

This master's thesis is dedicated to the theological disputation upon the using of the title Theotokos for Virgin Mary that had been finally resolved at the Third Ecumenical Council in Ephesus in 431 AD. The first part deals with the crucial moments of deepening theological knowledge in the Church history in order to show a development of the disputation mainly in the 3rd and 4th century. Although Christology wasn't the main theme of the teachings of the Church in that early period some of the theologians especially Irenaeus, Origen, Paul of Samosata and Apollinaris of Laodicea also raised some issues in the field of Christology. The end of the first part offers an inside into the theological mindset of both sides of the disputation – Diodorus of Tarsus and Theodor of Mopsuestia on the one side and the Orthodox fathers Athanasius, the Cappadocian Fathers, Didymus the Blind and John Chrysostome on the other side. The second part presents the written sources of the disputation and offers an insight to its beginning and development. The third and main part focuses on the correspondence between Cyril of Alexandria and Nestorius mainly on their Second Epistles containing the major topics of the disputation. It discusses a content of these two epistles and also analyses and compares theological arguments of both sides of the disputation and their christological concepts.