

Abbreviations, Quotations and Names

The primary literature is abbreviated according to the *Reallexikon Antike und Christentum*². Works and authors not included in the RAC list are written in full. The titles of works are in italics, and the articulation of the texts (by chapter, section, etc.) is always in Arabic numbers, divided by a comma. Consecutive quotations from the same work are given without repetition of the author and title. The abbreviations PG and PL indicate respectively the *Patrologia Graeca* and *Patrologia Latina*. They are followed by the number of the volume and, after a comma, by the page number and column letter.

As regards names of people, I have chosen the English spelling when possible and the customary transliteration when the name was not already well-known in English. Therefore, Ambrose is the famous bishop of Milan and Father of the Church, Ambrosius the less known friend and patron of Origen, although their name would be the same in Greek or Latin; Porphyry is the Neoplatonic philosopher, Porphyrius the less known bishop of Gaza. Titles of ancient works, when written in full, are given according to their most widespread name (e.g.: the *Apostolic Constitutions* and not the *Constitutiones Apostolorum*, but *Didache* and not the *Teaching*).

Biblical quotations in English come from the King James Bible³: although it is not normally used in an academic context, it seemed right to employ it because its influence upon English literature can be compared to the influence of the Bible on Ephrem's and Gregory's poetic diction; therefore, I also used King James diction to translated Bible quotations and allusions in the poems. Numbers of chapter and verses and the Greek text are given according to the Septuagint/Nestle-Aland editions,⁴ except that when speaking of Ephrem, I have taken quotations from the Peshitta text⁵. Comparisons between Old Syriac and Peshitta versions of the Gospels were made on the website of *Peshitta New Testament*⁶. Syriac words are given according to the transliteration contained in the searchable lexicon of the *Comprehensive Aramaic Lexicon*.

For the sake of expediency, I have omitted the author's name in the case of Ephrem and Gregory, except when it cleared a possible ambiguity. Moreover, Ephrem's *Carmina Nisibena* are always abbreviated CN (and not *carm. Nisib.* as in the RAC), the different sections of Ephrem's *De Paschate* and *De Nativitate/Epiphania* are referred to

2 RAC; <https://www.antike-und-christentum.de/rac/abkuerzungen>. Last access: 17.07.2024, 16:23.

3 Genesis 1 - King James Version (KJV) – www.die-bibel.de. Last access: 25.11.2024, 12:00.

4 See <https://www.academic-bible.com/en/online-bibles/septuagint-lxx/read-the-bible-text>. Last access: 17.07.2024, 16:24.

5 Cf. <https://cal.huc.edu>. Last access: 17.07.2024, 16:24.

6 See <http://dukhrana.com/peshitta>. Last access: 17.07.2024, 16:25.

with Beck's abbreviations (*Azym.*, *Crucif.*, *Resurr.*, *Nat.*, *Epiph.*), and the abbreviation for Gregory's *Poems* (*carm.*) has been omitted. Instead, I have maintained the Roman numerals of the Patrologia Graeca subdivision of the poems. The Greek text of Gregory's II, 1, 12 has been corrected in lection and punctuation on Meier 1989, but the capital at the beginning of the line has been retained from the Patrologia Graeca.