



## **ANCIENTS**

## 138-140/1 AD DIVA FAUSTINA SENIOR AV AUREUS NGC CHOICE AU ★ 5/5 - 5/5



Annia Galeria Faustina the Elder, sometimes referred to as Faustina I (born on February 16 around 100; died in October or November of 140), was a Roman empress and wife of the Roman emperor Antoninus Pius. The emperor Marcus Aurelius was her nephew and later became her adopted son, along with Emperor Lucius Verus. She died early in the principate of Antoninus Pius, but continued to be prominently commemorated as a diva, posthumously playing a prominent symbolic role during his reign. Antoninus was devastated at Faustina's death and took several steps to honor her memory. He had the Senate deify her (her apotheosis was portrayed on an honorary column) and dedicate the Temple of Faustina to her in the Roman Forum.

(18mm, 7.27 gm, 6h) Rome, AD 145-150. RIC -. BMCRE -. Cohen -. Calicó 1762

An extremely rare variety with bust left, unrecorded in most references, in an exceptional state of preservation.

Obverse: DIVA FAV-STINA, draped bust of Diva Faustina Senior left, seen from front, wearing thin band, hair elaborately waved in several loops around head, braided, drawn up and coiled on top with pearls.

Reverse: AV-GV-S-TA, Fortuna standing facing, veiled head left, patera in outstretched right hand, rudder in left set on globe.



