

²⁴Wasting famine, ravaging plague,
Deadly pestilence, and fanged beasts
Will I let loose against them,
With venomous creepers in dust.

²⁴מזי רעב ולחמי רשף

וקטב מרירי

ושן בהמות אשלחבם

עם חמת זחלי עפר:

NEVI'IM ISAIAH 34.16

נביאים ישעיה לד

^{14g}Wildcats shall meet hyenas,
Goat-demons shall greet each other;
There too the lilith^h shall repose
And find herself a resting place.

¹⁴ופגשו ציים את-איים

ושעיר על-רעהו יקרא

אך-שם הרגיעה לילית

ומצאה לה מנוח:

lilith: a kind of demon

KETHUVIM JOB 1.11

כתובים איוב א

⁶One day the divine beings presented themselves before the LORD, and ^athe Adversary^a came along with them. ⁷The LORD said to the Adversary, "Where have you been?" The Adversary answered the LORD, "I have been roaming all over the earth." ⁸The LORD said to the Adversary, "Have you noticed My servant Job? There is no one like him on earth, a blameless and upright man who fears God and shuns evil!" ⁹The Adversary answered the LORD, "Does Job not have good reason to fear God? ¹⁰Why, it is You who have fenced him round, him and his household and all that he has. You have blessed his efforts so that his possessions spread out in the land. ¹¹But lay Your hand upon all that he

ויהי היום ויבאו בני האלהים להתיצב על-יהוה ויבוא גם-השטן בתוכם: ויאמר יהוה אל-השטן מאין תבא ויען השטן את-יהוה ויאמר משוט בארץ ומהתהלך בה: ⁸ ויאמר יהוה אל-השטן ושמתי לבך על-עבדי איוב כי אין כמותו ארץ איש תם וישר ירא אלהים וסר מרע: ⁹ ויען השטן את-יהוה ויאמר הלא-אתה שכת בעדו ובעד-ביתו ובעד כל-אשר-לו מסביב מעשה ידיו ברכתך ונתתו פרוץ בארץ: ¹¹ ואולם שלחנא יד וגע בכל-אשר-לו אם-לא על-פניך

has and he will surely blaspheme You to Your face." ¹²The LORD replied to the Adversary, "See, all that he has is in your power; only do not lay a hand on him." The Adversary departed from the presence of the LORD.

בברכה: ¹² ויאמר יהוה אל-השטן הנה כל-אשר-לו בידך רק אליו אל-תשלח ידך ויצא השטן מעם פני יהוה:

Ethics of the Fathers

8. Ten things were created on the eve of Sabbath at twilight, namely: the mouth of the earth [which engulfed Korah]; the mouth of the well [which supplied the Israelites with water in the wilderness]; the mouth of the ass [which spoke to Balaam]; the rainbow [given as a sign after the flood]; the manna [dropped from heaven]; the rod [of Moses]; the *shamir* [employed for splitting stones at the building of the Temple]; the shape of the written characters; the engraving instrument; and the tablets of stone. Some include also the demons, the grave of Moses, and the ram of our father Abraham; others include also the original tongs, for tongs can [in human experience] be made only by means of tongs.

פרקי אבות

(ח) עשרה דברים נבראו בערב שבת בין השמשות, ואילו הן: פי הארץ, פי הבאר, פי האתון, הקשת, והמן, והמטה, והשמיר, הכתב, והמכתב, והלחות. ויש אומרים: אף המזיקין, וקבורתו של משה, ואילו של אברהם אבינו. ויש אומרים: אף צבת בצבת עשויה.

at the end of the six days of creation, prior to the first Sabbath. *shamir* in Jeremiah 17:1 means a hard flint used for engraving. In rabbinic literature it denotes a tiny worm able to split the hardest stone. King Solomon is said to have employed the *Shamir* in view of the command that no iron tool be used at the building of an altar to God (Exodus 20:22), "for iron was created to shorten man's life, whereas the altar was created to prolong man's life" (Middoth 3:4).

...the writing' on the tablets, the instrument with which it was written, and the tablets themselves.

