



Excerpt from *Christ Our Pascha*

b. The Fall

God created everything *good* (Gn 1:31). According to the testimony of Holy Scriptures, evil appears later – through the rejection of good. Evil does not appear as a new reality: “Evil does not exist by nature, nor is anyone naturally evil, for God made nothing that was not good.” Evil is the limitation and corruption of that which already exists: “Evil has its existence in non-being.” Sin strips us of life – of God. Evil emerges as a result of personal sin, so we read: “From where did this [evil] come? Is it not the obvious consequence of your libertinism and your choice? It is certainly thus and no one can claim the opposite. Ask yourself, “As a consequence of the Fall, evil enters into the world; it is permitted by God for the sake of repentance and the conversion of humankind: “From this proceeds illnesses in cities and countries, droughts, bad harvest, the destruction of cities, earthquakes, floods, the vanquishing armies...” says St. Basil. (#141)