

# Contents

Philip Michael Forness, Alexandra Hasse-Ungeheuer, Hartmut Leppin  
**Introduction: Expanding the Discourse on Good Christian Rulership — 1**

## A. The Good Christian Ruler in the Roman Empire

Hartmut Leppin  
**Finding a Common Cause: Fourth-Century Greek Discourses on Rulership — 39**

Mikhail A. Boytsov  
**The Good Sinful Ruler: Ambrose of Milan and Theodosius I — 65**

Kai Preuß  
**The Emperor's Two Cities: Augustine's Image of the Good Christian Ruler in *De civitate Dei* 5.24 — 87**

Alberto Camplani  
**Pious and Impious Christian Rulers According to Egyptian Historiography and Hagiography: A First Survey of the Evidence — 109**

Philip Michael Forness  
**Faithful Rulers and Theological Deviance: Ephrem the Syrian and Jacob of Serugh on the Roman Emperor — 141**

## B. The Good Christian Ruler between Persia and Rome

Josef Wiesehöfer  
**Images of the Good Ruler in Sasanian Iran: An Emic View — 171**

Tim Greenwood  
**Representations of Rulership in Late Antique Armenia — 181**

Azat Bozoyan  
**The Depiction of the Arsacid Dynasty in Medieval Armenian Historiography — 205**

Udo Reinhold Jeck

**Vakhtang I Gorgasali (r. 447–522) as a Christian Monarch in Georgia:  
His Depiction in the *Life of Kartli* — 221**

Aleksan Hakobyan

**The Creation of a “Pious” Image of King Vač’agan II (r. c. 485–523) of Caucasian  
Albania in the *Tale of Vač’agan* (Early Sixth Century) — 239**

Igor Dorfmann-Lazarev

**Concerning Four Kings From the Land of ‘Deep Ravines, Dense Forests and Dark  
Thickets’ — 249**

## **C. The Good Christian Ruler in Post-Roman Traditions**

Florian Hartmann

**The Good Ruler from a Papal Perspective: Continuities and Discontinuities in  
Papal Letters from the Fourth to Eighth Centuries — 291**

Wolfram Drews

**The Image of the Christian Ruler in the Catholic Monarchy of Visigothic Spain:  
Julian of Toledo’s *Historia Wambae* — 311**

Daniel Ziemann

**Goodness and Cruelty: The Image of the Ruler of the First Bulgarian Empire in  
the Period of Christianisation (Ninth Century) — 327**

Adam Łajtar, Grzegorz Ochala

**A Christian King in Africa: The Image of Christian Nubian Rulers in Internal and  
External Sources — 361**

## **D. The Good Ruler under Islamic Rule**

Isabel Toral-Niehoff

**Justice and Good Administration in Medieval Islam: The Book of the Pearl of the  
Ruler by Ibn ‘Abd Rabbih (860–940) — 383**

Phil Booth

**Images of Emperors and Emirs in Early Islamic Egypt — 397**

Maria Conterno

**Shaping the Good Christian King under Muslim Rule: Constantine and the Torah  
in the Melkite Arabic Chronicle of Agapius of Mabbug (Tenth Century) — 421**

**Index of Persons and Places — 443**

**Subject Index — 457**