

ON THE LITERAL INTERPRETATION OF A BIBLICAL ALLUSION IN THE LONG
VITA OF THE PHILOSOPHER ST. CYRIL-CONSTANTINE, OR: WERE STS CYRIL
AND METHODIUS PROTO-BULGARIANS

(Summary)

The study analyses the historiographical problems that arise if a Proto-Bulgarian descent of the Slav apostles Cyril and Methodius is assumed. Here is analysed a known passage of chapter IX of the Vita Constantini of the philosopher saint Constantine-Cyril, where the lunch to which the Khazar Hagan invited a saint is described. This part contains a Biblical allusion; however, many authors have a literal interpretation, on which is based the hypothesis of the Proto-Bulgarian descent of the philosopher saint Constantine-Cyril. On the basis of the review of the genesis and development of this hypothesis in the historiography, and more specifically of its latest manifestations, the study attempts to demonstrate the unfoundedness of the hypothesis and the lack of support for it in the sources.

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