

PRISCUS ATTALUS

A.D. 409–410 and 414–415

Priscus Attalus, a native of Asia, was sent by Honorius to Rome in 409 to fill the office of City Prefect. Late in the same year the Visigothic King Alaric, who was besieging Rome, had him proclaimed emperor, and he acted as a puppet of the barbarians until he was deposed in the summer of 410. Following the capture and sack of Rome (August, 410) the Visigoths made peace with Honorius, but Attalus remained in the Gothic camp. After Alaric's death, Attalus accompanied his successor, Athaulfus, into Gaul and urged him to join forces with the usurper Jovinus, but the alliance soon collapsed. In 414 Attalus was again proclaimed emperor by the Visigoths, but they abandoned him when they moved into Spain the following year. He later fell into the hands of Honorius who had him mutilated and then exiled him to the Lipari islands.

Obverse legend.

PRISCVS ATTALVS PF AVG

Obverse busts.

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

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



	VF	EF
5 Ab R INVICTA ROMA AETERNA, Roma seated facing on throne, hldg. Victory on globe and reversed spear. Rome RMPS. <i>Gnecchi pl. 37, 6–7. multiple.</i>	25,000	50,000



7a Aa R As last, Roma seated l. on cuirass, hldg. Victory on globe and reversed spear. Rome PST.	1,250	3,000
7b As last. Rome $\overset{\bullet}{\text{PST}}$	1,250	3,000
9A Aa R VICTORIA AVGG, Roma seated l. on cuirass, hldg. Victory on globe and reversed spear. Rome SRV.	1,500	3,500