

ABOUT THE LANGUAGE OF *THE DIDACTIC GOSPEL* BY CONSTANTINE PRESBYTER
(FINITE AND NON-FINITE VERB FORMS)

(Summary)

The object of the present study is the language of *The Didactic Gospel* by Constantine Presbyter. Examined are finite and non-finite verb forms in the periphrastic future with the auxiliary verbs *бъити* and *моуи*, the periphrastic prohibitive of the type *не моуи* + infinitive, aorist tense, perfect tense, conditional mood, present and past active participles, as well as the infinitive *бъити*. The basis for the analysis is a full excerpt of the four complete copies of the text as edited by Tihova 2012. The language is analyzed in order to test the hypothesis of the localization of *The Didactic Gospel* in the western (southwestern) area of the First Bulgarian State. On the one hand, the article traces an archaic linguistic state and manifestations of the early Cyrillo-Methodian written practice, with which Constantine, a disciple of Method, could be expected to comply. On the other hand, it reveals linguistic traits that are mainly characteristic for eastern Bulgarian texts.

This indicates that *The Didactic Gospel* was created in an environment where both tendencies were at work functioned.

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