Francesca Romoli

Abstract

Biblical Quotations, Liturgical and Patristic Mediation in the *Slovo na voznesenie* by Kirill Turovskij

Given the role of liturgy in the culture of *Slavia orthodoxa* and its importance in Kirill Turovskij’s homiletics, the present article examines the mutual interaction of liturgy and patristic literature by analysing the *Slovo o rasslablennom* (*Homily on the sick man*) and *Slovo o voznesenie* (*Homily for Ascension*). Liturgical celebrations for the feast day of the sick man described in the Studite *Typikon* allow us to identify a source of the *Slovo o rasslablennom* in John Chrysostom’s *Homilia 36* on the gospel of John, thereby demonstrating the liturgical mediation of patristic exegesis. The analysis of biblical quotations in the *Slovo o voznesenie*, in the liturgical celebrations for Ascension day, and in a group of (pseudo-)Chrysostomic homilies for the same feast reveals the common use of six passages: Acts 1:11, Psalm 24(23):7-8, Psalm 57(56):6, Psalm 47(46):2.6, Psalm 18(17):11 and Psalm 110(109):1. The *Slovo* mainly shares the passages with the matins of Ascension day and (pseudo-)Chrysostom *Sermones 3-4* and *Slovo 74*. Beyond the alternative hypotheses of liturgical mediation of patristic literature or patristic mediation of liturgy, the evidence seems to prove the existence of a common biblical-liturgical-patristic field, presumably arising out of a mutual interaction. As a result of this interaction, a collective memory for Ascension day also arose, and the analysis seemingly provides concrete evidence for it.

Keywords: East Slavic Medieval Preaching, Kirill Turovskij, *Slovo o rasslablennom*, *Slovo na voznesenie*, Biblica-Liturgical-Patristic Quotations, Liturgical-Patristic Mediation.