

ELEMENTARY IDENTIFIER for common Late Roman Bronze coins

special thanks & acknowledgement to Roman coin maestro Scott Uhrick *2003 Souzana Steverding Ancient Coins for Education

Please note that by no means all cheaper common Roman coins from uncleaned ancient coin purchases (which are nearly all late (4th Cent) Roman bronzes) will be identifiable* especially as a large part of the Inscription may be illegible or missing, and so you may only be able to identify the "possible/probable" Emperor or the Reverse type of the coin..

OBVERSE
Emperor
Constantius II



FL IVL CONSTANTIUS
NOB C

Flavius Julius
Constantius
Most Noble Caesar



Reverse Type &
Inscription
GLORIA EXERCITVS

Some common Roman Inscription Abbreviations are :-

AVG (short for Augustus) Indicates authority over all civil matters

AVGG used to denote that there was more than one emperor ruling at the same time either jointly or simultaneously in another part of the empire. The number of *G*s* denotes how many emperors this particular emperor recognized.

C or CAES short for Caesar = CAESAR honorary title given to imperial princes who were next-in-line to the emperor himself. This title was initially Julius Caesar*s personal last name and it was used afterwards to honor his memory

DN Dominus Noster *Our Lord*, in use from the early 4th century through the Byzantine period.

IMP Imperator This title meant the equivalent of *Commander in Chief* and is the word from which we get *emperor*.

.IVN short for Junior, used to distinguish from a parent emperor of the same name.

NOB Nobilissimus Belonging to the highest aristocratic circles.

PF Pius Felix -the Emperor is known for his piety and his success (lucky also)

PM Pontifex Maximvs The highest religious office, a notch below being a god himself.

PP Pater Patriae Honorary *Father* of the empire.

EMPERORS on commonly found Late Roman Bronze coins - with Common Obverse Inscriptions and Reverse Types & their Inscriptions :

1) The Constantine Family

Constantine I the Great 307-337 AD
 Obv=CONSTANTINVS PF AVG
 Rev= GLORIA EXERCITVS..... (1)
 2 soldiers, w 2 standards between



Constantine I
 GLORIA EXERCITVS.....(1 var)
 The Glory of the Army
 Soldier w Spear & Shield



Constantine I
 CAESARVM NOSTRORVM VOT V ..(2 -
 Votive)
 Because of the vows our Caesars pledged
 for 5 years



Constantine I
 PROVIDENTIAE CAESS..... (3 -
 Campgate)
 To the foresight of our Caesars
 Campgate fortification



Constantine I
 IOVI CONSERVATORI CAESS.....(4)
 To Jove the preserver of the Caesars
 Jove holds Victory on Globe / Chi Rho



Constantine I
VICTORIAE LAET PRINC PERP VOT P R

.....(5)

Happy Victories of long lived Princes due
to Vows of the Roman people
2 Victories place shield on Altar



Constantine I - 337 -340 AD
BEATA TRANQVILLITAS VOTIS XX.....(6)
Blessed Peace due to Vows pledged
Altar with Globe on top



Constantine I
SOLI INVICTO COMITI(7)
Dedicated to the Invincible Sun
Sol stands holding Globe



Constantine I
VIRTVS EXERCITVS VOT XX.....(8)
The Courage of the Army because of 20 yr
vows
2 captives seated at base of standard



Constantine I
URBS ROMA
The City of Rome
She wolf w Romulus & Remus



Constantine I
Constantinopolis Commemorative-
Winged Victory - Chi Rho sign



Constantine the Great's 3 sons :- Constantine II, Constans & Constantius II After the death of Constantine his three remaining sons inherited the Empire. The eldest (Constantine II) died trying to increase his share at the expense of his youngest brother. That brother (Constans) died in a revolt brought on by his religious and sexual eccentricities. The remaining son Constantius II reigned for a respectable 24 years.

Constantine II (Jun) - his Obverse inscriptions at first differentiated with those of his father by having CONSTANTINVS IVN NOB C ; then CONSTANTINVS P F AVG after his father's death & he issued coins with much the same reverses as Constantine the Great - see Reverse Types 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, & 8 (see earlier)



Constantine II (Jun) CLARITAS REIPVB
Sol stands holding Globe

Constans 337-350 AD
CONSTANS P F AVG (after his father's death - issued coins with happier reverses!
FEL TEMP REPARATIO
The Return of the Good Times
Emperor & Victory on Galley



Constans
FEL TEMP REPARATIO
Soldier leading young barbarian
from hut under tree



Constans
GLORIA EXERCITVS
Glory of the Army
2 Soldiers w Chi Rho standard between them



Constans also issued many "Votive" coins - see earlier as well as the "VICTORIAE etc" showing 2 Victories with wreaths facing - see Constantius II overleaf

Constantius II 337-361 AD
 D N CONSTANTIVS P F AVG
 FEL TEMP REPARATIO
 The Return of the Good Times
 Emperor holds Globe w Victory
 on it & steps on captive



Constantius II
 FEL TEMP REPARATIO
 Emperor spears a falling horseman



Constantius II
 VIRTVS EXERCITVS
 The Courage of the Army
 Soldier w Spear & Shield



Constantius II
 VICTORIAE DD AVGG Q NN
 The Victories of our Lords & Emperors
 2 Victories facing holding Wreaths high



Constantius II
 CONCORDIA MILITVM
 Unity of the Army
 Emperor holding 2 Chi Rho standards



Constantius II also issued bronze coins with Gloria Exercitus (the glory of the Army)
 and Votive reverses, see refs 1 and 2 earlier.

Other Commonly available Late Roman bronze coins
2) Coins issued by Emperors Valens & Valentinian II

Souzana Steverding 2003
for ACE Juniors

Valens 364-378 AD Eastern Empire
D N VALENS P F AVG
GLORIA ROMANORVM
the Glory of the Romans
Emperor dragging Captive



Valens
SECVRITAS REIPVBLICAE
The Security of the Republic
Victory advancing left



Valens also issued many coins with Votive reverses - see earlier images

Valentinian II 375-392 AD Western Empire
D N VALENTINIANVS P F AVG
VIRTVS EXERCITVS
Emperor steps on captive



Valentinian II
GLORIA ROMANORVM
The Glory of the Roman people
Emperor on Galley steered by Victory



Valentinian II
REPARATIO REIPVB
Restoration of the Republic
Emperor w kneeling woman & holding Victory on a Globe



Valentinian II also issued many Votive reverse coins

With acknowledgements to Beast Coins

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