

EVOLUTION OF THE METHODOLOGY OF THEOLINGUISTIC STUDIES

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Abstract *The article deals with the description of the evolution of methodology in theolinguistics. The novelty of the work is determined by the general underdevelopment of the problem. Being associated with theology (theology), theolinguistics a priori, by definition, must use not only the methodology of linguistics and theology (theology), but also develop and use new, own approaches, which in the future should determine the choice of new methods and, as a consequence, research tools are defined as theolinguistic.*

Keywords: *methodology, method, approach, theolinguistics.*

At the turn of the XIX-XX centuries, scientists started to talk about theolinguistics as a new scientific direction (section) of linguistics. Being related to theology, theolinguistics a priori, by definition, should use not only the methodology of linguistics and theology, but at the same time develop and use new, its own, approaches, which in the future should determine the choice of new methods and, as a consequence, research tools, defined as theolinguistic. It should be noted that this part of theolinguistics still remains less developed.

The cognition of any phenomenon of the surrounding reality presupposes the existence of a cognition tool. As such a tool is a methodology, which determines the main directions of this process. In modern science there are numerous definitions of methodology. However, almost all definitions are reduced to the fact that “methodology (from Greek *methodos* - way, way of cognition and *logos* - teaching) is a set of principles, norms, methods of cognition and practical activity.

A correctly chosen method contributes to faster and more accurate achievement of the goal, serves as a special compass that helps the researcher to avoid most of the mistakes, paving his way.

Speaking about the methods of scientific research in relation to theolinguistics, we can assume that when we talk about its methods, we can talk about a system of research techniques designed to cognize the regularities of the emergence, development and functioning of theolinguistic phenomena.

It is accepted that any field of human cognition, claiming the title, status of science, along with 1) object, 2) subject of study, 3) meta-language, 4) is determined by research methods (Ivanova 2022: 4).

In other words, the methodology of science gives a characteristic of the components of scientific research - its object, subject of analysis, research task (or problem), a set of research tools necessary to solve the problem of a given type, as well as forms an idea of the sequence of research movement in the process of solving the problem. The most important in methodology is the problem statement, the construction of the subject of research, the construction of scientific theory, as well as the verification of the obtained result in terms of its truth.

Discussing the methodology of theolinguistics, we can assume that the answers to the first three methodological questions have already, in principle, been found, as evidenced by the works of a number of authors: R. Bajih (2013). Bajih (2013), D. Crystal (1987), A. Gadomski, Cz. Łapicz (2008), V. Hobbs (2021), E. Kucharska-Dreiß (2004), M. Makuchowska (1998), J.-P. van Noppen (1981), W. Przyczyna, K. Czarnecka, M. Ławreniuk (2023), A. Wagner (1999), M. Widel-Ignaszczak (2017), M. Wojtak (2019),

E. Zmuda (2017), A.K. Gadomski (2017; 2021a,b); K. Konczareviĥ (2015), S.R. Petroviĥ (2022) and others.

We believe that in the context of analyzing research methodology, more attention should be paid to the evolution of the methodology, approaches and methods of theolinguistics, which to date have been described to a lesser extent.

The close connection of theolinguistics with theology (theology) and linguistics leads to the idea that theolinguistics should use the research methods of these sciences. We can partly agree with this. However, as our observations show, researchers working in this field have to change already known approaches and develop their own, theolinguistic ones.

The theolinguistic approach to the material under study has entailed the use of several methods, among which can be named the method of theolinguistic analysis - a complex humanitarian method of studying "the manifestations of religion, which are fixed and reflected in language", as well as the linguistic features of the religious text itself in order to comprehend its essential meaning.

Theolinguistic research is not limited to the study of only the lexico-semantic system of language. Similar work is carried out at other levels of the linguistic system: phonological, word-formation, morphological, syntactic, textual.

Summarizing the abovementioned, we consider it important to draw attention not only to the scientific but also to the ethical approaches that should be used in this field of research. Their necessity is explained by the fact that what and how theolinguistics is engaged in, to the end, does not allow to consider it a section of "external linguistics", because the material under study has a special, deep "internal" content. One should approach its study not "from the outside", but only "from within", being in it and recognizing it not as a parallel, external, external world invented by someone ("as if", "according to beliefs", "according to religious ideology"), but as a world in which we all objectively reside (only each of us perceives it differently and not each of us accepts it yet). And this already gives it some autonomy. And this is already the next stage, a higher level of evolution of theolinguistics and, accordingly, a fundamentally different, not linguistic, but theolinguistic methodology, which determines its approaches and methods of research. We can assume that this is the next, third, stage, which is less described than the previous ones.

Therefore, we believe that, despite the rich theolinguistic material already collected and the solid corpus of works of the theolinguistic plan at the present stage of research, scholars should also focus on the problems of developing and describing the methodology, approaches and methods of theolinguistics and pay more attention to them. The unfilled "lacunas" in this field of research allow us to speak about the relevance and prospectivity of this type of work.

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Еволюція методології теолінгвістичних досліджень.

Анотація Стаття присвячена опису еволюції методології в теолінгвістиці. Новизна роботи визначається загальною нерозробленістю проблеми. Будучи пов'язаною з теологією (богослов'ям), теолінгвістика апіорі, за визначенням, повинна використовувати не тільки методологію лінгвістики і теології (богослов'я), а й розробляти і використовувати нові, власні підходи, які в подальшому повинні визначати вибір нових методів і, як наслідок, дослідницького інструментарію, що визначаються як теолінгвістичні.

Ключові слова: методологія, метод, підхід, теолінгвістика.

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