

Abstract:

The work deals with the life and work of the evangelical pastor Benjamin Košut (1822-1898). Košut served at the congregation in Borová, Velenice, but mainly at St. Clement's in Prague. During his service in Prague, he contributed to the periodical *Českobratrský hlas*, of which he was also responsible editor. At this time, among other things, he took part in a dispute with his opponents, who were inclined towards the neo-Calvinist approach to the reformed faith. Košut was suspended for his views and had to defend himself in disciplinary proceedings. During the proceedings, he was found guilty, but after signing a written undertaking, he was allowed to return to his pastoral activity. Košut is in many ways an interesting personality. He had a thoroughly rationalistic approach to faith, he was not afraid to break certain dogmas. He saw God as a loving fatherly figure who considers people his children, rejecting the completely negative anthropology of orthodox Calvinism. For Košut, Jan Hus was a great inspiration and probably the greatest personality of the Czech reformation, to whom he dedicated many sermons full of admiration. Košut's Christianity was also very patriotic. The work is based to a lesser extent on secondary literature, but also mainly on the analysis of primary sources. It contains an exhaustive analysis of Košut's sermons and a view on Košut from the point of view of his journalistic contributions and other works such as his catechism or prayer book. The aim of the thesis was to describe Košut from the point of view of theology and determine his significance in the context of history. Theologically, Košut was a rationalist and a nationally oriented reformed Christian, an opponent of the orthodox Calvinistic view of man. He was definitely an important figure of the Czech evangelical church of the Helvetic confession at the end of the 19th century, on his example we can see the disputes and changes, that had a considerable impact on the evangelical church in Czechia back then.

Keywords: Benjamin Košut (1822-1898), evangelical church, reformed church, pastor, sermon, „Českobratrský hlas“, St. Clement congregation, catechism, neocalvinism, Bedřich Vilém Košut, journalism, theological disputes, dogmas