

Christian and Christianity in the Patristic Tradition of Antioch until Saint John Chrysostom

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Abstract

The aim of this article is to research the utilization of the notion of „Christian” and ”Christianity” in the early Antiochian patristic writings. After a brief overview on the Acts 11, 26b which states that ”in Antioch the disciples were for the first time called Christians”, the article analyses the way how the terms “Christian” and “Christianity” is used in *Didache*, by St. Ignatius of Antioch and Theophil of Antioch. It offers also a very brief information on the way how St. John Chrysostom interprets Acts 11, 26b. The term “Christian” is associated with high standards of ethics and with the right doctrine, while “Christianity” is presented as the right way of believe and behaviour in opposite with other wrong ways of life and believe. The article proves that it obviously existed an “Antiochian tradition” of making theology before the existence of the so-called ”Antiochian school.”