



Fig. 6.31: Late Roman edict for the preservation of the aqueducts from Bethlehem, Israel [Di Segni 2002, fig. 8].

+Φλ(άουιος) Αϊνίας σιλεντιά[ρι]ος κτήροσιν, ἐγλήμ[π]τορσιν καὶ γεωργοῖς: γινώ[σ]κετε ὡς ὁ
 θιότατος καὶ εὐσεβ[έ]στατος] δεσπότης ὅλης οἰκουμένης ἐθέπισεν μὴ ἐξεῖναι τινεὶ ἀπὸ ιε'
 πο(δῶν) ἐξ ἑκατέρου μέρους τοῦ ὕδραγωγίου κατὰ τὰς θίας διατάξεις ἐπὶ τὰ ἔσω μέρη σπύριν ἢ
 φοιτεῦειν. Εἰ δέ τις τοῦτο ἐπιχρήσει ποιῆσαι, κεφαλικὴν ὑπομένει τιμορίαν καὶ τὸ κτῆμα αὐτοῦ δημε
 ὑτετε. Τὸ δὲ μέτρον τοῦ ποδὸς ὑποτέτακται τούτοις τοῖς τύποις+

‘Flavius Aeneas, *silentiarius*, to landlords, contractors and cultivators: know that the most
 divine and most pious master of the whole world has decreed that within 15 feet from each
 side of the aqueduct, according to the imperial dispositions, it is not permitted to anybody to
 sow or plant on the inner sides. If anybody should try to do this, he will incur the death
 penalty and the property will be confiscated. The measure of the foot is appended to this
 decree.’