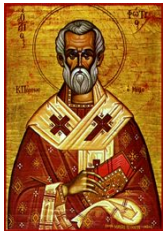


## Introducing the Epic Cycle

### A Special Request τὰ μικρά



**Photios** (St. Photios the Great), c. 810/820 – 893

“The only detailed information about the scope of the Epic Cycle is derived from a lost treatise by one Proclus, who probably wrote in the second century CE (see below, §2). Photius, excerpting Proclus’ work, tells us:

διαλαμβάνει δὲ καὶ περὶ τοῦ λεγομένου ἐπικοῦ κύκλου, ὃς ἄρχεται μὲν ἐκ τῆς Οὐρανοῦ καὶ Γῆς **μυθολογουμένης μίξεως**, ἐξ ἧς αὐτῶι καὶ τρεῖς παῖδας Ἐκατόγχειρας καὶ τρεῖς γεννῶσι Κύκλωπας.

- διαλαμβάνω – to treat, handle
- μυθολογέω – to tell mythic tales
- τὰ μυθολογούμενα *fabulous tales*
- μίξις, -εως, ἡ - mixing, mingling, intercourse

“διαπορεύεται δὲ τὰ τε ἄλλως περὶ θεῶν τοῖς Ἑλλήσι μυθολογούμενα καὶ εἴ ποῦ τι καὶ πρὸς ἱστορίαν ἐξαληθίζεται. καὶ περατοῦται ὁ ἐπικός κύκλος ἐκ διαφόρων ποιητῶν **συμπληρούμενος** **μέχρι** τῆς ἀποβάσεως Ὀδυσσέως τῆς εἰς Ἴθάκην, ἐν ἧι καὶ ὑπὸ τοῦ παιδὸς Τηλεγόνου **ἀγνοοῦντος** κτείνεται.”

- διαπορεύω – carry over, conduct, go through, detail
- ἱστορία, -ας, ἡ – inquiry
- πρὸς ἱστορίαν – for *the knowledge of* . . .
- ἐξαληθίζομαι to be truly recorded
- περατόω – to limit, bound
- συμπληρώω – fill, make up
- μέχρι – even to, as far as
- ἀπόβασις, -εως, ἡ - landing, stepping off, disembarking
- ἀγνοέω – not to know, to be ignorant