

Contents

| | |
|---|-----|
| Abbreviations of Modern Works | vii |
| Acknowledgments | x |
| Introduction | 1 |
| 1 Empire Criticism | 7 |
| Methodology | 7 |
| Theoretical Approaches | 9 |
| Sociohistorical Approaches | 21 |
| Applications within This Study | 23 |
| 2 Kingdom and Imperium | 29 |
| Roman Self-Understanding | 29 |
| Judean Monarchic Ideology | 31 |
| Mark's Kingdom of God | 32 |
| Conclusion | 38 |
| 3 Rulership | 41 |
| Ideal Roman Kings | 41 |
| Messiahs | 44 |
| Titles for Jesus and Other Royal Language in Mark | 45 |
| Hierarchy in God's Kingdom | 54 |
| Conclusion | 56 |
| 4 Military and Conquest | 61 |
| Rome's Place in the Mediterranean History of War | 61 |
| Warfare and Expansionism in Hellenistic Israel | 64 |
| Generals and Military Leadership | 65 |
| Peace and War in Rome | 66 |
| Battlefield Gods | 68 |
| Markan Militarism | 70 |
| Conclusion | 79 |

| | | |
|---|--|-----|
| 5 | Salvation | 83 |
| | Salvation in Hellenistic and Roman Culture | 83 |
| | Freedom | 84 |
| | Judaic Soteriology | 85 |
| | Salvation in Mark | 85 |
| | Conclusion | 89 |
| 6 | Jesus as the Son of God | 91 |
| | Divinity and Divinization in the Ancient World | 92 |
| | The Divinity of Jesus | 96 |
| | Jesus and Cosmic Power | 99 |
| | Conclusion | 102 |
| 7 | The Values of Empire | 105 |
| | Greco-Roman Ideals and Values | 106 |
| | Judean Values | 111 |
| | Mark | 112 |
| | Does Mark Overturn Majority Values? | 118 |
| | Conclusion | 123 |
| | Empire and the Death of the Hero | 124 |
| | Appendix A: Judea before the War | 127 |
| | Rulership, War, and Expansion | 127 |
| | Economics | 129 |
| | Factions and Interests | 132 |
| | How the War Started | 139 |
| | Appendix B: Comparisons with Matthew and Luke | 143 |
| | Bibliography | 151 |
| | Subject Index | 165 |
| | Index of Ancient Authors | 167 |