

OPINION

by Assoc.Prof. Dr. Sc. Stoyan Iliev Chilikov; Department of Theology, Faculty of Philosophy and History, Paisii Hilendarski Plovdiv University

on Dissertation work for acquiring the scientific and educational degree "Doctor" in Scientific field of High Education: 2. Humanities, Professional field: 2.4 Religion and Theology on the topic: "**Liturgical aspects in the book of Revelation of St. John the Theologian (chapters 4 and 5)**"

by Nako Petkov Nakov, Theological Faculty, Department of Practical Theology, Sofia University St. Kliment Ohridski

The opinion was prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Law for the development of the Academic Staff of the Republic of Bulgaria, the Regulations for its Implementation and the New Regulations for the Conditions and Procedure for the Acquisition of Scientific Degrees and the Occupation of Academic Positions at the University of Sofia "St. Kliment Ohridski", amended and supplemented by the AC on 26.05.2021.

The reviewing of the materials is according to the order of the Rector of Sofia University "St. Kliment Kliment". No. RD 38-350/ 02.07.2024). Nako Petkov Nakov has provided all the necessary documents concerning the procedure for the defense of the dissertation.

1.Data about the dissertant and the procedure

Nako Petkov Nakov has studied and graduated from the Faculty of Theology, Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski" . He completed his Individual Plan and was discharged with the right to defend. The dissertation, which has been submitted to me for opinion, has been discussed at a meeting of the Department of Practical Theology of the Theological Faculty, Sofia University St. Kliment Ohridski. At the same meeting it was decided to admit it to public defence. At the first meeting of the scientific jury, a chairman was elected and the authors were appointed to draw up reviews and opinions. The procedure was followed and I consider that no violations were committed.

2. Dissertation data

The dissertation is in the volume of 200 printed pages. It consists of an introduction, three chapters, a conclusion, a list of references (150 titles: 64 in Cyrillic, 86 in Latin), 338 footnotes.

With the preface, the doctoral student introduces the topic by presenting a summary of the motives of his research work.

The introduction justifies the choice of the topic and its relevance; the subject, object, aims and objectives of the research are clearly formulated.

The dissertation consists of three chapters.

3. Evaluation of the scientific contributions

The subject of the scholarly research is dissertable, current, and its study fills one of the gaps in native academic theology. The author has reviewed a huge amount of literature and has been able to analyze it by correctly formulating the conclusions of his research. The dissertation examines the specific features of the works of the authors chosen by him on the subject, comparing them with the works of the holy fathers and teachers of the church. Nako Nakov successfully works with the main sources on the topic and fulfills the tasks set in the introduction, efficiently researching and defending the scientific hypothesis proposed by him for the dissertation work. I want to emphasize two of the scientific contributions of the dissertation work, namely: it is the first scientific dissertation work on the subject, written and proposed for defense before the Bulgarian academic community. And second: bearing in mind the ambiguity of the book of Revelation and the associated difficulties with its study, I believe that the author has succeeded in bringing out the connection between Christian and Jewish worship, emphasizing the prototype of the Christian liturgy - the angelic worship. The author has excellently mastered academic writing and demonstrates a depth of analysis in the substantive part of the dissertation.

4. Abstract details. Publications and participation in scientific forums. Personal impressions of the dissertation.

The abstract is written as required and correctly reflects the content of the dissertation.

The dissertant has submitted 4 publications that are in the field of his dissertation.

6.Conclusion

I declare that I will vote positively on the procedure of Nako Petkov Nakov for the award of the PhD in the professional field 2.4 Religion and Theology.

12.08.2024.

Assoc. Prof. Rev. Stoyan Chilikov

Sofia