

JOHANNES

A.D. 423–425

Little is known of the early life of Johannes, other than that he followed a career in the civil service and rose to become principal secretary to Honorius. After the death of the emperor in 423 he seized power in the West. Although he sent an embassy to Constantinople he was not recognized by the Eastern Emperor Theodosius II, who supported the claims of Galla Placidia and the young Placidius Valentinianus against him. Johannes was in a weak position militarily, so when the Eastern army entered northern Italy in 425 he was able to offer little resistance, and was soon captured and put to death.

Obverse legend.

DN IOHANNES PF AVG.

Obverse bust.

pearl and rosette diadem, draped, cuirassed, right.

For a discussion of fifth-century silver denominations and their names, see the Introduction.

		VF	EF
3	R VICTORIA AVGG, Victory advg. l. hldg. wreath and palm. Ravenna <u>RV</u> . half siliqua	1,250	2,750
4A	R VICTORIA AVGGG, emperor in mil. dress stg. facing, head r., hldg. standard with banner in r. hand, Victory on globe in l., l. foot on captive. Ravenna ^{R/V} <u>COMOB</u> . Confirmation required. Probably a for- gery in silver of a gold solidus.		



9	R VRBS ROMA, Roma seated l. hldg. Victory on globe and sceptre. Ravenna <u>RVPS</u> . siliqua	1,500	3,500
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PULCHERIA

Aelia Pulcheria was born in 399, the daughter of Arcadius and Aelia Eudoxia and the sister of Theodosius II. She played a prominent role in the education and training of her brother and was instrumental in selecting his bride. In 414 she was proclaimed Augusta, playing a dominant role in administering affairs of state from the time she was fifteen years old. She remained single by choice throughout most of her life and persuaded her sisters to do likewise. After her brother died in 450 she supported Marcian as his successor and entered into a form of marriage with him. Pulcheria died in July, 453, leaving all her possessions to the poor.

Obverse legend.

AEL PVLCHERIA AVG.

Obverse bust.

pearl diadem, draped, right.

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