

A PERICOPE FROM THE BOOK OF DANIEL, CHAPTER VII, IN THE TRADITION
OF SLAVONIC OLD TESTAMENT LECTIONARY

(Summary)

The study presents some observations on a neglected aspect of the history of the orthodox Slavic Old Testament lectionary, the *Parimejnik*. Among the approximately 80 copies of the *Parimejnik* known to exist, some manuscripts show a peculiarity in their content: they include Old Testament readings for Meatfare Week. This is a liturgical detail unknown to the *Prophetologion*, the Greek Old Testament lectionary, which, as it is generally assumed, was the only basis for the *Parimejnik*. The various liturgical patterns of the group of manuscripts analysed make it difficult to determine the origin of this peculiarity. Since the different readings they prescribe are also used on other calendar dates, the pericope from Chapter VII of the Book of Daniel is chosen as a tracer of the origin of these readings because of its unique liturgical use in the *Parimejnik*. After checking various pericopal systems, analogues were found in some Eastern rites – Syrian, Coptic, Armenian, Georgian. The last one is the only non-monophysite among them, which means it is the only one which was in continuous liturgical relations with the Byzantine church and therefore with the Slavs. In the Eastern rites the pericope appears to be characteristic for the Holy Week and especially for the baptismal complex on Great Saturday, so the study proposes some explanations for the possible transposition of the reading from its original place during the Holy Week to Meatfare Saturday, where it is found in the *Parimejnik* tradition. Thus a possible Georgian influence upon the early Slavic *Parimejnik* tradition is suggested.

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