

## **BAD THOUGHTS ARE WORSE THAN ILLNESS (TO THE ANALYSIS OF MEDIEVAL TEXTS)**

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The paper addresses some issues in the analysis of medieval Slavic texts which stem from its dependence on a multitude of factors. The subject of analysis are examples of illnesses in Pope Gregory the Great's *Dialogues*, which have so far been interpreted as cases of psychological conditions. The analysis offered by the author and the illustrations from works by early theologians point to the fact that some of these occurrences are not evidence of disease but the impact of bad thoughts. Their influence results in unacceptable reprehensible behaviour, one that is worse than illness.

*Keywords:* medieval Slavic texts, historical lexicology, medical terminology, Pope Gregory the Great's *Dialogues*

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