One of the most thorny issues in contemporary research is the organization and function of the provincial administrative structures of the Byzantine Empire, especially during the transitional period of the so-called Dark Ages (7th-9th c.), because of the scanty information given by the primary sources. In this lecture the problem of the duration of the prefecture and the prefect of Illyricum will be presented and certain remarks on the information of St. Demetrius’ Miracles will be made. It will be also examined if the prefect of Thessaloniki mentioned on seals (8th-9th c.) was a survival of the prefect of Illyricum or a new institution similar to that of the prefect of Constantinople, if his jurisdiction was confined only within the city of Thessaloniki and if the administrative model of the “city prefect” was applied to other cities of the Empire as well.