

## **Satan: Judaism's Most Vile Villain, or Helpful Hero?** **Tali Adler, Rabbi Meir Tannebaum, and Marni Rein**

### **1. Bereshit/Genesis 2:15-17**

15 The LORD God took the man and placed him in the garden of Eden, to till it and tend it. 16 And the LORD God commanded the man, saying "Of every tree of the garden you are free to eat, 17 but as for the tree of knowledge of good and evil, you must not eat of it; for as soon as you eat of it, you shall die"

### **2. Bereshit/Genesis 2:25-3:8**

25 The two of them were naked, the man and his wife, yet they felt no shame. Now the serpent was the shrewdest of all the wild beasts that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God really say: You shall not eat of any tree of the garden?" The woman replied And the woman said unto the serpent: 'Of the fruit of the trees of the garden we may eat; 3 but of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God said: You shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest you die.' 4 And the serpent said unto the woman: 'You shall not surely die; 5 for God knows that in the day you eat of it, then your eyes shall be opened, and you shall be as God, knowing good and evil.' 6 And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit, and did eat; and she gave some her husband with her, and he did eat. 7 And the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig-leaves together, and made themselves loincloths. 8 And they heard the voice of the LORD God walking in the garden toward the breezy time of the day; and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden.

### **3. Job 1:1, 6-12**

1 There was a man in the land of Uz, whose name was Job; and that man was whole-hearted and upright, and one that feared God, and shunned evil. Now it fell upon a day, that the divine beings came to present themselves before the LORD, and Satan came also among them. 7 And the LORD said to Satan: 'Where are you coming from?' Then Satan answered the LORD, and said: 'From going to and fro in the earth, and from walking up and down in it.' 8 And the LORD said unto Satan: 'Have you noticed My servant Job, that there is none like him in the earth, a whole-hearted and an upright man, one that fears God, and shuns evil?' 9 Then Satan answered the LORD, and said: 'Does Job not have a good reason to fear God? 10 Why, it is you who have fenced him round, him and his household and all that he has! You have blessed the work of his hands, and his possessions are increased in the land. 11 But lay your hand upon all that he has hand now, and surely he will curse you to your face.' 12 And the LORD said to Satan: 'See, all that he has is in your power; only do not lay a hand upon him.' So Satan went forth from the presence of the LORD.