Irenaeus of Lyons

d. 203

Bishop

Native of Smyrna
Consulted by Rome relative to status of Montanism
While in Rome, his bishop was martyred;
when he returned to Lyons, he was consecrated
Opponent of Gnosticism
Author of *Refutation and Overthrow of the Knowledge Falsely So-Called* (Adversus Hæreres)
Advocate of tradition, Scripture, and episcopacy
Taught doctrine of *anakephalaiosis*, recapitulation

“We ought not to seek the truth among others which it is easy to obtain from the Church; since the apostles, like a rich man depositing his money in a bank, delivered into her hands in the fullest measure the whole truth: so that every man, whosoever will, can draw from her the water of life.”

*Adv. Hær.* III.4