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Abstract

Church Fathers Exegesis in Slavic Christian Tradition: some remarks about the Holy Cross files

The paper focuses on the reception of exegetical writings of the Church Fathers in Slavic mediaeval society. At first, a classification of literary genres and hermeneutical methodologies – both allegorical and historical – is provided. Moreover, different types of biblical commentary developed in the Greek tradition are analysed in order to establish which of them were subsequently passed down to the Slavic tradition. The article infers that σχόλια, ὑπομνήματα, ἐρωταποκρίσεις and Pentateuch and/or Octateuch commentaries in a pericope-by-pericope or verse-by-verse basis spread across the Slavic Christian communities. The main achievement of this research is the identification of the Slavic Paleja as a commentary of catena type. It was translated from Greek but underwent to different redactions in Slavonic during a long period.

Key words: exegesis, patristica, biblical commentary