



Excerpt from ***Christ Our Pascha***

2) ***The Fall of Humankind***

The craftiness of the serpent consists in twisting the words of God's commandment: "Did God say, 'You shall not eat from any tree in the garden?'" (*Gn* 3:1, see *Gn* 2:16-17). The insidious question of the serpent draws Eve into a dialogue with him, which gives birth to doubt within her about the truthfulness of God. The evil one takes this doubt within her in order to deceive: "You will not die...you will be like God knowing good and evil" (*Gn* 3: 4-5). The deceit of the Evil One is based on the premise that God is deceiving humankind with his commandment, thereby undercutting their freedom, and that by eating from the tree of good and evil, they will become like God. (#146)