



ANCIENTS

147-175/6 AD FAUSTINA JUNIOR AV AUREUS NGC CHOICE AU 5/5 - 2/5, BRUSHED



Annia Galeria Faustina the Younger, was a daughter of Roman Emperor Antoninus Pius and Roman Empress Faustina the Elder. She was a Roman Empress and wife to her maternal cousin Roman Emperor Marcus Aurelius. She was held in high esteem by soldiers and her husband as Augusta and Mater Castrorum ('Mother of the Camp') and was given divine honours after her death. Aurelius grieved much for his wife and buried her in the Mausoleum of Hadrian in Rome. She was deified: her statue was placed in the Temple of Venus in Rome and a temple was dedicated to her in her honor. Her name was changed to Faustinopolis and Aurelius opened charity schools for orphan girls called Puellae Faustinae or 'Girls of Faustina'. The Baths of Faustina in Miletus are named after her.

(19mm, 7.25 gm, 11h) Rome, AD 161-176. RIC III (Marcus Aurelius) 716. Calicó 2073b. Highly lustrous flan with an extremely attractive portrait.

Obverse: FAVSTINA-AVGVSTA, draped bust of Faustina Junior right, seen from front, hair in multiple parallel waves and gathered in chignon at nape of neck.

Reverse: SALVTI AVGVSTAE, Salus enthroned left, left arm resting on throne, patera in outstretched right hand, feeding serpent entwined around altar at left.

