

Hidden in Plain Sight: Euthalian Traditions, Codex H, and Late Ancient Scholarship  
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# The Euthalian Chapter Lists of Acts and Epistles in Slavonic Medieval MSS: a Survey

Maria Novak  
Vinogradov Russian Language Institute  
of the Russian Academy of Sciences,  
Moscow

[mariaonovak@gmail.com](mailto:mariaonovak@gmail.com)  
<https://ruslang.academia.edu/MariaNovak>

## SITUATION IN GENERAL

- The Old Slavonic Euthaliana is understudied
- There is no consensus about the time of its emergence; W. Veder thinks the translation originated in the 9th century, and his point seems well-verified (Veder 2009)
- Slavonic versions of prologues and “abstracts” (ὑποθέσεις, argumenta) got published and analysed by J. van der Tak: Euthalius the Deacon, Prologues and Abstracts in Greek and Church Slavic Translation. Sofia, 2003. (Cyril and Methodius Studies 15)
- The chapter lists (κεφάλαια, κεφάλαια-τίτλοι) have not been studied previously; however, they are also valuable for the entire ancient Slavonic translations history, since they represent inventive vocabulary and grammar

## VAN DER TAK ON SLAVONIC EUTHALIANA VERSIONS

- After examining nine handwritten witnesses plus one printed, Tak concludes that there are two different versions of *prologues* and *abstracts* (that is, argumenta): one of the Continuous Apostolus (CS; function: reading and service) and another of the Commented Apostolus (TS; function: study and reference)
- “Textual variation in the *Apostolus* seems to have little in common with that in the *Prologues* and the *Abstracts*” (Tak, p. 14)
- CS and TS differences don’t demonstrate the dependence on two slightly different versions of one Greek text
- There was “one source translation into Church Slavic, written in Glagolitic script”; its two independent editions emerged due to “(1) transcription from Glagolitic to Cyrillic and (2) formatting to new book contexts” (Tak, p. 17)

## MY PIECE OF CONTRIBUTION

- The Old Slavonic Euthaliana: Structure and Language of the Chapter-List to The First Epistle to Corinthians. *Vestnik Volgogradskogo gosudarstvennogo universiteta. Serija 2. Jazykoznanije [Science Journal of Volgograd State University. Linguistics]*, 2018, vol. 17, no. 4, pp. 6–15. <https://doi.org/10.15688/jvolsu2.2018.4.1>
- Lexis and Syntax of the Letter To the Romans Abstract in Tolstovskii Apostolos from the 14th Century. In *Sapere Aude. A Collection in Honor of Prof. Iskra Christova-Shomova*. Sofia, 2019, pp. 208–216
- Translation of Euthalian Meta-Terminology in Old Slavonic MSS from the 12th–16th Centuries. *Scripta & e-Scripta. The Journal of Interdisciplinary Mediaeval Studies*. 2021, vol. 21, pp. 303–316
- Old Church Slavonic Euthaliana: the Chapter List to Hebrews (On MSS from 12th–16th Centuries). In *Vremya Yazyka [Time of Language: An articles collection in memoriam of Prof. V. V. Kolessov]*. Saint Petersburg, 2021, pp. 238–249
- The Language of the Catholic Epistles' Chapter Lists in Tarnovo Manuscripts from the Fifteenth-Sixteenth Centuries. In *Sveta Gora. Balgariya. Balkanite. [Holy Mountain. Bulgaria. Balkans. An article collection in Honor of Prof. Petko D. Petkov]*. 2024 (In print)

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## WHAT EXACTLY GOT ANALYSED

- **Chapter lists** of Acts, the Catholic Letters, 1 & 2 Corinthians, and partly the Letter to the Hebrews (their structure, grammatical and lexical features in various versions analysed against the Greek background and in connection with the NT text)
- The Letter to the Romans **argument**: the version presented in Tolstovskii Apostolos compared to the types identified by van der Tak
- Meta-terminology in **chapter lists**: variability of key meta-terms
- The Pauline Letters **argumenta** in Ostrog Bible (printed in 1581) in comparison to earlier versions
- **“Meta-text” and “pre-text”**: their mutual arrangement in MSS of various types (the Catholic and Pauline Letters)

## SOURCES: COMMENTED TYPE MSS

- Apostolus Christinopolitanus, 12th c. (Lviv, Kyiv, Kraków; a photocopy)
- No. 291, 16th c. (Kazan Federal University; de visu)
- No. 118, 16th c. (Russian State Library, f. 304/l; Moscow)
- No. 11, 16th c. (Russian State Library, f. 256)
- F.p.I.24, 15th–16th c. (National Library of Russia, St. Petersburg)
- No. 24/24 from 1485 (National Library of Russia)
- No. 24/149 from 1522 (National Library of Russia)

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## SOURCES: CONTINUOUS TYPE MSS

- Q.p.I.5 (Tolstovskii Apostolus), 14th c. (National Library of Russia)
- Chudov New Testament, 14th c. (manuscript lost, text preserved in 1892 edition)
- Hilf. 14, 14th c. (National Library of Russia)
- Syn. 915 from 1499 (Gennady's Bible; State Historical Museum, Moscow)
- No. 71, 72, 73, 76, 78, 139, 15th–16th c. (Russian State Library, f. 304/I)
- No. 95/100, 15th–16th c. (National Library of Russia)
- No. 27/27 15th c. (National Library of Russia)
- No. 30/30 from 1586 (National Library of Russia)

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## RESULTS SURVEY

- Chapter lists structure varies in all Slavonic versions: they represent omission, combination and rearrangement of κεφάλαια-τίτλοι
- Generally, differences between chapter lists versions fit into the scheme proposed by van der Tak for argumenta, but their variability reflects the translation techniques of the NT text (calques, periphrastic constructions and text expansion)
- Since Euthaliana grammatical parameters were more complex than those of the majority of NT texts, Slavic translators were dealing with a lot of challenges, including syntactic inversions, substantivised forms and homonymy of Greek prepositions
- Academic historical dictionaries do not record some lexemes found in Slavonic Euthaliana



## KEY POINTS OF TODAY TALK

Since it's impossible to detalize all results in one talk, let us focus on few phenomena, which are important from the point of the main text transmission and interpretation:

- Emphasizing different nuances of the apostolic narrative in chapter lists
- NT text and paratext mutual arrangement in various Slavonic versions

## EMPHASIZING PRE-TEXT EVENTS

Chapters of Acts (in continuous type MSS only!):

<b>Greek text &amp; English translation (from Blomkvist 2012)</b>	<b>Slavonic version 1</b> no. 95/100, 15th–16th c.; no. 30/30 1586 (National Lib. of Russia); Syn. 915 1499 (SHM); no. 71 (Russian State Lib.)	<b>Slavonic version 2</b> Q.p.l.5 14th c., no. 27/27 15th c. (National Library of Russia)
<p>λη &lt;...&gt; (27:41) ναυάγιον Παύλου, ὅπως τε διεσώθησαν εἰς Μελίτην νῆσον, καὶ ὅσα ἐν αὐτῇ ὁ Παῦλος ἐθαυματούργησεν</p> <p>‘The shipwreck of Paul. How they were saved on the island of Malta, and the miracles Paul worked there’</p>	<p><b>Morskaa běda</b> pavl’a kako <b>sp(a)snъ byst’</b> vъ militěistěmъ ototsě i kolika chudesa sъtvori v nem pavelъ</p> <p>‘The <b>nautical calamity</b> of Paul. How <b>he was</b> saved on the island of Malta and how many miracles Paul worked there’</p>	<p><b>Potoplenie</b> paulovo ispovědanie kako <b>s’a yemu angelъ yavi</b> yako dayet’ ya yemu razvě korab’l’a</p> <p>‘Paul <b>sinking</b>. A story how <b>an angel revealed to him</b> that all will be safe except for the ship’  (in the Book of Acts, an angel is mentioned in 27:23–24)</p>

# ARRANGEMENT STRATEGIES

In continuous type:

- Before each segment of the apostolic text, either argumenta (ὑποθέσεις) and chapter lists, or only argumenta are placed
- Argumenta are located before each segment, whereas chapter lists are collected in a separate block

In commented type:

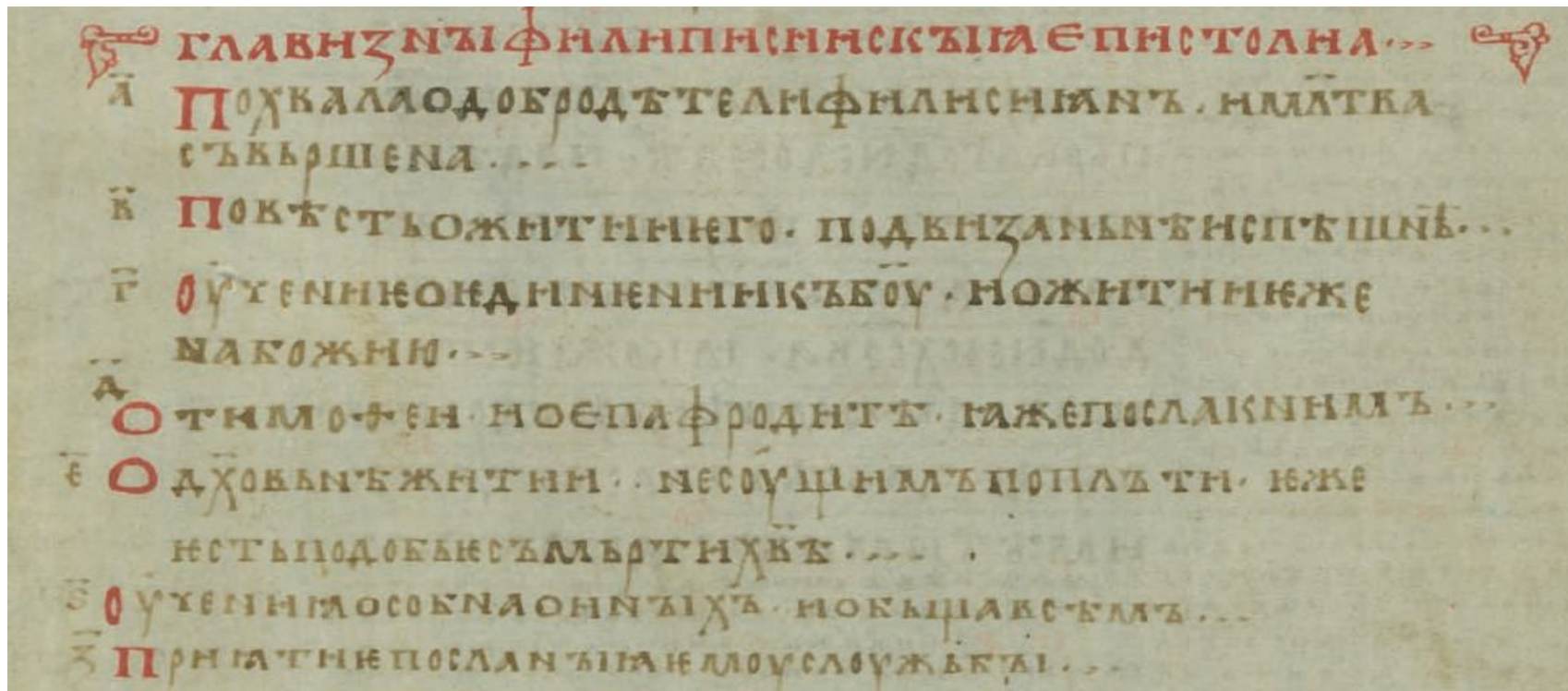
- Argumenta and chapter lists are placed before each segment; individual headings (τίτλοι) are repeated in the margins
- There are neither argumenta no chapter lists before each segment but only individual headings in the margins or directly within the main text; this is typical for Tarnovo version, which was completed in Bulgaria in the 14th century and included Acts and the Catholic letters only (Alekseev 1999; Bobrik 2009)

## WHICH ORDER IS MOST HELPFUL FOR READERS

- Apparatus texts placed directly within the apostolic text or in the margins seem the most accessible for potential readers
- Accompanying each segment with paratexts is an intermediate option
- Separating chapter lists from the main text is, at first glance, extremely inconvenient; however, such distancing is natural, given the liturgical function of the continuous type (that is, reading during a church service)

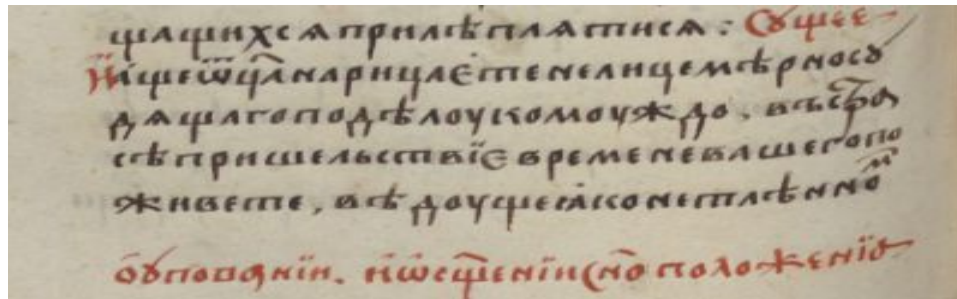
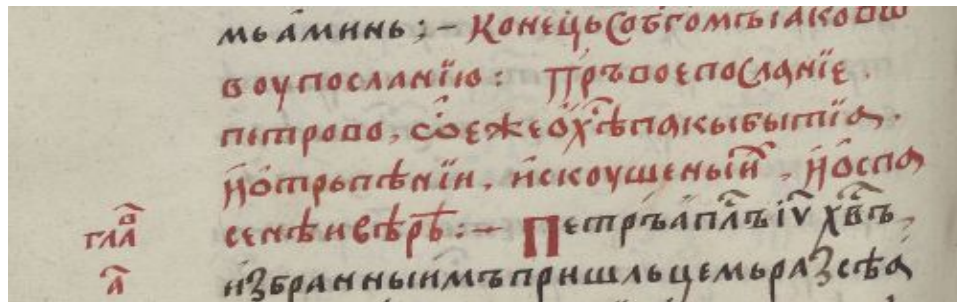
## ILLUSTRATIONS: APOSTOLUS CHRISTINOPOLITANUS, THE 12TH C.

f. 223 (τίτλοι of the Letter to the Philippians):



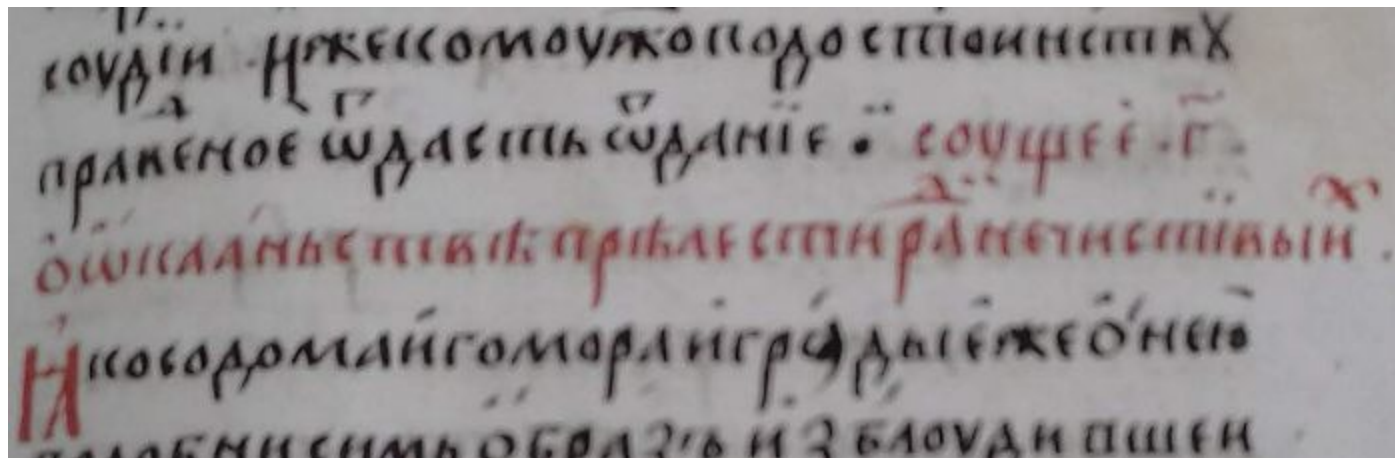
## ILLUSTRATIONS: TARNOVO VERSION, THE 16TH CENT.

MS no. 24/149 from 1522 (National Library of Russia), f. 210v & 213v (the Catholic Letters, 1st Peter):



## ILLUSTRATIONS: TARNOVO VERSION, THE 16TH CENT.

MS no. 291, 16th c. (Kazan Federal University), f. 227 (the Letter of Judas)



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- *Novyi Zavet Gospoda nashego Iisusa Hrista*. Trud sv'atitel'a Aleksiya, mitropolita Moskovskago i vseya Rusi. [The New Testament of our Lord Jesus Christ. The Work of St. Aleksii, Metropolitan of Moscow and all Russia]. Moscow, 1892
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THANK YOU!