

Byzantine Iconization of Angelic Orders in the Tower of the Liturgical Edifice

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Abstract

In the present paper, we aim to approach the subject of the celestial power's iconography depicted at the tower of churches, from the perspective of patristic literature and symbolic theology, for a better comprehension of the theology that angel iconography is based on. In this respect, we attempt to find out to what extent does the angelic iconography from the church towers observes the details mentioned by patristic writings, iconographic herminias, liturgical and angelology tractates. In our pursuit, we will make use of the contextualization method, bringing together complementary data referring to the angelology iconography of the nine celestial orders, data that is scattered in various herminias, iconographic guides, liturgical and angelology tractates. However, the main work method implied by the present research is that of the Eastern Christianity, namely focusing on the unity of text and the theological discourse integrity.