WENCESLAS LEGENDS

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This contribution contrasts the two oldest texts from the 10th century, which have long been the object of research discussion: the Latin Vita Crescente fide and the Old Slavic text which begins with the words "Ecce nunc ...", in order to probe the impulses from which they originated. It confirms older conjectures that the Slavic variant, although proving better informed, cannot have preceded the Latin one but evidently followed it. Furthermore, differing ideological ties are revealed. In contrast to the social thought of the Slavic text, which has just recently been brought into connection with a Croatian synod, the Latin one - which, according to a new study, originated in the Bavarian missionary center of St. Emmeran was an interesting mediator of the Cluniac view of the world and dominion.