Melania the Elder & Women in the Early Church

1. Women in the Graeco-Roman World: Studies
2. Women in the Early Church: Studies
3. Women in the Early Church: Texts

1. WOMEN IN THE GRAECO-ROMAN WORLD: STUDIES

Gillian Clark, *Women in Late Antiquity: Pagan and Christian Lifestyles* (New York: Oxford University Press, 1994). This may be the first book to examine what social life was like for women once Christianity became the dominant religion. It examines the full range of issues and social facts: clothing and housing, marriage and divorce, childbearing and celibacy, legal restraints and medical views.


### 2. WOMEN IN THE EARLY CHURCH: STUDIES


David Brakke, *Athanasius and Asceticism* (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins Press, 1998). This has a valuable chapter on ascetic women in Alexandria and includes translations of some rare Athanasian texts.


David G. Hunter, "Clerical Celibacy and the Veiling of Virgins: New Boundaries in Late Ancient Christianity," in *Limits of Ancient Christianity: Essays on Late Antique Thought and


Anne Yarbrough, “Christianization in the Fourth Century: The Example of Roman Women,” 319-335; reprint from Church History 45 (1976) 149-165.


3. WOMEN IN THE EARLY CHURCH: TEXTS

Patricia Cox Miller, ed., Women in Early Christianity: Translations from Greek Texts (Washington, DC: Catholic University of America Press, 2005). A comprehensive anthology of key texts, including excerpts from Gregory of Nyssa’s Life of Macrina, Palladius’ portrait...
of Melania the Elder, and the anonymous Life of Olympias; rules for widows, catechumens, and deaconesses; accounts of women martyrs (e.g. Blandina) and of Montanist prophetesses; treatises on virginity (by Methodius, Gregory of Nyssa, John Chrysostom); panegyrics by Gregory of Nazianzus (on his mother and sister) and John Chrysostom) and denunciations of subintroductae and transvestites; theological materials on Eve and the Virgin Mary.


