



EIPHANIVS

EIPHANIVS (b. ca. 315 [?] near Eleutheropolis, Judaea; d. 403 in Constantia, Cyprus), bishop of Constantia on Cyprus, founded on the remains of Salamis. His main work is the *Panárion* (Latin title, *Adversus Haereses*), in which he attacked eighty heresies. In this work (1.1.6; cf. Jackson, p. 188, 244) Epiphanius questioned the validity of the assertion that the Mesopotamian Nimrud (Gk. Nebróth) was identical with Zoroaster. The assertion was based on the following: Astrology and magic were invented by Nimrud (a corrupt form of Ninurta, the god, influenced by Nimrud, the city); the same is said of Zoroaster, hence Zoroaster was identical with Nimrud. This understanding was already present in the *(Pseudo)-Clementine Homilies* (9.4; cf. Jackson, p. 125, 239). Some manuscripts omit the negation in Epiphanius' statement that Nebróth and Zoroaster did not live many years apart.

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