Chalcidius (Or Calcidius) Encyclopedia Article

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Fourth century A.D.

Roman scholar of Greek language who was one of the few to translate Greek into Latin during the third and fourth centuries A.D., providing a portion of the natural science corpus of Greek knowledge to the West. He translated most of the *Timaeus* (Plato's dialogue on his cosmology with its incipient theism) into Latin and added to it the first commentary on the *Timaeus.* It would remain the only Latin translation of a Platonic dialogue for eight centuries and an important source of Greek cosmology in the Middle Ages and Renaissance.