CONTENTS

List of Illustrations ix
Acknowledgments xiii

I A History of Mediterranean Religion 1
1 What Is Meant by a History of Mediterranean Religion? 1
2 Religion 5
3 Facets of Religious Competence 11
4 Religion as a Strategy at the Level of the Individual 21

II Revolutions in Religious Media in Iron Age Italy: The Ninth to Seventh Centuries BC 24
1 The Special 24
2 The Transition from Bronze Age to Iron Age in the Mediterranean Region 28
3 Ritual Deposits 35
4 Burials 39
5 Gods, Images, and Banquets 47

III Religious Infrastructure: The Seventh to the Fifth Centuries BC 55
1 Houses for Gods 55
2 Temples and Altars? 63
3 Dynamics of the Sixth and Fifth Centuries 73

For general queries, contact webmaster@press.princeton.edu
IV Religious Practices: The Sixth to Third Centuries BC 83
  1 The Use of Bodies 83
  2 Sacralization 95
  3 Complex Rituals 99
  4 Stories and Images 103

V The Appropriation and Shaping of Religious Practices by Religious Actors: The Fifth to First Centuries BC 109
  1 Heterarchy and Aristocracy 109
  2 Priests 115
  3 Distinction 122
  4 Banquet Culture 130
  5 Mass Communication 136
  6 The Divine 151

VI Speaking and Writing about Religion: The Third to First Centuries BC 158
  1 The Textuality of Ritual 158
  2 Observation of Self and of the Other 163
  3 Systematization 172

VII The Redoubling of Religion in the Augustan Saddle Period: The First Century BC to the First Century AD 183
  1 Restoration as Innovation 183
  2 Religion in Space 196
  3 The Redoubling of Religion 201

VIII Lived Religion: The First to Second Centuries AD 211
  1 Individuals in Their Relationship with the World 212
  2 Home and Family 216
  3 Learning Religion 224
CONTENTS vii

4 Places Where Religion Was Experienced 226
5 Domestic Gods 247
6 Lived Religion Rather Than Domestic Cult 255

IX New Gods: The First Century BC to the Second Century AD 262
1 Background 262
2 Isis and Serapis 264
3 Augusti: Initiatives 272
4 The Self 289
5 Résumé 292

X Experts and Providers: The First to Third Centuries AD 296
1 Religious Authority 296
2 Experts Male and Female 300
3 “Public” Priests and Religious Innovation 307
4 Prophetesses and Visionaries 310
5 Founders of Religion 313
6 Changes 319

XI Notional and Real Communities: The First to Third Centuries AD 327
1 Textual Communities 329
2 Narratives 340
3 Historization and the Origin of Christianity 348
4 Religious Experiences and Identities 358

XII Demarcations and Modes of Community: The Third to Fourth Centuries AD 364
1 The Market Value of Religious Knowledge 364
2 Political Actors 369

For general queries, contact webmaster@press.princeton.edu
3  The Treatment of Difference  377
4  The Competitive Scene  382

XIII  Epilogue  386

Notes  391
References  439
Index  535