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# REMEMBERING THE VIRTUOUS LIVES OF THE DEAD IN BASIL'S CONSOLATION LETTERS

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23.5.22, 13.15-15.00 in 1453-415.

C-SAC Seminar with Dr. Monnica Klöckener M.A. from Seminar für Alte Kirchengeschichte, Patrologie und Christliche Archäologie, Münster

## Abstract

Consolation letters describe the “good life” in two ways. On the one hand, the authors present the biographies of the dead in an ideal way. This includes their virtuous attitudes, deeds or also their educational itinerary. On the other hand, the letters express how the bereaved audience is expected to form their lives after the death of their relatives. This paper shows how Basil's consolation letters present the good lives of the dead. It demonstrates that the accounts depend on the position that the dead subjects had held during their lifetimes (e.g. father, student, bishop) and that the “good life” depends on the formation of the souls.

