Tuesday of the Twenty-second Week in Ordinary Time

Gospel text (*Lk* 4:31-37): Jesus went down to Capernaum... In the synagogue there was a man with the spirit of an unclean demon, and he cried out in a loud voice, “What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are—the Holy One of God!” Jesus rebuked him and said, “Be quiet! Come out of him!” Then the demon threw the man down in front of them and came out of him without doing him any harm...

Evil: why does it exist if God is the Infinite Good?

EDITORIAL TEAM evangeli.net (based on texts by Benedict XVI)
(Città del Vaticano, Vatican)

Today, we are taken aback by the very idea of the existence of evil and that those intelligent beings are able to behave so perversely. The times we live in are witnesses to this. So, if God is infinitely good, is it possible for Him to have created Evil? If He did not create it where has it come from?

Christianity responds to this allegation saying that evil is the consequence of an abuse of freedom. Evil is not a creature or being in itself but by nature is “an absence of good”, a corrosion of the being. It is not a being but a denial. Evil is in some ways similar to a parasitic plant: it lives off others and in the end kills the person the same way as a parasitic plant when it takes over the host and kills it.

—Jesus from the most Holy Cross transforms evil into good. He has disarmed the Devil and in so doing has conquered all eternity.