

357. Oxford, Bodleian Library, Bodley 319 (2226)

Isidore, “De fide catholica contra iudaeos”

[Ker 308; Gneuss 568]

HISTORY: A complete copy of Isidore’s “De fide catholica” (also known as “De miraculis christi”) with an OE gloss on the last chapter. The primary text was written probably in the third quarter of the 10c by the main scribe of the ‘Exeter Book’ of OE poetry (Exeter Cathedral Library 3501) [130] and London, Lambeth Palace 149 [311] (Flower in Chambers et al. 1933: 85; Ker 1933: 230; Ker, *Cat.*, 360). The origin of these manuscripts is not known; arguments for Exeter, Glastonbury, Crediton, Tavistock, and Canterbury have been made (Conner 1993: *passim*; Gameson 1996: 179; Butler 2004; Swanton 1974: ii; Dumville in Rosenthal, ed. Ramsay et al. 1992: 147–48 and Dumville 1994: 132, n. 23). Bodley 319’s OE gloss was added in the 11c (Napier 1889: 25; Napier 1900: xxi; Ker, *Cat.*, 360) and has lexical and stylistic links to the OE glossing of Dunstan, Æthelwold, and their circle (Hussey 2009). The early history of the manuscript is unclear. It may have been one of the books listed in Leofric’s 1072 donation to Exeter (Ker, *Cat.*, 360; Conner 1993: 80–81) and it is possible that a donation inscription on the last original folio (f. 75) is now lost, as more than half of the leaf has been cut out.

The book may have been used as an exemplar for London, BL Royal 5.E.xvi in Salisbury in the later 11c (Webber 1992: 68). The 1327 inventory of Exeter’s books includes an ‘Ad Florentinam de Miraculis Christi’ though this likely represents Oxford, Bodl. Lib., Bodley 394 (Oliver 1861: 303; Conner 1993: 34 and 81; Gameson 1996: 169–70). A 14c hand has entered a psalm verse at the top center of the last leaf, verso (f. 75v), suggesting perhaps some 14c use. The 1506 inventory of Exeter almost certainly includes Bodley 319, as the entry ‘Liber de Miraculis Christi 2 fo. “Quare mortuus”’ nearly matches the secundo folio of Bodley 319 ‘Quia mortuus’ (Oliver 1861: 367; Conner 1993: 34, 81; Gameson 1996: 169, n. 162). The book may have been rebound with new parchment flyleaves in 1411–12; the boards show signs of being chained (in two positions), probably in the late

medieval library of Exeter (Clarkson 1996: no. V). The book was among the 81 manuscripts given to the Bodleian Library by the Dean and Chapter of Exeter in 1602, perhaps effected in part by Thomas Bodley's brother Lawrence Bodley, a canon of Exeter (Philip 1983: 18). It was rebound in the late 16c or early 17c with its current cover and was rebacked in the 19c before Nicholson's notes on the modern flyleaf (f. i recto).

CODICOLOGICAL DESCRIPTION: i (paper fly) + 80 + i (paper fly). The leaves are foliated in ink at the top right 'i-iv', '1-75' with the last flyleaves foliated '76-80 (ult.)' in pencil. Membrane is off-white, smooth but variable, sometimes thin and allowing shine-through, at other places thicker, rough, and stiff. Leaves stained with mold and damaged at the opening and closing of the book; ca. 19c repair work of damaged leaves overlaid with tissue and remounted leaves. Some of this restoration work obscures the original quire arrangements and patches obscure letters and words. Leaves measure ca. 320 × 220 mm. The quires vary in structure: quire I is of two singletons, now arranged HH; quire II has 5 leaves, arranged HH(F); quire III and IV are of six, arranged HHF, quire IV has appended singleton (f. 19, hair outside); the rest of the manuscript is in quires of eight, variously arranged: quires V, VI, X are HFHF, quire VII is FFHH, quire VIII is HHHH, quire IX is HFHH; quire XI is HFHH (throughout, the difference between hair and flesh sides at places is hard to discern). A 50 mm. strip is cut from the bottom of f. 49; a 52 mm. strip is cut from the bottom of f. 59; the lower two thirds of f. 75 has been cut out. Leaves pricked in outside margins, ruled in dry-point, double bounded, with pricks in the upper margins to guide these vertical bounds. Writing space ca. 232 × 152 mm. with 23 long lines per page. Amply spaced lines of about 10 mm., a top margin of about 30 mm., and lower margin of nearly 50 mm., and outer margin about 40 mm.

The ink of the main text is a very dark brown or black, washed with red infill in initial capitals and with some green washing of initials on ff. 28v, 33v-34r, 44r-45r, 52r-62v, 67v-68v. Beginning on f. 2v space is left for the colored wash, probably in this green, but never completed. Main script is the distinctive A-S square minuscule script, frequently described as identical to that of the "Exeter Book" (Flower in Chambers et al. 1933; Muir 1991; Conner 1993: 83, 94; Gameson 1996: 165) with general agreement that Bodley 319 is likely the most calligraphic and the latest of the three. Headings of sections rubricated in large capitals, either in red, in black, or in black washed with red; at places minuscule letter-forms are mixed in; section headings marked with two or three line ornamental capitals with thick

bands, some hairline terminals, delicate white space in some, some with colored wash. The glossing hand on the last chapter is an 11c vernacular minuscule in a lighter ink that starts with some anglo-caroline features (notably the 'a' in first words of the OE gloss) before settling into an 11c insular vernacular script (Ker, *Cat.*, 360, Blake 1962, and Hussey 2009: 686–87).

Early modern binding is white sheepskin over older, perhaps original, medieval, boards and sewing (Madan and Craster 1922: 268; Pollard 1975: no. 6; Clarkson 1996: no. V); this very worn 16c sheepskin cover is stamped in a crosshatch with rampant lions in the center of each lozenge. Outer edges of front and back cover show corresponding marks of a now missing clasp, and X-rays show two positions of former clasps at the fore-edge (Clarkson 1996: no. V). The parchment flyleaves both front and back are otherwise blank; the binding leaf f. 79 has been patched top center. Originally sewn on three cords and since resewn.

[Note: Brown at the spine with a white strip down the center, partly obscuring the sticker at the base reading 'Bodl. MS | 319'. A brown paper pastedown on the inside cover through top quarter preserves very splotchy and damaged parchment, '1L | 259' in ink. Modern (19c) pencil in center of pastedown, 'MS. Bodl. 319'. Modern brown paper flyleaf preserves earlier notes of librarians. The first note at top center reads: 'Prof. Napier points out that in the process of repairing the MS. | some letters have partially disappeared or been twisted round. | Thus at the top of f. 75 symbol [sic] cd. clearly be read & the preceding | words *pæt* is have been twisted'. A note below: 'The MS. is 11th cent. E. W. B. N., Edward Williams Byron Nicholson, Bodley's Librarian from 1882–1912. Added below this: 'P.S. 29 June 1904 I find it was given to Exeter Cathedral by Leofric, tho' his inscriptions | at end have been cut out'.]

COLLATION:

[Note: The first 23 leaves (ff. i–iv, 1–19) and the last twelve leaves (ff. 68–79) have been repaired and remounted, making the structure of the original gatherings impossible to know for certain. The damage on these leaves also obscures the difference between hair and flesh sides and thus collation of these leaves is a reconstruction based on what can be seen and inferred. For arrangement of quires see "Codicological Description."]

i + 82 parchment (ff. ii–iv, 1–79) + 1 paper fly (f. 80 ult.). i; I⁴ singletons mounted as two bifolia (ff. ii–iv, 1); II⁵ 2, 3, and 4 half-sheets, sewing and stubs visible after 4 (ff. 2–6) ; III⁶ 1 and 6 half-sheets (ff. 7–12) ; IV⁶⁺¹ f. 19 seems to be a singleton mounted after 6 (ff. 13–19); V–X⁸ (ff. 20–67); XI⁸ (ff. 68–75, probably a regular quire of eight, though conservation work makes it unclear); XII⁴ (ff. 76–79, probably two bifolia, but conservation work makes it unclear); 1 modern paper flyleaf (f. 80 ult.)

CONTENTS:

- ff. ii–iv (ult.) parchment flyleaves, blank but for f. ii recto which has a pen outline of an ornamental capital ‘E’ and older shelfmarks ‘NE. D. 6. 5’ and ‘(2226)’ with thick black ink ‘Bod. 319’.
- Isidore of Seville’s “De fide catholica ex veteri et novo testamento contra iudaeos ad Florentinam sororem suam” (CPL 1198) (as PL 83.449–538):
- ff. 1r/1–2r/24 chapter headings, Bk 1: **INCIPIUNT CAPITULA LIBRI HYSI<DOR>US.** | ‘i. Quia chr<istu>s a deo patre genitus est . . . l[viii] Quod aute<m> uenturu<m> chr<istu>m de cęlis iudice<m> s<per>amus. (&) | quod ei omne iudicium dedit pater’;
- [Note: 13c heading at the top of f. 1r ‘Liber de miraculis christi’]
- f. 2v/1–14 Preface: **INCIPIT PRAEFATIO** | ‘S<AN>C<T>ę SORORI FLORENTINAE HY|siodorus [*sic*] quędam quę diuersis temporib<us> | in ueteris testamenti libris p̄nuntiata sunt . . . ut que<m> consortem p<er>fruoꝝ sanguinis | coheredem faciam & mei laboris’;
- ff. 2v/16–39r/22 Bk 1 [heading and chapter number lacking for ch. 1, generally present for other chs.]: ‘QVOD chr<istu>s a d<e>o patre genitus (est). Iudei ne|faria incredulitate chr<istu>m d<e>i filium abne|gantes’; ends: ‘Incoꝝruptio<m> corporis. resurrectione<m> carnis. as|censione<m> quę eius in c(a)elos regnu<m> atq<ue> iudiciu<m> | declarauimus.’ **EXPLICIT LIBER PRIMUS**;
- ff. 39r/22–40r/9 chapter headings, Bk 2: **IN|CIPUNT CAPITVLA . LIBRI SECUNDI.** || ‘I. Quia gentes ad d<e>i cultum uocentur . . . XXVII. Recapitulatio operis.’ | **EXPLICIT.** [*sic*] **CAPITULA**;
- ff. 40r/10–75r/4 Book 2 **INCIPIT BREUIAR’ i’UM DE PRE|CEDENTE** (.) **LIBELLI. FELICITER.** | ‘QVADAM ex parte d<omi>ni et saluatoris n<ost>ri na|tiuitatem. passione<m>. resurrectione<m>. cęliquę | ascensum explicuit’; ch. 27, with interlinear gloss in OE, beg. (f. 74r/11) **XXVII. RECAPITULATIO OPERATIO.** | ‘Infeliciu*m* iudeoꝝum deflenda dementia’ (gl.: ‘ungesæligna iudea bewependlic gewed’); main text (with gloss) ends: ‘Schenophegias id <est> sollem|nitates tabernaculoꝝum non obseruamus. qui’ a’ ta|bernaculum dei s<an>c<t>i eius sunt. in quibus habitat | in aeternu*m*’ (gl.: ‘templhalgunga þæt is symbel|nessa hyra eardungstowa we na begymaþ. forþonþe | eardungstow godes his halgan synt . on þam he eardaþ | on ecnesse’) | **EXPLICIT D<E>O GRATIAS AMEN** (OE gloss ed. Napier 1900, no. 40) [rest of f. 75 trimmed away];
- f. 75v blank but for a 14c documentary-type cursive addition: ‘In om<n>em terram exiuit sonus eor<um> & in fines orbis’ (Psalm 18:5).
- ff. 76–80 (ult.) blank.

PHOTO NOTE: F. 80 (ult.) verso not filmed. Enhanced film images of f. 70rv are presented on a supplementary fiche.

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