and controls, and a social hierarchy based on caste and privilege with preferred treatment for the Hellenized population of the towns over the rural and native Egyptian population. The best land continued to form the royal domain. The empire that Rome established was wider, more enduring, and better administered than any the Mediterranean world had known. For centuries, it provided an ease of communication and a unity of culture throughout the empire that would not be seen again until modern times. In Western Europe, Rome founded a tradition of public order and municipal government that outlasted the empire itself. In the East, however, where Rome came into contact with older and more advanced civilizations, Roman rule was less successful. The story of Roman Egypt is a sad record of shortsighted exploitation leading to economic and social decline. Like the Ptolemies, Rome treated Egypt as a mere estate to be exploited for the benefit of the rulers. But however incompetently some of the later Ptolemies managed their estate, much of the wealth they derived from it remained in the country itself. Rome, however, was an absentee landlord, and a large part of the grain delivered as rent by the royal tenants or as tax by the landowners as well as the numerous money-taxes were sent to Rome and represented a complete loss to Egypt. The history of Egypt in this period cannot be separated from the history of the Roman Empire. Thus, Egypt was affected by the spread of Christianity in the empire in the first century A. Christianity arrived early in Egypt, and the new religion quickly spread from Alexandria into the hinterland, reaching Upper Egypt by the second century. According to some Christian traditions, St. Mark brought Christianity to Egypt in A. The Egyptian Christians are called Copts, a word derived from the Greek word for the country, Aegyptos. In the Coptic language, the Copts also called themselves "people of Egypt. In the third century A. Roman bureaucracy became overcentralized and poorly managed. The number of qualified applicants for administrative positions was seriously reduced by Roman civil war, pestilence, and conflict among claimants to imperial power. A renaissance of imperial authority and effectiveness took place under Emperor Diocletian. During his reign, the partition of the Roman Empire into eastern and western segments began. Diocletian inaugurated drastic political and fiscal reforms and sought to simplify imperial administration. Under Diocletian, the administrative unity of Egypt was destroyed by transforming Egypt from one province into three. Seeing Christianity as a threat to Roman state religion and thus to the unity of the empire, Diocletian launched a violent persecution of Christians. In Emperor Diocletian issued a decree ordering all churches demolished, all sacred books burned, and all Christians who were not officials made slaves. The decree was carried out for three years, a period known as the "Era of Martyrs. In he established his capital at Byzantium, which he renamed Constantinople present-day

Istanbul. Egypt was governed from Constantinople as part of the Byzantine Empire. In Constantine established Christianity as the official religion of the empire, and his Edict of Milan established freedom of worship. By the middle of the fourth century, Egypt was largely a Christian country. In the ecumenical Council of Nicea established the patriarchate of Alexandria as second only to that of Rome; its jurisdiction extended over Egypt and Libya. The patriarchate had a profound influence on the early development of the Christian church because it helped to clarify belief and to formulate dogmas. In the number of Egyptian bishops was estimated at nearly 300. After the fall of Rome, the Byzantine Empire became the center of both political and religious power. The political and religious conflict between the Copts of Egypt and the rulers of Byzantium began when the patriarchate of Constantinople began to rival that of Alexandria. The Council of Chalcedon initiated the great schism that separated the Egyptian Church from Catholic Christendom. The schism had momentous consequences for the future of Christianity in the East and for Byzantine power. Ostensibly, the council was called to decide on the nature of Christ. If Christ were both God and man, had he two natures? The Arians had already been declared heretics for denying or minimizing the divinity of Christ; the opposite was to ignore or minimize his humanity. Coptic Christians were Monophysites who believed that after the incarnation Christ had but one nature with dual aspects. The council, however, declared that Christ had two natures and that he was equally human and equally divine. The Egyptian Church was severely persecuted by Byzantium. Churches were closed, and Coptic Christians were killed, tortured, and exiled in an effort to force the Egyptian Church to accept Byzantine orthodoxy. The Coptic Church continued to appoint its own patriarchs, refusing to accept those chosen by Constantinople and attempting to depose them. The break with Catholicism in the fifth century converted the Coptic Church to a national church with deeply rooted traditions that have remained unchanged to this day. By the seventh century, the religious persecutions and the growing pressure of taxation had engendered great hatred of the Byzantines. As a result, the Egyptians offered little resistance to the conquering armies of Islam.

### 3: What does diocletian mean?

*Get this from a library! 4. Johnson (Allan Chester). Roman Egypt to the reign of Diocletian (An economic survey of ancient Rome. T. 11). Baltimore, The Johns Hopkins Press,*

Roman Emperor and persecutor of the Church, born of parents who had been slaves, at Dioclea, near Salona, in Dalmatia, A. In the Persian war, under Carus, he especially distinguished himself. When the son and successor of Carus, Numerian, was murdered at Chalcedon, the choice of the army fell upon Diocletian, who immediately slew with his own hand the murderer Aper 17 Sept. His career as emperor belongs to secular history. Here only a summary will be given. The reign of Diocletian marked an era both in the military and political history of the empire. The triumph which he celebrated together with his colleague Maximian 20 Nov. Britain, the Rhine, the Danube, and the Nile furnished trophies; but the proudest boast of the conqueror was that Persia, the persistent enemy of Rome, had at last been subdued. Soon after his accession to power Diocletian realized that the empire was too unwieldy and too much exposed to attack to be safely ruled by a single head. None of the rulers resided in Rome, and thus the way was prepared for the downfall of the imperial city. Moreover, Diocletian undermined the authority of the Senate, assumed the diadem, and introduced the servile ceremonial of the Persian court. After a prosperous reign of nearly twenty-one years, he abdicated the throne and retired to Salona, where he lived in magnificent seclusion until his death. Nevertheless it is a fact that the Christians enjoyed peace and prosperity during the greater portion of his reign. Eusebius, who lived at this time, describes in glowing terms "the glory and the liberty with which the doctrine of piety was honoured ", and he extols the clemency of the emperors towards the Christian governors whom they appointed, and towards the Christian members of their households. He tells us that the rulers of the Church "were courted and honoured with the greatest subserviency by all the rulers and governors". He speaks of the vast multitudes that flocked to the religion of Christ, and of the spacious and splendid churches erected in the place of the humbler buildings of earlier days. At the same time he bewails the falling from ancient fervour "by reason of excessive liberty" Hist. Had Diocletian remained sole emperor, he would probably have allowed this toleration to continue undisturbed. It was his subordinate Galerius who first induced him to turn persecutor. These two rulers of the East, at a council held at Nicomedia in , resolved to suppress Christianity throughout the empire. The cathedral of Nicomedia was demolished 24 Feb. An edict was issued "to tear down the churches to the foundations and to destroy the Sacred Scriptures by fire; and commanding also that those who were in honourable stations should be degraded if they persevered in their adherence to Christianity " Eusebius, op. Three further edicts marked successive stages in the severity of the persecution: The atrocious cruelty with which these edicts were enforced, and the vast numbers of those who suffered for the Faith are attested by Eusebius and the Acts of the Martyrs. We read even of the massacre of the whole population of a town because they declared themselves Christians Eusebius, loc. The abdication of Diocletian 1 May, and the subsequent partition of the empire brought relief to many provinces. In the East, however, where Galerius and Maximian held sway, the persecution continued to rage.

**4: Galerius - Wikipedia**

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Relations in the Seleucid and Parthian periods This period began with the advent of the Seleucid dynasty in Syria B. After the successes of Alexander the Great q. Some of the Persians and Jews mentioned in documents from Ptolemaic Egypt may have been descended from the former Achaemenid occupation forces and their civilian relations Harmatta; Bresciani, pp. Traditional Egyptian hostility toward Persians and, more generally, toward invaders from the northeast revived as relations between the Ptolemies in Egypt and the Seleucids in Asia deteriorated. In the first century B. Their defeat, first at Actium and finally at Alexandria in 31 and 30 B. Conflict with the Seleucids created a unique opportunity for cooperation between the Ptolemies and the Egyptian clergy. According to texts celebrating Ptolemaic victories, among the booty brought back to Egypt were statues and holy objects that had been carried away by the Persians Kienitz, p. Persian hostility to the Egyptian cults is a recurrent theme in the literature of Ptolemaic Egypt Lloyd; Redford, pp. Nonetheless, Persian influences had not completely disappeared. For example, Achaemenid traditions lived on in early Ptolemaic art Parlasca; Pfrommer, esp. It remains difficult, however, to ascertain the proportion of ethnic Persians who survived the transition from Achaemenid to Hellenistic rule in Egypt or who came to that country after the conquest by Alexander. This group is often mentioned in Greco-Roman papyri, but its origin and status are highly controversial among modern researchers. According to the explanation given by P. Pestman Boswinkel and Pestman, pp. Papyri from the initial phase of Ptolemaic Egypt are very rare, however, and the Persai are not well documented for that period. Until the end of the 2nd century B. In the 2nd century many people who were certainly ethnic Greeks or Egyptians were categorized as Persai. The wives and daughters of such Persai were called Persinai, although they clearly belonged to Greek or Egyptian population groups. Toward the end of the 2nd century B. This entire hypothesis has, however, recently been challenged by Claude Vandersleyen, who doubts that in the second stage the term referred in any way to army service for new evidence, see Devauchelle; for the parallel ethnic designation Elymaia, see Clarysse; for critical surveys, see Huyse, , pp. The corpus of Persian names in the Greek documents of Egypt compiled by Philip Huyse yields a rich harvest of names from Ptolemaic, Roman, and Byzantine times. It suggests the survival of some ethnic Persians in early Ptolemaic Egypt and the subsequent permanence of Persian onomastic traditions see iii, below , Although relations between the Seleucids and the Ptolemies were often strained, there were periods of peaceful coexistence, offering opportunities for commercial transactions between Egypt and western Asia. Direct connections between the Egyptian Red Sea ports and India developed during the last phase of Ptolemaic rule and became a regular feature after the Roman conquest of Egypt in 30 B. Sidebotham; Harrauer and Sijpesteijn; Casson. Some of the trade between Egypt and the east must have been conducted via overland routes through Parthian territory and regions controlled by the Palmyrenes and Nabateans Johnson, pp. This hypothesis is supported by a famous passage in a speech by the Greek orator Dio Chrysostomus to the people of Alexandria early 2nd century C. That such a level of commercial contact between Egypt and western Asia existed during the Ptolemaic period may be doubted, but it should be noted that Cleopatra was said to have been able to communicate with Medes and Parthians in their native languages Plutarch, Antony, Among isolated testimony to a Persian presence in Ptolemaic Egypt the epitaph of Dioscorides for the slave Euphrates, who, if the epitaph is not a fiction, may actually have existed, is one of the most characteristic: Fraser, , I, pp. On the other hand, ancient authors provided some famous but very dubious information on the cult of the Egyptian god Serapis in Babylonia at the time of Alexander the Great and in Syrian Seleucia at the time of Ptolemy III, in the mid-3rd century B. The indisputable evidence of a Greek inscription of the period B. The role of Palmyra as a commercial link between Roman Egypt and the Middle East has already been mentioned. Evidence from there indicates the presence of both Palmyrene traders and soldiers, the latter in the service of the Roman army Schwartz; Bernard, pp. The paramount influence of the Palmyrenes in all of western Asia is dramatically clear from their short occupation of Egypt in C. Along with eastern traders and goods, eastern

religions penetrated Egypt, especially from the 3rd century C. Despite strong opposition from both pagan Diocletian and Christian Roman authorities, Manicheism spread widely in Egypt, as attested by a large number of Coptic Manichean texts. Mithraism was formerly thought to be conspicuously absent from Roman Egypt, but a Greek papyrus fragment of a Mithraic catechism, probably dating from the 4th century C. In general, the end of the rival Hellenistic monarchies and the incorporation of both Egypt and most of western Asia into the Roman empire facilitated contacts between these regions. Relations between western and eastern Asia were further developed by the direct sea link between Egypt and India. Palmyrene traders and escorts played a crucial role in the commerce between Egypt and the east, despite tensions between the Roman empire and the Parthians and later the Sasanians. Berve, *Das Alexanderreich auf prosopographischer Grundlage*, 2 vols. Dittenberger, *Orientalis Graeci Inscriptiones Selectae*, 2 vols. Kommentar IV, Heidelberg, Idem, *Ptolemaic Alexandria*, 3 vols. Kl., pp. *Asia Minor and Egypt. Old Cultures in a New Empire*, Leiden, pp. *Jahrhundert vor der Zeitenwende*, Berlin, Kramer, *Das Vertragsregister von Theogenis* P. Heinz Heinen. Originally Published: December 15, Last Updated: December 9, This article is available in print. Relations in the Seleucid and Parthian periods.

**5: An economic survey of ancient Rome, - CORE**

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It contains translations of all the important economic papyri with a concise discussion of the problems they present. Some of the topics treated are agriculture, irrigation, leases, sales and mortgages, industry, commerce, banking, currency, taxes, customs, liturgies, temple accounts, municipal accounts. The Nile and Irrigation. Survey and Inspection of Land. Sales and Mortgages of Land. Houses and Miscellaneous Property. Wages and Living Costs. Industry and Commerce iii. Loans and Distribution of Seed. Egyptian Weights and Measures. Miscellaneous Costs and Accounts. Revenues from Arable Land. Taxes on Garden Land. Miscellaneous Taxes and Fees. Miscellaneous Edicts and Laws. FISKE Massachusetts Institute of Technology "In the past thirty-odd years, I have had occasion to read many books on accounting, auditing, and kindred subjects; and I would like you to know that I consider your work Accounting one of the best, if not the best, that I have come across. He discusses this economic structure in detail, devoting full sections to such topics as Values of Special Groups, Industrial Co-operation, Industrial Efficiency and allied subjects. Teachers of the subject, students of the labor problem and of immigration will find much of interest, as will those who desire more light on the relation of invention and the introduction of machinery to industrial evolution and social change. The new edition gives an account of various industries for the years which have elapsed since the first edition was published in , and adds a chapter on rayon manufacture. Other millions are get-down to the store and do "tomoun- your last-minute shopping. Enable you to reserve hotel accommodations. Your family may assurance of safe arrival. Day or night you can be scattered tempohi lardy to many places" quickly and the four winds"cltren at camp, mother visiting back at small cost"by telephone. He has examined each of our previous periods of economic depression by way of the vigorous debates on bankruptcy that have stirred the various Congresses at such times. His entirely new method of approach will make the book of the greatest interest to the general reader of history as well as to the student of economics and to the lawyer. COLE Despite the modern interest in business fluctuations, surprisingly little is known about the facts of economic movement in the period before the Civil War. This book represents an attempt to fill the gap. In the interpretation of their data the authors have carried out their analysis with an eye toward present conditions and with the belief that a study of the past can to some extent at least clarify the problems of the present. Fainsod, who has made a thorough study of the sources, presents an illuminating account of events both within and without the socialist party. He traces, especially, the growth of the Left School, which was committed to efforts towards transforming the war between nations into a war between classes. Benson describes and analyzes the experience of Massachusetts during fifty-five years of personnel reform. Since the Massachusetts civil service law contains two unique features, the effects of which are fully investigated, this book is of more than local interest. It should prove valuable to political scientists, legislators, and administrators throughout the country who, in the quest for more effective personnel machinery, are interested in the success or failure of various experiments. Events are described and the statements of both parties analyzed impartially and without bias. This is therefore a statistical approach to the problem, first determining how many people were executed during the period, the geographical distribution and social positions of the victims, and then going on to several interesting correlations that challenge the attention of all students of the time. This system had commanded considerable attention among specialists at the time of his sudden death in Owen has faced the primary necessities of bringing order into the chaos of the modern highway problem by selecting the most dependable material and relating it to other economic questions, considering, in remarkably interesting fashion, methods of planning, constructing, and maintaining the best possible highway system at the lowest possible cost to the public, how highway costs may be equitably distributed, and the methods by which payments may be collected.

**6: Roman Coins of Diocletian**

*Public Private login. e.g. test cricket, Perth (WA), "Parkes, Henry" Separate different tags with a comma. To include a comma in your tag, surround the tag with double quotes.*

Early life[ edit ] Panorama of amphitheatre in Salona Diocletian was born near Salona in Dalmatia Solin in modern Croatia , some time around Other historians are not so certain. Carinus quickly made his way to Rome from his post in Gaul as imperial commissioner and arrived there by January , becoming legitimate Emperor in the West. Numerian lingered in the East. He travelled in a closed coach from then on. The army unanimously saluted Diocles as their new Augustus, and he accepted the purple imperial vestments. He asserted that Aper had killed Numerian and concealed it. It was all good publicity for Diocletian, and it aided in his portrayal of Carinus as a cruel and oppressive tyrant. As leader of the united East, Diocletian was clearly the greater threat. In modern accounts, the site has been located between the Mons Aureus Seone, west of Smederevo and Viminacium , [33] near modern Belgrade , Serbia. He eventually made his way to northern Italy and made an imperial government, but it is not known whether he visited the city of Rome at this time. Most officials who had served under Carinus, however, retained their offices under Diocletian. Claudius Aurelius Aristobulus, but confirmed him in both roles. It was too much for one person to control, and Diocletian needed a lieutenant. Augustus , the first Emperor, had nominally shared power with his colleagues, and more formal offices of Co-Emperor had existed from Marcus Aurelius onward. Diocletian was in a less comfortable position than most of his predecessors, as he had a daughter, Valeria, but no sons. His co-ruler had to be from outside his family, raising the question of trust. Around Diocletian assumed the title Iovius, and Maximian assumed the title Herculus. Religious legitimization elevated Diocletian and Maximian above potential rivals in a way military power and dynastic claims could not. Diocletian returned to the East, progressing slowly. The Sarmatians requested that Diocletian either help them recover their lost lands or grant them pasturage rights within the empire. Diocletian refused and fought a battle with them, but was unable to secure a complete victory. The nomadic pressures of the European Plain remained and could not be solved by a single war; soon the Sarmatians would have to be fought again. The western portion of Armenia was incorporated into the empire and made a province. Tiridates III , Arsacid claimant to the Armenian throne and Roman client, had been disinherited and forced to take refuge in the empire after the Persian conquest of " In , he returned to lay claim to the eastern half of his ancestral domain and encountered no opposition. The Bagaudae had been easily suppressed, but Carausius , the man he had put in charge of operations against Saxon and Frankish pirates on the Saxon Shore , had, according to literary sources, begun keeping the goods seized from the pirates for himself. Maximian issued a death warrant for his larcenous subordinate. Carausius fled the Continent, proclaimed himself Augustus, and agitated Britain and northwestern Gaul into open revolt against Maximian and Diocletian. Spurred by the crisis, on 1 April , [87] [notes 5] Maximian took up the title of Augustus. It has even been suggested that Maximian usurped the title and was only later recognized by Diocletian in hopes of avoiding civil war. The two emperors agreed on a joint campaign against the Alamanni. Diocletian invaded Germania through Raetia while Maximian progressed from Mainz. No details survive, but surviving inscriptions indicate that Diocletian took the title Sarmaticus Maximus after He might have been attempting to persuade them to ally themselves with Rome, thus reviving the old, Rome-friendly, Palmyrene sphere of influence , [] or simply attempting to reduce the frequency of their incursions. The panegyrist who refers to the loss suggests that its cause was a storm, [] but this might simply have been an attempt to conceal an embarrassing military defeat. The emperors spent most of their time in public appearances. But then it was already a long established practice that Rome itself was only a ceremonial capital, as the actual seat of the Imperial administration was determined by the needs of defense. Long before Diocletian, Gallienus r. On 1 March at Milan, Maximian gave Constantius the office of caesar. Galerius was initially assigned Syria, Palestine, Egypt, and responsibility for the eastern borderlands. The senior Co-Emperors formally adopted Galerius and Constantius as sons in These relationships implied a line of succession. Galerius and Constantius would become Augusti after the departure of Diocletian and Maximian. Diocletian then returned to Sirmium,

where he would remain for the following winter and spring. He campaigned against the Sarmatians again in , probably in the autumn, [] and won a victory against them. The new forts became part of a new defensive line called the Ripa Sarmatica. Domitius Domitianus declared himself Augustus in July or August. Much of Egypt, including Alexandria, recognized his rule. Domitianus died in December, [] by which time Diocletian had secured control of the Egyptian countryside. He met with Galerius in Mesopotamia. Within Persia, however, Narseh was destroying every trace of his immediate predecessors from public monuments. He sought to identify himself with the warlike kings Ardashir I. He appears to have first invaded western Armenia, where he seized the lands delivered to Tiridates in the peace of . In a public ceremony at Antioch, the official version of events was clear: Galerius was responsible for the defeat; Diocletian was not. Diocletian publicly humiliated Galerius, forcing him to walk for a mile at the head of the Imperial caravan, still clad in the purple robes of the Emperor. In two battles, Galerius won major victories over Narseh. The magister memoriae secretary of Diocletian and Galerius, Sicorius Probus, was sent to Narseh to present terms. These regions included the passage of the Tigris through the Anti-Taurus range; the Bitlis pass, the quickest southerly route into Persian Armenia; and access to the Tur Abdin plateau.

**7: Diocletian - Encyclopedia Volume - Catholic Encyclopedia - Catholic Online**

*Diocletian, 20 November - 1 May A.D., Roman Provincial Egypt Eirene, or Irene (Greek for peace; the Roman equivalent was Pax), was the personification of peace and wealth, and of the spring season.*

He established an obvious military despotism and was responsible for laying the groundwork for the second phase of the Roman Empire, which is known variously as the "Dominate," the "Tetrarchy," the "Later Roman Empire," or the "Byzantine Empire. He was of very humble birth, and was originally named Diocles. He would have received little education beyond an elementary literacy and he was apparently deeply imbued with religious piety. He had a wife Prisca and a daughter Valeria, both of whom reputedly were Christians. In the early years of the third century, emperors increasingly insecure on their thrones had granted inflationary pay raises to the soldiers. The only meaningful income the soldiers now received was in the form of gold donatives granted by newly acclaimed emperors. Beginning in 268, armies throughout the empire began to set up their generals as rival emperors. The resultant civil wars opened up the empire to invasion in both the north, by the Franks, Alamanni, and Goths, and the east, by the Sassanid Persians. Another reason for the unrest in the army was the great gap between the social background of the common soldiers and the officer corps. Diocletian sought his fortune in the army. He showed himself to be a shrewd, able, and ambitious individual. He is first attested as "Duke of Moesia" an area on the banks of the lower Danube River, with responsibility for border defense. He was a prudent and methodical officer, a seeker of victory rather than glory. In 284, the legions of the upper Danube proclaimed the praetorian prefect Carus as emperor. Diocletian found favor under the new emperor, and was promoted to Count of the Domestics, the commander of the cavalry arm of the imperial bodyguard. In 286 he was granted the honor of a consulate. In 293, in the midst of a campaign against the Persians, Carus was killed, struck by a bolt of lightning which one writer noted might have been forged in a legionary armory. This left the empire in the hands of his two young sons, Numerian in the east and Carinus in the west. Soon thereafter, Numerian died under mysterious circumstances near Nicomedia, and Diocletian was acclaimed emperor in his place. At this time he changed his name from Diocles to Diocletian. In 297 Carinus was killed in a battle near Belgrade, and Diocletian gained control of the entire empire. His most immediate concerns were to bring the mutinous and increasingly barbarized Roman armies back under control and to make the frontiers once again secure from invasion. His long-term goals were to restore effective government and economic prosperity to the empire. Diocletian concluded that stern measures were necessary if these problems were to be solved. He felt that it was the responsibility of the imperial government to take whatever steps were necessary, no matter how harsh or innovative, to bring the empire back under control. Diocletian was able to bring the army back under control by making several changes. He subdivided the roughly fifty existing provinces into approximately one hundred. The provinces also were apportioned among twelve "dioceses," each under a "vicar," and later also among four "prefectures," each under a "praetorian prefect. He institutionalized the policy of separating civil and military careers. He divided the army itself into so-called "border troops," actually an ineffective citizen militia, and "palace troops," the real field army, which often was led by the emperor in person. Following the precedent of Aurelian A. Access to him became restricted; he now was addressed not as First Citizen Princeps or the soldierly general Imperator, but as Lord and Master Dominus Noster. Those in audience were required to prostrate themselves on the ground before him. Diocletian also concluded that the empire was too large and complex to be ruled by only a single emperor. Therefore, in order to provide an imperial presence throughout the empire, he introduced the "Tetrarchy," or "Rule by Four. This practice began the process which would culminate with the de facto split of the empire in 313. Both Diocletian and Maximianus adopted divine attributes. Diocletian was identified with Jupiter and Maximianus with Hercules. In 297, Diocletian promoted Maximianus to the rank of Augustus, "Senior Emperor," and in 298 he appointed two new Caesars, Constantius the father of Constantine I, who was given Gaul and Britain in the west, and Galerius, who was assigned the Balkans in the east. By instituting his Tetrarchy, Diocletian also hoped to solve another problem. In the Augustan Principate, there had been no constitutional method for choosing new emperors. Initially, the Tetrarchy operated smoothly and effectively. Once the army

was under control, Diocletian could turn his attention to other problems. The borders were restored and strengthened. In the early years of his reign, Diocletian and his subordinates were able to defeat foreign enemies such as Alamanni, Sarmatians, Saracens, Franks, and Persians, and to put down rebellions in Britain and Egypt. The eastern frontier was actually expanded. The coinage had become so debased as to be virtually worthless. A "Maximum Price Edict" issued in 301, intended to curb inflation, served only to drive goods onto the black market. Diocletian finally accepted the ruin of the money economy and revised the tax system so that it was based on payments in kind. The soldiers too came to be paid in kind. In order to assure the long term survival of the empire, Diocletian identified certain occupations which he felt would have to be performed. These were known as the "compulsory services. These functions became hereditary, and those engaging in them were inhibited from changing their careers. The repetitious nature of these laws, however, suggests that they were not widely obeyed. Diocletian also expanded the policy of third-century emperors of restricting the entry of senators into high-ranking governmental posts, especially military ones. Diocletian attempted to use the state religion as a unifying element. Encouraged by the Caesar Galerius, Diocletian issued a series of four increasingly harsh decrees designed to compel Christians to take part in the imperial cult, the traditional means by which allegiance was pledged to the empire. This began the so-called "Great Persecution. He compelled his co-regent Maximianus to do the same. Constantius and Galerius then became the new Augusti, and two new Caesars were selected, Maximinus in the east and Severus in the west. Diocletian then retired to his palace at Split on the Croatian coast. In 305 he declined an offer to resume the purple, and the aged ex-emperor died at Split on 3 December. She bore him a daughter named Valeria, who was apparently the second wife of the Emperor Galerius. Although she was a Christian or favorably disposed to Christianity, she was forced to sacrifice to the gods during the Great Persecution of 304. Her husband had built her a home in Nicomedia. She was later arrested and beheaded by the Emperor Licinius in 307. Valeria, like her mother a Christian or Christian sympathizer, seems to have married Galerius in 305, and, perhaps in November 305, was raised to the rank of Augusta and Mater Castrorum. Her husband named a province after her. Valeria and her mother Prisca fled from Licinius, to whose care they had been entrusted, to the realm of Daia after Galerius died in 305. When he died, Licinius sentenced her to death. Valeria escaped from his clutches and survived in hiding for over a year. Licinius eventually captured her and had her put to death ca. 307. The New Empire of Diocletian and Constantine. The World of Late Antiquity. From Marcus Aurelius to Mohammed. M The Later Roman Empire A Social, Economic, and Administrative Survey. Diocletien et la tetrarchie. Diocletian and the Roman Recovery. Copyright © 1997, Ralph W. Mathisen and Michael DiMaio, Jr.. This set of files may be copied on the condition that the entire contents, including the header and this copyright notice, remain intact.

**8: Egypt - Egypt under Rome and Byzantium, 30 B.C.-A.D.**

*Diocletian's reign marks the end of the classical period of Roman law. Where Diocletian's system of rescripts shows an adherence to classical tradition, Constantine's law is full of Greek and eastern influences.*

Early life[ edit ] Galerius was born near Serdica , [14] in Dacia Ripensis , later named Dacia Mediterranea, though some modern scholars consider the strategic site where he later built his palace named after his mother " Felix Romuliana Gamzigrad " his birth and funeral place. After a few years campaigning against Sarmatians and Goths on the Danube , he received command of the legions on the eastern imperial limits. Soon after his appointment, Galerius was dispatched to Egypt to fight the rebellious cities Busiris and Coptos. He sought to identify himself with the warlike reigns of Ardashir r. He appears to have first invaded western Armenia, retaking the lands delivered to Tiridates in the peace of He occupied the lands there until the following year. Narseh then moved south into Roman Mesopotamia, where he inflicted a severe defeat on Galerius, then commander of the eastern forces, in the region between Carrhae Harran , Turkey and Callinicum Raqqa , Syria. Galerius was to take all the blame for the affair. In Antioch, Diocletian forced Galerius to walk a mile in advance of his imperial cart while still clad in the purple robes of an emperor. Local aid gave Galerius the advantage of surprise over the Persian forces, and, in two successive battles, Galerius secured victories over Narseh. He moved down the Tigris , taking Ctesiphon , and gazing onwards to the ruins of Babylon before returning to Roman territory via the Euphrates. Their magister memoriae secretary Sicorius Probus was sent to Narseh to present terms. Further terms specified that Armenia was returned to Roman domination, with the fort of Ziatha as its border; Caucasian Iberia would pay allegiance to Rome under a Roman appointee; Nisibis, now under Roman rule, would become the sole conduit for trade between Persia and Rome; and Rome would exercise control over the five satrapies between the Tigris and Armenia: These regions included the passage of the Tigris through the Anti-Taurus range; the Bitlis pass, the quickest southerly route into Persian Armenia; and access to the Tur Abdin plateau. With these territories, Rome would have an advance station north of Ctesiphon, and would be able to slow any future advance of Persian forces through the region. The two persons whom Galerius promoted to the rank of Caesar were very much his creatures, and he hoped to enhance his authority throughout the empire with their elevation. An inexperienced youth with little formal education, he was invested with the purple, exalted to the dignity of Caesar, and assigned the command of Egypt and Syria. According to the forms of the constitution, Severus acknowledged the supremacy of the western emperor, but he was absolutely devoted to the commands of his benefactor Galerius, who, reserving to himself the intermediate countries from the confines of Italy to those of Syria, firmly established his power over three-quarters of the empire. The first emotions of Galerius were those of surprise, disappointment, and rage, and as he could seldom restrain his passions, he threatened to burn both the letter and the messenger. The ambitious spirit of Galerius was only just over this disappointment when he beheld the unexpected loss of Italy to Maxentius , who was married to his daughter Valeria Maximilla. A very minute survey was taken of their real estates and, wherever there was the slightest suspicion of concealment, torture was used to obtain a sincere declaration of their personal wealth. Italy had traditionally been exempt from any form of taxation, but Galerius ignored this precedent, and the officers of the revenue already began to number the Roman people, and to settle the proportion of the new taxes. Italy began to murmur against this indignity and Maxentius used this sentiment to declare himself emperor in Italy, to the fury of Galerius. Therefore, Galerius ordered his colleague Severus to immediately march to Rome, in the full confidence that, by his unexpected arrival, he would easily suppress the rebellion. Severus was later executed. The importance of the occasion needed the presence and abilities of Galerius. At the head of a powerful army collected from Illyricum and the East, he entered Italy, determined to avenge Severus and to punish the rebellious Romans. Seeing that he was facing ever-greater difficulties, Galerius made the first advances towards reconciliation, and dispatched two officers to tempt the Romans by the offer of a conference, and the declaration of his paternal regard for Maxentius, reminding them that they would obtain much more from his willing generosity than anything that might have been obtained through a military campaign. It was not a moment too soon; large

monetary gifts from Maxentius to his soldiers had corrupted the fidelity of the Illyrian legions. When Galerius finally began his withdrawal from Italy, it was only with great difficulty that he managed to stop his veterans deserting him. Maxentius declined to make a general engagement. Maximian was to retire, and Maxentius was declared a usurper. Though the opposition of interest, and the memory of a recent war, divided the empire into two great hostile powers, their mutual fears and the fading authority of Galerius produced an apparent tranquility in the imperial government. The last years of Galerius saw him relinquishing his aspirations towards being the supreme ruler of the empire, though he managed to retain the position of first among equals. He spent the remainder of his years enjoying himself and ordering some important public works, such as discharging into the Danube the superfluous waters of Lake Pelso, and cutting down the immense forests that encompassed it. Christians had lived in peace during most of the rule of Diocletian. Christian houses of assembly were destroyed, for fear of sedition in secret gatherings. Diocletian was not anti-Christian during the first part of his reign, and historians have claimed that Galerius decided to prod him into persecuting them by secretly burning the Imperial Palace and blaming it on Christian saboteurs. It was at the insistence of Galerius that the last edicts of persecution against the Christians were published, beginning on February 24, , and this policy of repression was maintained by him until the appearance of the general edict of toleration, issued from Nicomedia in April, apparently during his last bout of illness see Edict of Toleration by Galerius. Christianity was officially legalized in the Roman Empire two years later in by Constantine and Licinius in the Edict of Milan. Several lumps composed of corroded iron ring mail lorica hamata have been found at the site. Anti-Roman accusations[ edit ] According to Lactantius, Galerius affirmed his Dacian identity and avowed himself the enemy of the Roman name once made emperor, even proposing that the empire should be called, not the Roman, but the Dacian Empire, much to the horror of the patricians and senators. He exhibited anti-Roman attitude as soon as he had attained the highest power, treating the Roman citizens with ruthless cruelty, like the conquerors treated the conquered, all in the name of the same treatment that the victorious Trajan had applied to the conquered Dacians, forefathers of Galerius, two centuries before.

**9: Diocletian Bronze Roman Imperial Coins (27 BC AD) for sale | eBay**

*During the reign of Augustus, Roman territorial expansion was A) concentrated in Europe. B) concentrated in Africa. C) ended. D) concentrated in Asia Minor.*

Diocletian may be considered the real founder of the late empire, though the form of government he established—the tetrarchy, or four persons sharing power simultaneously—was transitory. His reforms, however, lasted longer. Little is known of his origins. His father was a scribe or the emancipated slave of a senator called Anullinus. He received the name Diocles first, then the name Valerius, after the name of his daughter, Valeria, who married Galerius in 293. The gens name Aurelius did not appear until March 1, 305—that is, until after his accession. Nothing is known of his wife, Prisca, other than what the contemporary Latin Christian writer Lactantius Firmianus says in his *De mortibus persecutorum*, which is of debatable veracity. Diocles, having adopted the name Diocletianus, entered history like so many of those emperors who emerged from the shadows through force of arms, brought to power by the army. What is known of his appearance is based on coin effigies and on sculptures. From these it appears that he was tall and thin, with a large forehead, a short, strong nose, a hard mouth, and a determined chin. Gold coin depicting Roman emperor Diocletian. These may have been either in Gaul, as reported in the *Historia Augusta*, or in Moesia. The only definite fact known about Diocletian during this period is that he was among those army chiefs whom Carinus gathered, together with the Illyrians, to fight against the Persians. He designated Aper as the criminal and killed him personally. Here again, rhetoric has obscured the real events. And it was true, too, that he did not wish to wait much longer for the boar to come. In reality, Numerian had died either a natural death or from a stroke of lightning. With the death of Aper, however, Diocletian was relieved of an eventual competitor and, retroactively, his act had been granted sacred meaning. Acclaimed emperor on November 17, 305, Diocletian possessed real power only in those countries that were dominated by his army. After having put down a revolt by Julianus, a troop commander in Pannonia, whom he attacked and killed near Verona, Carinus proceeded to attack Diocletian. An indecisive battle near the confluence of the Margus modern Morava and Danube rivers, not far from present-day Belgrade, would have been a defeat for Diocletian had Carinus not been assassinated by a group of soldiers. Thus, in midsummer of 305, Diocletian became master of the empire. Reorganization of the empire At the beginning of 305, Diocletian was in Nicomedia. In the interim, he and his lieutenants had calmed the stirrings of revolt among Roman troops stationed on the frontiers. From that point on, he dedicated himself to restoring civil order to the empire by removing the army from politics. He had scarcely come to power when he made an unexpected decision—to share the throne with a colleague of his choice. The empire was too great for one man to administer; nearly every week, either in Africa, or somewhere on the frontier that extended from Britain to the Persian Gulf, along the Rhine, the Danube, the Pontus Euxinus Black Sea, and the Euphrates, he was forced to suppress a revolt or stop an invasion. Diocletian, who was more attracted to administration, required a man who was both a soldier and a faithful companion to take responsibility for military defense. He chose Maximian, an Illyrian, the son of a peasant from the area around Sirmium. A little later, though still keeping Rome as the official capital, he chose two other residences. Maximian, who was responsible for the West, was installed at Milan in northern Italy, in order to prevent German invasions. Diocletian established himself at Nicomedia, in western Anatolia and close to the Persian frontier, in order to keep watch on the East. Galerius, a former herdsman, and Constantius I Chlorus, a Dardanian nobleman according to the legend of his house, but a rather rude countryman also. Thus, while the empire remained a patrimonium indivisum undivided inheritance, it was nevertheless divided administratively: In order to strengthen the union of the colleagues, each Augustus adopted his Caesar. Thus, they were charged with distributing the benefits of Providence, Diocletian through divine wisdom, and Maximian through heroic energy. Later designated as dominus et deus on coins and inscriptions, Diocletian surrounded himself with pomp and ceremony and regularly manifested his autocratic will. Under Diocletian, the empire took on the aspects of a theocracy. Then, with peace scarcely restored after a campaign against the Germans, Maximian had to battle Carausius, who, having fought for the empire in Britain against the

Frankish and Saxon pirates, revolted and named himself emperor in Britain in Carausius reigned in Britain for nearly 10 years until Constantius I Chlorus succeeded in returning Britain to the empire in Scarcely had troubles in Mauretania and in the Danubian regions been settled when Egypt declared itself independent under the usurper Achilleus. Diocletian reconquered the country in Finally, in , he had to fight Narses , king of Persia, who had invaded Syria. Since he was still occupied in Egypt, he assigned this operation to Galerius, who, after a protracted campaign, finally won victory for the Romans. He was not a complete innovator in this area, for his predecessors had made some tentative attempts in the same direction; the emperor Gallienus had excluded senators from the army and separated military from civil careers. The Senate had progressively been deprived of its privileges. Diocletian, however, systematized these arrangements in such a way that all his reforms led toward a kind of centralized and absolute monarchy that put effective means of action at his disposal. Thus, Diocletian designated the consuls ; the senators no longer collaborated in the making of laws; the imperial counsellors consilia sacra were distributed among specialized offices, and their functions were strictly defined so that the power of the praetorian prefects personal bodyguards to the emperor was limited; the specialization of administrative work grew; and the number of bureaucrats increased. This was the beginning of the bureaucracy and technocracy that was eventually to overrun modern societies. Such organization made it possible for administration to rely less on individual human beings and more on the application of legal texts. A conservative , Diocletian was concerned with the preservation of the ancient virtues: He forbade the use of torture if truth could be discovered otherwise and encouraged governors to be as autonomous as possible. The army was also reorganized and brought back to the old discipline. Sedentary troops local troops were sent to the frontiers, and the ready army main movable army was made domestic. Troop strength was increased by a fourth not multiplied by four as Lactantius claims. He undertook to facilitate economic development through a recovery of agriculture and a program of building. Such policies were expensive, as were wars and the legacy of an unstable financial situation. Two new taxes were instituted, the jugum and the capatio, the former being the tax on a unit of cultivable land, the latter, a tax on individuals. Taxes were levied on a proportional basis, the amount of the contribution being determined by the productivity and type of cultivation. As a rule, it was a sort of socioeconomic taxation based on the linkage between humans and land in terms of either ownership or productivity. Assessments were made every five years; later, the system was consolidated into a cycle of 15 years called an indictio. This census of taxable adults gave rise to violent criticisms but had the theoretical advantage of replacing the arbitrary levies of the previous era. This reform was accompanied by a monetary reform, including restoration of a sound gold and silver coinage of fixed design, creation of a new bronze coin, circulation of small coins to facilitate daily financial exchange, decentralization of minting, and an increase in the number of mints from 8 to All of these measures tended to stave off financial crises. The renowned Edictum de Maximis Pretiis was issued in ce, fixing wages and establishing maximum prices, so as to prevent inflation , abusive profits, and the exploitation of buyers. About 1, articles were enumerated, and violation was punishable by death; severe penalties were exacted of black marketeers. But even so, this regulation of prices and wages was not enforceable, and the edict was later revoked. Persecution of Christians The end of the reign was darkened by the last major persecution of the Christians. The reasons for this persecution are uncertain, but various explanations have been advanced: At any rate, some or all of these factors led Diocletian to publish the four edicts of "â€", promising all the while that he would not spill blood. His vow went unheeded, however, and the persecutions spread through the empire with an extreme violence that did not succeed in annihilating Christianity but caused the faith of the martyrs to blaze forth instead. Legacy Diocletian had aged prematurely through illness. He abdicated May 1, , and his death occurred almost unnoticed. Entrance to the imperial apartments of the Palace of Diocletian, Split, Croatia, seen through the Corinthian columns of the peristyle court. Diocletian had reorganized the empire without political romanticism. His reforms had not proceeded from a premeditated plan but had imposed themselves out of historical necessity. He may be accused of several things: Personally, Diocletian was a religious man. No doubt he did not manifest any unusual piety, but he always thought that the gods of the emperors governed the world.

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