



Excerpt from *Christ Our Pascha*

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

The road from the Protoevangelium to the Gospel has been traveled by humankind – through people chosen by God who believed and accepted God's promise. The words of the Protoevangelium were being realized in the course of salvation history. The prophet Isaiah unveils the image of *the woman and her offspring*: "Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Emmanuel" (*Is* 7:14). The virgin's conceiving and giving birth to Emmanuel is the prophetic sign pointing to the fulfillment of the promise. The name Emmanuel (from the Hebrew *God is with us*) reveals the mystery of the newborn Child, in whom the Divine and the human are perfectly united. (#162)