

# Contents

<i>List of Abbreviations</i>	xv
Introduction: The Question at Stake, Methodological Guidelines, and Contribution to Research	1
1. The Background of Greek Philosophy and Ancient Judaism: Asceticism, Slavery, and Socio-economic Injustice	26
2. The New Testament, Jesus, and the Enigma of Paul: Scriptural Background for Patristic Positions	101
3. Patristic Thinkers' Positions toward Slavery, Social Justice, and Asceticism	121
4. Patristic Contrasts: Augustine and Theodoret, Basil and John Chrysostom	152
5. Gregory Nyssen: Theological Arguments against the Institution of Slavery	172
6. Gregory Nyssen's Family and Origen: Rejection of Slavery and of Social Injustice	190
7. Nazianzen and Other Late Antique Ascetics: Asceticism and Renunciation of Wealth and Slave Ownership	212
Conclusions	232
<i>Bibliography</i>	255
<i>Index</i>	289