

THEODOSIUS I, THE GREAT

A.D. 379–395

Flavius Theodosius was the son of Count Theodosius, a renowned frontier general who was executed in 375 for reasons which are not altogether clear. His father's disgrace and death forced the younger Theodosius into retirement, but he was recalled by Gratian after the death of Valens and made Eastern emperor. Theodosius came to terms with the Goths by allowing them to settle within Roman territory in return for supplying military units. He also settled the Eastern frontier problem. He did little to oppose the usurpation of Magnus Maximus in the West until the latter invaded Italy, but then he moved against him and put a speedy end to the rebel regime (August, 388). He was also forced to deal with the usurpation of Eugenius, in 392, which he accomplished in equally summary fashion in the late summer of 394. Just four months after this success Theodosius died of natural causes at Milan. He was the last emperor to exercise effective authority over both the eastern and western divisions of the Empire.

Obverse legend.

A. DN THEODOSIVS PF AVG.

Obverse busts.

- a. pearl diadem, draped, cuirassed, right.
- b. pearl diadem, draped, cuirassed, left.
- c. rosette diadem, draped, cuirassed, right.

All coins are siliquae unless otherwise specified. For a discussion of fourth-century silver denominations and their names, see the Introduction.



	VF	EF
4a Aa R CONCORDIA AVGGG, Constantinople seated facing, head r., hldg. sceptre and cornucopiae, r. foot on prow. Trier TRPS. RIC 55a, 83a	65	160
4b As last. Lugdunum LVGPS. RIC 24b	75	185



4c As last. Aquileia AQPS. RIC 25	70	175
17† Ab R GLORIA ROMANORVM, emperor stg. facing, head l., raising r. hand, hldg. globe in l. Milan MDPS. RIC 25a light miliarensis.	700	1,650
26† Aa R PERPETVETAS AVG, phoenix stg. l. on globe. Trier TRPS. RIC 56c half argenteus.	300	650
29† Aa R RESTITVTOR REIPVBLICE, emperor stg. facing, head l., hldg. labarum in r. hand, resting l. on shield. Thessalonica TES. RIC 56 multiple	8,000	16,000
32 Aa R SPES ROMANORVM, Victory advancing l. hldg. wreath and palm. Rome RP. RIC 66 half siliqua	300	650
34† Aa R TRIVMFATOR GENT BARB, emperor stg. facing, head l., hldg. labarum and globe, kneeling captive on his l. Rome RP. RIC 52a multiple	7,000	14,000
35 Aa R VICTORIA AVGG, Victory advg. l. hldg. wreath and palm. Aquileia AQPS. RIC 26c	110	275