Book I.
Title X.

That no heretic, pagan or Jew shall have, possess or circumcise a Christian slave.
(Ne Christianum manceipium haeticus vel paganus vel Judaeus habeat vel possideat vel
circumcidat.)

Bas. 60.54.31-32.

1.10.1. Emperor Constantius to Evagrius.
A Jew must not purchase or acquire by gift or any other title any Christian slave.
But if any Jew shall either possess a Christian slave or should think of possessing a slave
of any other sect or people for any reason,¹ and shall circumcise him, he shall not only be
punished by the loss of the slave, but also by death, and the slave, shall, as a recompense,
be given his freedom.
Given at Constantinople August 15 (339).
C. Th. 16.9.1.

Note.
Like provisions were made in Novel 37, enacted in 535 A.D.

1.10.2. Emperor Justinian.
A pagan, Jew or Samaritan or whoever is not orthodox, cannot have a Christian
slave; the slave shall be liberated, and whoever has him shall pay 30 pounds of gold to
our crown domain.
Given at Constantinople, June 28.

¹ This reflects Blume’s penciled correction, after which he has written “German translation and Scott
wrong.” His typed original read: “But if any Jew shall either possess a Christian slave or shall for any
reason put him to the possession of any other sect or people…” Scott’s version is: “If any Jew should have
a Christian slave, or a member of any other sect or nation should think he had a right to the possession of
one whatsoever, and should circumcise him…” 6 [12] Scott 79.