

***Ockham's Razor:***

**Theological Hermeneutics and Systematic Theology**

**Is there a future for Orthodox theology?**

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If Christian theology is primarily understood as a “dialogical encounter with God,” being the result of Christ’s personal self-manifestation in history, as is recorded in the Scriptures and narrated in apostolic tradition, only then can it be understood as a *hermeneutical* work *par excellence*. In doing so, it seeks to identify the right *method*, as well as determining the necessary *conditions* and the inviolable *criteria* that make possible an appropriate and soteriologically “effective” reception of the Gospel in each era.

In this short paper, after briefly examining the *status questionis* of the relationship between hermeneutics and Orthodox theology, the role and importance of theological hermeneutics in the field of an Orthodox systematic theology will then be explored. The basic *hypothesis* of the text is that the core hermeneutical key that ought to be the judge all the different aspects of theology (and Church life) cannot be anything else other than the (*asymmetrical* and *irreducible*) relationship of Christ (foundation) and His Church (founded).