



Excerpt from *Christ Our Pascha*

c. *The Promise of the Messiah's Coming*

The fall of Adam did not turn away the love of God for humanity. God shows mercy to the fallen human race: “And the Lord God made garments of skins for the man and his wife, and clothed them” (*Gn* 3:21). By offering the promise of salvation, God assures us that with respect to our growth in God-likeness, divine adoption, and divinization, God’s plan remains immutable. The power of God’s promise is stronger than the weakness of human sin: “[We] have gained still greater things through Christ’s unspeakable grace than we have lost through the devil’s malice.” In the Old Testament preaching of the prophets, God’s promise is gradually associated with the figure of God’s Anointed One, the Messiah, who “in the fullness of time” (*Gal* 4:4) appears as the incarnate Word of God. (#159)