

Church Fathers / Episode 12 / Epiphanius of Salamis

Video	Audio
<p>Att. Picture of the Church (1).</p> <p>Att. Picture of the Ascension (2).</p> <p>Att. Picture of the Bible (3).</p> <p>Att. Picture of Church Fathers (4).</p> <p>Att. Picture of Catholics in the Pews (5).</p> <p>Att. Picture of Epiphanius of Salamis (6).</p>	<p><<CAM 1>> Hello and Welcome to this edition of Wisdom of the Fathers.</p> <p>The Catholic faith is one of rich intellectual tradition ... stretching all the way back to the time of Christ.</p> <p>When Christ ascended into Heaven ... He left us a church that was in its infancy ... in its self-understanding.</p> <p>This infancy created a NEED within in the church for individuals to RISE UP and think about ... pray over ... and meditate upon what God was revealing.</p> <p>The answer to this NEED was the Church Fathers ... certain individuals who were intellectual giants ... gifted with the ability to either break down an article of faith into its simplest form or develop it further.</p> <p>They did this so we ordinary Catholics could understand the fullness of what Jesus was trying to purport to us in sacred scripture and apostolic tradition ... also known as the Deposit of Faith.</p> <p>In this twelfth episode of Wisdom of the Fathers we're going to talk about St. Epiphanius of Salamis ... an early Church Father. <<CAM 2>></p> <p>Now ... before we get into a comprehensive treatment of his life ... let's shift our attention to the significance of this man.</p>

<p>Att. Type on ... “Monk ... Hermit ... Abbot ... Bishop of Constantia, Salamis, and Cyprus”.</p> <p>Att. Picture of the world (7).</p> <p>Att. Type on ...”Origenism ... Aryanism”.</p> <p>Att. Picture of Mary (8). Att. Picture of Peter (9).</p> <p>Att. Type on ...”The Medicine Box”.</p>	<p>St. Epiphanius was a monk ... hermit ... abbot ... and bishop of Constantia ... Salamis ... and Cyprus. He was an intelligent person and brilliant orator. He spoke many languages such as Hebrew ... Syriac ... Egyptian ... Greek ... and Latin.</p> <p>St. Epiphanius traveled the world. In the course of his travels ... he combated unorthodox beliefs such as Origenism and Aryanism. As he got older ... he concentrated on writing. He stressed the authority of Mary and taught that Peter was the head of the Apostles. His works include a Bible dictionary ... and a book called “The Medicine Box” ... which was a huge work that cataloged and refuted eighty heresies of his day.</p> <p>He was a friend of Saint Jerome ... but an opponent of Saint John Chrysostom whom he found insufficiently orthodox.</p>
<p>Att. Picture of Epiphanius (6). Att. Picture of Palestine (10).</p> <p>Att. Picture of a monk (11).</p> <p>Att. Picture of ordination (12).</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">The Life of St. Epiphanius</p> <p><<CAM 1>></p> <p>St. Epiphanius was born to a Christian family in 315 A.D. His family lived in the small settlement of Besanduk ..., which is in Palestine.</p> <p>At a young age ... he became a monk. During his monastic life ... St. Epiphanius was educated and came into contact with Valentinian groups.</p> <p>He returned to Palestine when he was 18 and founded a monastery at Ad near Jerusalem. He was then ordained a priest. He spent the next thirty years at the monastery. He was chosen as the superior. During his years as a monk and superior he gained much knowledge. In</p>

<p>Att. Type on ..."Hebrew... Syriac ... Egyptian Greek ... Latin".</p>	<p>the course of his position as superior ... he was able to learn several tongues ... including Hebrew ... Syriac ... Egyptian ... Greek ... and Latin. <<CAM 2>></p>
<p>Att. Picture of Epiphanius (6).</p>	<p>His reputation for learning prompted local officials to nominate and ultimately consecrate him as Bishop of Salamis ... in roughly 366 ... a post which St. Cyprus held until his death. He served as bishop for nearly forty years. He also had the honor of being the Metropolitan of the Church of Cyprus.</p>
<p>Att. Picture of the Trinity (13).</p>	<p>In 376 ... St. Epiphanius was present at a synod in Antioch where the Trinitarian questions were debated against the heresy of Apollinarianism.</p>
<p>Att. Picture of Epiphanius (6).</p>	<p>Apollinarianism was a view proposed by Apollinaris of Laodicea that Jesus could not have had a human mind. Instead ... they believed that Jesus had a human body and a lower soul ... but his mind was divine. It was declared to be a heresy in 381 by the First Council of Constantinople ... since Christ was officially depicted as fully human and fully God. <<CAM 1>></p>
<p>Att. Picture of Epiphanius (6).</p>	<p>At the synod ... he upheld the position of Bishop St. Paulinus ... who had the support of Rome ... over that of St. Meletius of Antioch ... who was supported by the Eastern Churches. In 382 ... he was present at the Council of Rome ... again upholding the cause of St. Paulinus.</p>
<p>Att. Picture of Epiphanius (6).</p>	<p>St. Epiphanius of Salamis died in 403 at sea. He is best known for composing an extensive compendium of the heresies Christianity suffered in his own time ... full of quotations that are often the only</p>

	<p>surviving fragments of suppressed texts ... and for instigating ... with St. Tychon ... Bishop of Amathus ... a persecution against the non-Christians living on Cyprus ... and the destruction of their temples.</p> <p>Now that we have an understanding of who St. Epiphanius of Salamis was ... let's take a look at what he had to say about women and the priesthood.</p> <p><<CAM 2>></p>
<p>Att. Granite Background (for all quotes); change color of background for each quote.</p>	<p>St. Epiphanius on Women and the Priesthood</p> <p>“Certain women there in Arabia [the Collyridians] ... In an unlawful and blasphemous ceremony ... ordain women, through whom they offer up the sacrifice in the name of Mary. This means that the entire proceeding is godless and sacrilegious, a perversion of the message of the Holy Spirit; in fact, the whole thing is diabolical and a teaching of the impure spirit” (Against Heresies 78:13 [A.D. 377]).</p> <p>“It is true that in the Church there is an order of deaconesses, but not for being a priestess, nor for any kind of work of administration, but for the sake of the dignity of the female sex, either at the time of baptism or of examining the sick or suffering, so that the naked body of a female may not be seen by men administering sacred rites, but by the deaconess” (ibid.).</p> <p>“From this bishop [James the Just] and the just-named apostles, the succession of bishops and presbyters [priests] in the house of God have been established. Never was a woman called to these. . . . According to the evidence of Scripture,</p>

	<p>there were, to be sure, the four daughters of the evangelist Philip, who engaged in prophecy, but they were not priestesses” (ibid.).</p> <p>“If women were to be charged by God with entering the priesthood or with assuming ecclesiastical office, then in the New Covenant it would have devolved upon no one more than Mary to fulfill a priestly function. She was invested with so great an honor as to be allowed to provide a dwelling in her womb for the heavenly God and King of all things, the Son of God. . . . But he did not find this [the conferring of priesthood on her] good” (ibid., 79:3).</p>
<p>Att. Russell on screen; no pictures or animations.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Conclusion</p> <p><<CAM 2>></p> <p>Well ... that’s all for this episode! Thank you for tuning in to Wisdom of the Fathers!</p> <p>AND make sure to catch us next time ... where we discuss our next Church Father ... St. Ambrose of Milan and what he had to say about Mary who was without sin.</p> <p>I’m Russell Voris. God Bless!</p>