

Summary: In a manuscript of liturgical homilies of Gregory of Nazianzus, Panteleimon cod. 6, there is a miniature representing Tantalus' feast where this mythological personality is feeding the gods with dismembered body of his son Pelops. By showing that the illumination in question was designed by utilizing visual models characteristic for the depictions of Hell's torments, which were sensory experienced in contemplation as the "penalties of the grave", it is argued that the image of Pelops' dismembered body was purposefully envisioned as the "spectacle of pain". This was important because, devised as such, the miniature could have prompted its contemporary viewer to reflect on the issues of the nature of the Eucharist raised in Byzantium during the second half of 12th century, as well as on the political events concerning the propaganda of the new emperor during whose rule it was created - Isaac II Angelos. Finally, in the performative context of the manuscript, this representation of diabolic feast was meant to prompt reader to deliver the sermon passionately in order to better engage gathered congregation.