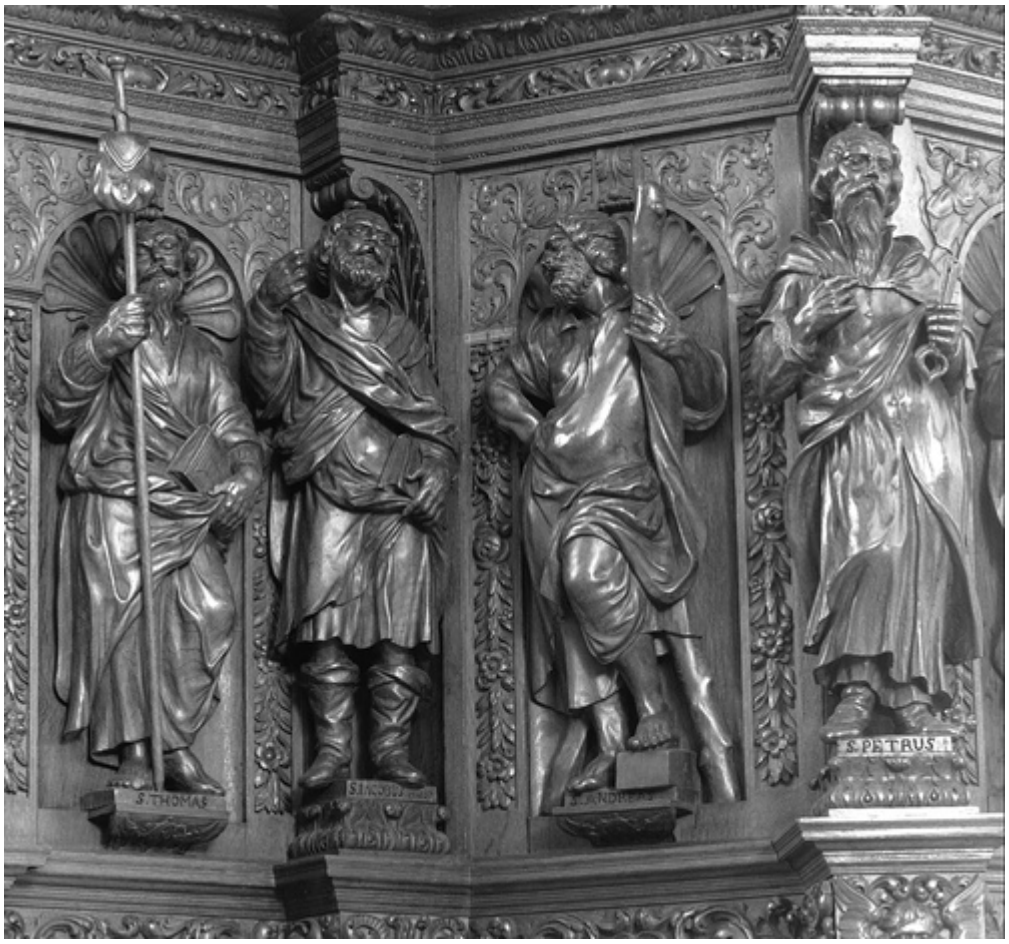
27 Ιουλίου 2010

The advent of Orthodoxy in the German-Speaking lands (Part 3)

Ξένες γλώσσες / In English / Ορθόδοξη πίστη



Continued from (2)

The Anglo-Saxon Missionaries and Their Disciples

The Germanic Angles and Saxons had conquered England and, through missionary efforts from Rome and Ireland, were converted to Christianity in the 7th century. Inflamed with Christian zeal, a number of them chose to return to the continent and to bring the word of God to their pagan brothers. For the area that was to become Germany, the most important of these Anglo-Saxon missionaries was the great St. Boniface, known as the Enlightener of Germany. This powerful and complex man set about correcting the errors, corruption and heresies of the remnant Christian communities. He also entered unchurched areas where the Germans still practiced human sacrifice, divination, and demon-worship, and he established order in a Church that had been ravaged by war and missionized haphazardly by wandering

monks. He had a wonderful ability to attract strong helpers to himself and three fellow-countrymen came to join him in Germany: the future Sts. Willibald, Wunibald, and Lull. Through his correspondence with English abbesses, he was also able to inspire a number of holy women, including Sts. Leoba and Walburga, to start convents and missionary activity in the German lands.

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(περισσότερα…)