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*Iconoclasm as a Side Effect of the Reformation*

*Ikonoklazam kao posljedica Reformacije*

The article deals with the issue of the iconoclasm phenomenon within the Reformation movement. The issue of iconoclasm has been primarily put in a wider context of the Reformation theology, especially in the context of the understanding of the Word of God as a multidimensional reality.

In this article the phenomenon of late medieval devotion as well as the reasons for the Reformation criticism of some elements of late medieval devotion are considered. In this context, the article thematizes the attitude toward visual art before the time of the Reformation as well as the Reformation criticism of the veneration of religious images. The article first discusses Luther's attitude toward religious imagery. In this respect, attention is given to Luther's conflict with the so-called Wittenberg reformers. In particular, the difference between Luther and Karlstadt, or his dispute with Karlstadt after Luther returned from Wartburg, concerning Karlstadt's actions regarding the purging of religious images during Luther's absence is discussed. Having Luther's broader understanding of the principles of interpretation of the Holy Scripture in mind, special attention is paid to the difference between Luther's and Karlstadt's understanding of the authority of the Old Testament, especially concerning the Old Testament prohibition of images. In the context of thinking about Luther's conflict with Karlstadt, the development in Luther's theology, which led to the affirmation of the value of visual art in worship and devotion, is described. Furthermore, the attitude toward religious images in the Swiss branch of the Reformation, as well as the issue of iconoclastic incidents on Swiss territory that resulted in the fact that the "reformed" part of Switzerland was completely "cleaned" of religious images, is discussed.