



# Constantine and the Captive Christians of Persia: Martyrdom and Religious Identity in Late Antiquity (Transformation of the Classical Heritage)

By Kyle Smith

## Constantine and the Captive Christians of Persia: Martyrdom and Religious Identity in Late Antiquity (Transformation of the Classical Heritage) By Kyle Smith

It is widely believed that the Emperor Constantine's conversion to Christianity politicized religious allegiances, dividing the Christian Roman Empire from the Zoroastrian Sasanian Empire and leading to the persecution of Christians in Persia. This account, however, is based on Greek ecclesiastical histories and Syriac martyrdom narratives that date to centuries after the fact. In this groundbreaking study, Kyle Smith analyzes diverse Greek, Latin, and Syriac sources to show that there was not a single history of fourth-century Mesopotamia. By examining the conflicting hagiographical and historical evidence, *Constantine and the Captive Christians of Persia* presents an evocative and evolving portrait of the first Christian emperor, uncovering how Syriac Christians manipulated the image of their western Christian counterparts to fashion their own political and religious identities during this century of radical change.

## Constantine and the Captive Christians of Persia: Martyrdom and Religious Identity in Late Antiquity (Transformation of the Classical Heritage) By Kyle Smith Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #2695581 in Books
- Brand: imusti
- Published on: 2016-01-19
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 9.00" h x .90" w x 6.00" l, .0 pounds
- Binding: Hardcover
- 256 pages

 [Download Constantine and the Captive Christians of Persia: ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Constantine and the Captive Christians of Persia ...pdf](#)

## Download and Read Free Online Constantine and the Captive Christians of Persia: Martyrdom and Religious Identity in Late Antiquity (Transformation of the Classical Heritage) By Kyle Smith

---

### Editorial Review

From the Inside Flap

"This is an excellent book. Wholly innovative, it dismantles much of the stage and script upon which the fourth-century history of the Roman-Sasanian frontier were thought to have been acted out. More significantly, Kyle Smith's deft readings lead ultimately to a new vision of the fifth and sixth centuries, when the paradigms that affected modern scholars' understanding of the fourth century emerged."—Adam H. Becker, Associate Professor of Classics and Religious Studies at New York University

"Constantine the Great's patronizing letter to his Persian counterpart, Shapur II, has long been cited as the cause of wars that led to Rome's loss of key territories in Mesopotamia. By tracking the after-life of this letter through rarely studied Syriac sources, Kyle Smith has convincingly reconfigured this story. It will be hard now for anyone to call this letter a *casus belli* with a straight face."—H. A. Drake, Research Professor of History at the University of California, Santa Barbara

About the Author

**Kyle Smith** is Assistant Professor of Historical Studies and Religion at the University of Toronto and the translator of *The Martyrdom and History of Blessed Simeon bar Sabba'e*.

### Users Review

**From reader reviews:**

**Latasha Sutterfield:**

Within other case, little men and women like to read book Constantine and the Captive Christians of Persia: Martyrdom and Religious Identity in Late Antiquity (Transformation of the Classical Heritage). You can choose the best book if you appreciate reading a book. Providing we know about how is important the book Constantine and the Captive Christians of Persia: Martyrdom and Religious Identity in Late Antiquity (Transformation of the Classical Heritage). You can add know-how and of course you can around the world by way of a book. Absolutely right, due to the fact from book you can understand everything! From your country until finally foreign or abroad you will find yourself known. About simple thing until wonderful thing you could know that. In this era, we could open a book or maybe searching by internet gadget. It is called e-book. You should use it when you feel weary to go to the library. Let's learn.

**Deborah Beaudry:**

The book Constantine and the Captive Christians of Persia: Martyrdom and Religious Identity in Late Antiquity (Transformation of the Classical Heritage) can give more knowledge and information about everything you want. Why must we leave the good thing like a book Constantine and the Captive Christians of Persia: Martyrdom and Religious Identity in Late Antiquity (Transformation of the Classical Heritage)? A number of you have a different opinion about e-book. But one aim in which book can give many info for us.

It is absolutely appropriate. Right now, try to closer using your book. Knowledge or facts that you take for that, you can give for each other; you may share all of these. Book Constantine and the Captive Christians of Persia: Martyrdom and Religious Identity in Late Antiquity (Transformation of the Classical Heritage) has simple shape but you know: it has great and big function for you. You can appearance the enormous world by available and read a guide. So it is very wonderful.

**Alice Navarro:**

Now a day people that Living in the era wherever everything reachable by connect to the internet and the resources included can be true or not demand people to be aware of each data they get. How many people to be smart in obtaining any information nowadays? Of course the solution is reading a book. Examining a book can help individuals out of this uncertainty Information especially this Constantine and the Captive Christians of Persia: Martyrdom and Religious Identity in Late Antiquity (Transformation of the Classical Heritage) book since this book offers you rich facts and knowledge. Of course the knowledge in this book hundred pct guarantees there is no doubt in it everybody knows.

**Roger Moxley:**

Reading a book can be one of a lot of exercise that everyone in the world really likes. Do you like reading book and so. There are a lot of reasons why people fantastic. First reading a publication will give you a lot of new data. When you read a book you will get new information mainly because book is one of a number of ways to share the information or even their idea. Second, examining a book will make an individual more imaginative. When you looking at a book especially fiction book the author will bring someone to imagine the story how the character types do it anything. Third, it is possible to share your knowledge to other people. When you read this Constantine and the Captive Christians of Persia: Martyrdom and Religious Identity in Late Antiquity (Transformation of the Classical Heritage), you could tells your family, friends and soon about yours guide. Your knowledge can inspire others, make them reading a guide.

**Download and Read Online Constantine and the Captive Christians of Persia: Martyrdom and Religious Identity in Late Antiquity (Transformation of the Classical Heritage) By Kyle Smith #YWOFX59ZR14**

# **Read Constantine and the Captive Christians of Persia: Martyrdom and Religious Identity in Late Antiquity (Transformation of the Classical Heritage) By Kyle Smith for online ebook**

Constantine and the Captive Christians of Persia: Martyrdom and Religious Identity in Late Antiquity (Transformation of the Classical Heritage) By Kyle Smith Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read Constantine and the Captive Christians of Persia: Martyrdom and Religious Identity in Late Antiquity (Transformation of the Classical Heritage) By Kyle Smith books to read online.

## **Online Constantine and the Captive Christians of Persia: Martyrdom and Religious Identity in Late Antiquity (Transformation of the Classical Heritage) By Kyle Smith ebook PDF download**

### **Constantine and the Captive Christians of Persia: Martyrdom and Religious Identity in Late Antiquity (Transformation of the Classical Heritage) By Kyle Smith Doc**

Constantine and the Captive Christians of Persia: Martyrdom and Religious Identity in Late Antiquity (Transformation of the Classical Heritage) By Kyle Smith Mobipocket

Constantine and the Captive Christians of Persia: Martyrdom and Religious Identity in Late Antiquity (Transformation of the Classical Heritage) By Kyle Smith EPub

YWOFX59ZR14: Constantine and the Captive Christians of Persia: Martyrdom and Religious Identity in Late Antiquity (Transformation of the Classical Heritage) By Kyle Smith