

ON DISCOURSE STRUCTURE AND ITS MARKING

(Summary)

On the basis of a textological comparison with the Greek original of three early Modern Bulgarian and three archaic versions of Damaskēnōs Stoudītēs' homily *On Jesus Christ's Birth*, the article explores the systems of marking discourse structure used in these versions of the same text. The units explicitly marked are: (1) single words or groups of words holding one stress; (2) sequences between two pauses in speech that feature intonational unity; (3) sentences; (4) prosaic strophes, i.e. groups of sentences expressing a complete thought; and (5) thematic paragraphs, i.e. groups of strophes sharing a topic. Three systems of marking are identified: a presumably older two-tier system [Unit 2 – Unit 5]; the predominant three-tier system [Unit 1 – Unit 4 – Unit 5]; and a forerunner of the modern three-tier system [Unit 1 – Unit 3 – Unit 5].

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