

The thesis titled "Society and Church within the Territory of the Former Western Roman Empire in the 5th to 7th century AD" focuses on relations between the society and the church, specifically within territories which, at the given period, formed the Western Roman Empire (5th century AD) and its successor states (6th to 7th century AD).

The given period was chosen as it marked a turning point in the relations between the state, or the society, and the church; the further development in Europe, not limited to religion, stems from this period. The 5th century represents a sort of a prologue to the dramatic and turbulent 6th century, while the 7th century is an afterpiece during which the details of the further direction and development of the Catholic Church were refined.

The aim of my thesis was to confirm or disconfirm the hypotheses that Christianity (the church) did not accelerate the fall of the Western Roman Empire or that it did not significantly contribute to it, that it was not a bearer of progress as it did not improve the general conditions, and that the church had the character of any religion serving power and was not unique in any way at the time.

Attention is paid initially to political and economic situation, which is followed by the study of the relationships between the church and the society, i.e. the position of the church and Christianity in the state (influence on the society), relation to pagans, wealth and property of the church, and internal theological disputes.

This work is based on modern literature, both Czech and foreign, and on their comparison. Classical authors are taken into account as well.