



Excerpt from ***Christ Our Pascha***

2) *The Fall of Humankind*

Holy Scripture recounts the story of the Fall of humankind in Paradise, utilizing the image of the serpent: “Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the Lord God had made” (*Gn 3:1*). The Holy Fathers perceived in the image of the serpent the enemy of God and humankind – Satan. The serpent proposed a *false divinization* to humankind, suggesting the thought of becoming like God, but without God, by means of one’s own effort. The devil in Paradise “lured Adam with a vain hope for divinization,” proposing that he consider the measure of goodness resides not in God but within himself. (#145)