

The adoption of Christianity in Kiev Rus

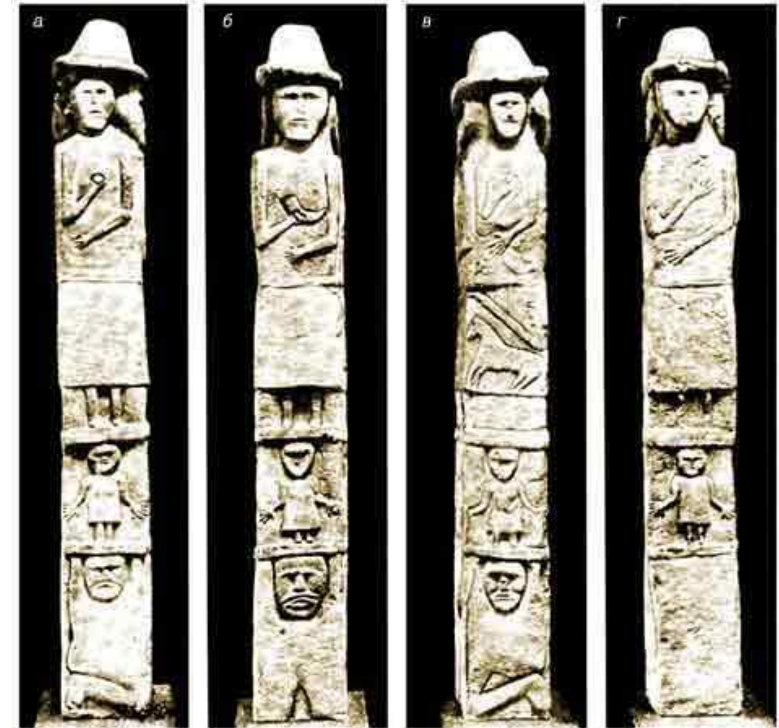
Корякина Елизавета, 1180

Paganism in Kiev Rus

- Animism, veneration of the dead, belief in supernatural powers



A Slavic sanctuary, reconstructed



The "Zbruch Idol", 10th century

Paganism in Kiev Rus

- Polygamy, human sacrifice, low moral standards



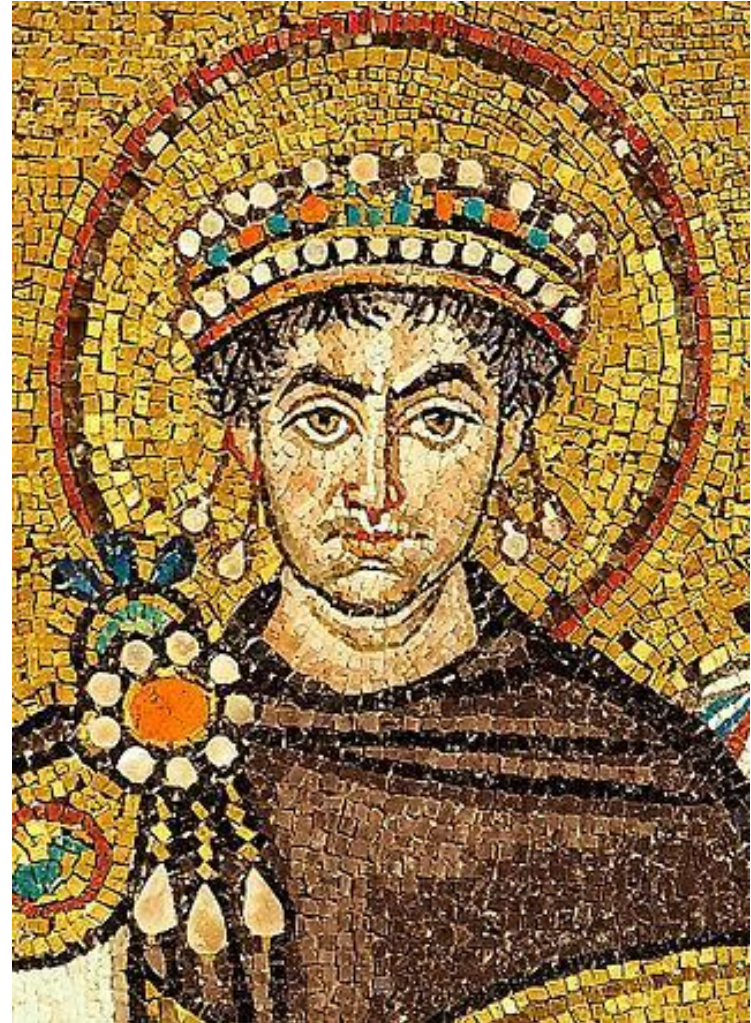
Examining the religions



- Islam
- Judaism
- Christianity

Christianity in Byzantium

- Christianity became the state religion in the end of the IV century
- In the VI century emperor Justinian prohibited the execution of pagan rituals in Byzantium
- The high level of culture and art was connected to Christianity



Causes of the Christian reform

- The failure of the pagan reform
- The need to develop moral and cultural values
- Unification of Kiev Rus

Quick comparison:



Reconstruction of a Slavic sanctuary



The Basilica of San Vitale, built in 548

The Christening



What came to Kiev Rus with Christianity



Saint Sophia's Cathedral, Kiev

What came to Kiev Rus with Christianity



Fresco "The Descent of the Holy Spirit"

The downside

- Discontent of people
- Aggression towards Christians
- Lack of local architects, craftsmen
- Lack of religious literature in Russian
- Ignorance and poor education of local priests



Results

- Paganism and the paganist culture remained in Rus
- Christianity only partially integrated the state
- The adoption of Christianity established a good background for culture progress
- Human sacrifices and polygamy were forbidden
- Less violence (killing a person without a reason was forbidden)

In conclusion, we can say that, though the ideology of Christianity was **only partially adopted** as the result of the Christian reform, it laid **a great basis for further development** of Kiev Rus

Used resources:

- https://www.e-reading.club/chapter.php/130641/5/Munchaev%2C_Ustinov_-_Istoriya_Rossii.html
- <http://www.historie.ru/civilizacii/vizantiskaya-imperiya/193-hristians tvo-v-vizantii.html>
- http://sofiyskiy-sobor.polnaya.info/freski_sofiyskogo_sobora.shtml

Thank you for your attention!