Miryam T. Brand

Evil Within and Without

The Source of Sin and Its Nature as Portrayed in Second Temple Literature

Journal of Ancient Judaism. Supplements

Band 9



Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht

VaR

Journal of Ancient Judaism Supplements

Edited by Armin Lange, Bernard M. Levinson and Vered Noam

Advisory Board

Katell Berthelot (University of Aix-Marseille), George Brooke (University of Manchester), Jonathan Ben Dov (University of Haifa), Beate Ego (University of Osnabrück), Ester Eshel (Bar-Ilan University), Heinz-Josef Fabry (University of Bonn), Steven Fraade (Yale University), Maxine L. Grossman (University of Maryland), Christine Hayes (Yale University), Catherine Hezser (University of London), Alex Jassen (University of Minnesota), James L. Kugel (Bar-Ilan University), Jodi Magness (University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill), Carol Meyers, (Duke University), Eric Meyers (Duke University), Hillel Newman (University of Haifa), Christophe Nihan (University of Lausanne), Lawrence H. Schiffman (New York University), Konrad Schmid (University of Zurich), Adiel Schremer (Bar-Ilan University), Michael Segal (Hebrew University of Jerusalem), Aharon Shemesh (Bar-Ilan University), Günter Stemberger (University of Vienna), Kristin De Troyer (University of St Andrews), Azzan Yadin (Rutgers University)

Volume 9

Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht

Miryam T. Brand

Evil Within and Without

The Source of Sin and Its Nature as Portrayed in Second Temple Literature

Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht

For my mother and father
No verse can express what I owe you,
and no quote conveys what you mean to me.

שלר - שלכם הוא
is the simple truth.

Bibliographic information published by the Deutsche Nationalbibliothek

The Deutsche Nationalbibliothek lists this publication in the Deutsche Nationalbibliografie; detailed bibliographic data available online: http://dnb.d-nb.de.

ISBN 978-3-525-35407-0 ISBN 978-3-647-35407-1 (E-Book)

Cover image: M. C. Escher's "Circle Limit IV" © 2013 The M. C. Escher Company-The Netherlands. All rights reserved. www.mcescher.com

© 2013, Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht GmbH & Co. KG, Göttingen Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht LLC, Bristol, CT, U.S.A. Internet: www.v-r.de

All rights reserved. No part of this work may be reproduced or utilized in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying, recording, or any information storage and retrieval system, without prior written permission from the publisher.

Typeset, printed and bound in Germany by #Hubert & Co, Göttingen

Printed on non-aging paper.

Acknowledgments

I would like to thank a number of people who played important roles in the completion of this work. I am tremendously grateful to my advisor, Professor Lawrence Schiffman, who introduced me to the world of Second Temple literature, giving generously of his valuable time and knowledge. More than this, his personal encouragement and support enabled me to complete this project, as did his thoughtful direction in all phases of my research. His impact on this work is inestimable. Professor Mark Smith provided detailed guidance and advice that ranged from how to address topics of wide theoretical importance to the nitty-gritty of writing academic English. He taught me the meaning of constructive criticism. Professor Frank Peters assisted me with the theoretical framework of this study and continued to support me throughout the years of writing that followed. Professor Daniel Fleming and Professor Robert Chazan shared their experience as scholars and teachers with me, providing directions for the future course of my research. They have each provided a personal example of scholarship and *menschlichkeit* that I hope to emulate.

I have benefited from many guides and helpful traveling companions on the long path from dissertation to book. From the day my work was accepted until I wrote my concluding paragraph, Professor Maxine Grossman has given generously of her time and knowledge, providing me with invaluable feedback and advice that enabled me to transform my dissertation into a work that is more accessible to the interested reader. Dr. Shani Berrin Tzoref, despite her own busy schedule, took the time to comment on chapters, answer my questions, and encourage me when I needed it. I am grateful for her friendship. Of course, special thanks go to Professor Armin Lange for accepting my book for publication.

I could not have reached this point without my fellow writers. Dr. Katja Vehlow has spent countless hours with me in the cafés of Jerusalem, writing side-by-side and sharing advice and feedback. Dr. Tali Berner has been a faithful writing and library companion. It was a pleasure to be accountable to her.

This book was completed with the financial support of the National Endowment of the Humanities and the W.F. Albright Institute of Archaeological Research. The Albright Institute also provided the perfect environment for academic study and inquiry. I am grateful to Prof. Seymour (Sy) Gitin for a wonderful and productive year. Thanks also go to Helena Flusfeder for her friendship and encouragement, to Sarah Sussman for her advice from a librarian's point-of-view, and to the entire Albright team for their warmth and support.

6

I have benefited from the generous financial support of several other institutions in completing this project. Doctoral research grants were provided by Targum Shlishi, the Memorial Foundation for Jewish Culture, and the Orion Center for the Study of the Dead Sea Scrolls and Associated Literature at the Hebrew University. I also received a Henry H. McCracken graduate fellowship from New York University, which made my doctoral studies possible. I thank each of these fine institutions for generously supporting my research.

There are many who devoted time to discussing my work with me, sharing their own expertise and suggesting possible avenues for research. These include Professor Loren Stuckenbruck, Professor James Kugel, Professor Menahem Kister, Dr. Shai Secunda, Professor Michael Segal, and Dr. Esther Chazon. Their generosity and collegiality continue to hearten me.

The majority of the dissertation on which this book is based was completed with the help of the substantial resources of the National Library of Israel at Givat Ram, Jerusalem. I am grateful to the wonderful librarians of the National Library, who consistently provided assistance and a warm feeling of belonging to all library regulars, myself included.

This project would never have been completed without the enthusiastic support and encouragement of my family. My sister, Menucha Wilk, and my brothers, Reuven and Shlomo Brand, provided constant support and relevant input. There are no words to express my gratitude to my parents, Don and Peninah Brand, with whom I have been truly blessed. Their feedback, love, and constant belief in me have sustained me throughout this process.

My mother deserves special acknowledgment. With her unstinting work, support, and always intelligent comments and corrections, she made this book possible and loved me despite it all. As she reads these acknowledgments, I hope that she can understand the depth of my gratitude.

© 2013, Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht GmbH & Co. KG, Göttingen ISBN Print: 9783525354070 — ISBN E-Book: 9783647354071

Table of Contents

Abbreviations	13
Symbols Employed in Text Transcriptions	17
Dead Sea Scrolls	17
Ben Sira (Hebrew)	17
Chapter One. Introduction	19
Sin, Religious Thought, and the State of Research	19
The Source of Sin	25
Identity	26
Determinism and Free Will	26
Definition of Sin	26
Rationale and Method of the Present Study	27
Texts Included in This Study	28
Terminology	28
Angels and Demons	30
The Plan of the Present Study	
Theoretical Concerns The Qumran Community Reading Gender in Second Temple Works	31
Textual Editions and Translations Used	33
Part I: The Human Inclination to Sin	35
Chapter Two. Nonsectarian Second Temple Prayer and the Inclination to Sin	37
11QPs ^a col. XXIV (Syriac Psalm 155): Divine Assistance against the Desire to Sin	38
4QBarkhi Nafshi: Direct Intervention in the Human Condition	42

8 Table of Contents

The Words of the Luminaries: Divine Assistance	49
4QCommunal Confession: God's Responsibility for Sin	52
Psalms of Solomon: Prayer and the Need for Divine Assistance	54
The Road Not Travelled: Prayers without an Inclination to Sin	55
Conclusion: Innate Inclination to Sin and Inevitability in Nonsectarian Prayer	57
Chapter Three. Inclination, Physicality, and Election in Sectarian Prayer .	59
The <i>Hodayot</i> : The Physical Dimension of Sin	59
The "Hymn of Praise": Ongoing Sin and Chosenness	68
Sectarian Prayer: <i>Hodayot</i> and the <i>Community Rule</i> Hymn	71
Conclusion: Second Temple Prayer and the Innate Inclination to Sin	72
Chapter Four. Free Will and the Inclination to Sin in Covenantal Texts	74
The Damascus Document (CD) II.14-III.12a: Freedom of Choice and the Inclination to Sin CD II.14-III.12a: A History of Sinners Terminology of Sin and Choice in CD III.2–12a Freedom in the Context of Predestination	74 75 78 82
The Community Rule: A "Free Choice" Redaction	
The Inclination to Sin in Covenantal Texts	91
Chapter Five. The Inclination to Sin in the Book of Ben Sira and the Writings of Philo of Alexandria	
The Book of Ben Sira: Textual History	
Ben Sira 15: 11–20	95
Argument	100
Sir 33:7–15: Election and the Evildoer	106
Other References to the Source of Sin in the Book of Ben Sira Sir 25:24: Original Sin or a Wicked Wife? Sir 17:31: Pondering Evil Sir 21:11: Controlling One's Inclination Sir 23:2–6: Prayer and Sin	113 113 115
Ben Sira's Approach to Sin	118
Philo of Alexandria and the Inclination to Sin	119

10

Table of Contents

	Summary and Conclusion: <i>Jubilees</i> and the Demonic Source of Sin 19	15
C.	hapter Nine. Apotropaic Prayer and Views of Demonic Influence 19	8
	The Watchers in the Dead Sea Scrolls and Sectarian Apotropaic Prayer . 19	8
	The Watchers and Other Demons of Influence in Sectarian Apotropaic	
	Prayer	9
	Songs of the Sage (4Q510–511)20	1
	4QIncantation (4Q444)20	4
	11Qapocryphal Psalms (11Q11)	6
	The Plea for Deliverance and Levi's Prayer in the Aramaic Levi	
	Document	
	The Plea for Deliverance	
	Levi's Prayer in the <i>Aramaic Levi Document</i>	
	•	
	Comparison of Sectarian and Nonsectarian Apotropaic Prayers21	J
C.	hapter Ten. Belial in the <i>Damascus Document</i> and the <i>War Scroll</i>	8
	Belial in the <i>Damascus Document</i>	C
	"Angels of Hostility" and Belial in the <i>Apocryphon of Jeremiah</i> 22	9
	Summary: Belial in the <i>Damascus Document</i> and the <i>Apocryphon of</i>	
	Jeremiah	1
	Belial in the War Scroll23	2
	Conclusion: Belial in the <i>Damascus Document</i> and the <i>War Scroll</i> 23	7
C.	hapter Eleven. Belial in Liturgical Curse Texts and the Community Rule . 23	
	4QBerakhot: Periodization of Demonic Evil and Evildoers	9
	Belial in the <i>Community Rule</i> : Demonic Presence and Absence in a	
	Covenantal Text	
	4QCurses (4Q280): An Integrative Approach	
	4QFlorilegium: A <i>pesher</i> View of Belial	
	Conclusion: Belial in the Dead Sea Scrolls	3
C.	hapter Twelve. Sin and Its Source in the <i>Treatise of the Two Spirits</i> 25	7
	1QS III.13–18a: Introduction to the <i>Treatise</i>	
	1QS III.18b–25a: A Central (Secondary?) Crux	
	The Visions of Amram	
	1QS III.25b–IV.14: The Spirits of Light and Darkness	
	- a go arrigoo i i i i i i i i i o opirito or argiit uitu i/urtuituu - i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i a du	

Table of Contents	11
1QS IV.15–23: Predestination and the Eschaton	266
1QS IV.23–26: The Two Spirits and Predestination	268
The Redacted <i>Treatise</i>	
Sources of the <i>Treatise</i>	271
Connection to Wisdom Thought	273
Conclusion: "Purpose" of the <i>Treatise</i>	
Chapter Thirteen. Summary and Conclusions	275
Genre, Free Will, and the Source of Sin	275
Prayer	
Covenantal Texts	
Wisdom and Philosophical Literature	
Identity	
•	
The Law versus Sin	
Gentiles and Sin	
The <i>Treatise of the Two Spirits</i> and Views of Sin at Qumran	
Adam and "Original Sin"	281
Implications for Post-Second Temple Thought	282
Bibliography	284
Modern Authors Index	307
Source Index	311
Subject Index	320

Abbreviations

AARSR American Academy of Religion Studies in Religion

AB Anchor Bible

ABD Anchor Bible Dictionary. Edited by D.N. Freedman. 6 vols. New York, 1992.

AGJU Arbeiten zur Geschichte des antiken Judentums und des Urchristentums

AGPh Archiv für Geschichte der Philosophie
AJEC Ancient Judaism and Early Christianity

ALGHI Arbeiten zur Literatur und Geschichte des hellenistischen Judentums

AnBib Analecta biblica

ANRW Aufstieg und Niedergang der römischen Welt: Geschichte und Kultur Roms im Spiegel

der neueren Forschung. Edited by H. Temporini and W. Haase. Berlin, 1972-

AOAT Alter Orient und Altes Testament

ASTI Annual of the Swedish Theological Institute

ATANT Abhandlungen zur Theologie des Alten und Neuen Testaments

ATDan Acta theologica danica

Aug Augustinianum

BEATAJ Beiträge zur Erforschung des Alten Testaments und des antiken Judentum

BETL Bibliotheca ephemeridum theologicarum lovaniensium

Bib Biblica

BibOr Biblica et orientalia

Bijdr Bijdragen: Tijdschrift voor filosofie en theologie

BIS Brown Judaic Studies

BLE Bulletin de littérature ecclésiastique

BRS The Biblical Resource Series

BZAW Beihefte zur Zeitschrift für die alttestamentliche Wissenschaft

CBC Cambridge Bible Commentary

CBET Contributions to Biblical Exegesis and Theology

CBQ Catholic Biblical Quarterly

CBQMS Catholic Biblical Quarterly Monograph Series CJAS Christianity and Judaism in Antiquity Series

CQS Companion to the Qumran Scrolls
CREJ Collection de la Revue des études juives

CRINT Compendia rerum iudaicarum ad Novum Testamentum

CSCO Corpus scriptorum christianorum orientalium
CSRT Cambridge Studies in Religious Traditions
DCLS Deuterocanonical and Cognate Literature Studies

DJD Discoveries in the Judaean Desert

DSD Dead Sea Discoveries EBib Etudes bibliques

EDSS Encyclopedia of the Dead Sea Scrolls. Edited by L.H. Schiffman and J.C.

VanderKam. 2 vols. New York: Oxford University Press, 2000.

EgT Eglise et théologie

EHAT Exegetisches Handbuch zum Alten Testament

FAT Forschungen zum Alten Testament

14 Abbreviations

FRLANT Forschungen zur Religion und Literatur des Alten und Neuen Testaments

GAP Guides to Apocrypha and Pseudepigrapha GCS Die griechischen christlichen Schriftsteller

Hen Henoch

HR History of Religions

HSAT Die Heilige Schrift des Alten Testaments.

HSM Harvard Semitic Monographs
HTR Harvard Theological Review
HUCA Hebrew Union College Annual
ICC International Critical Commentary

IEJ Israel Exploration Journal IOS Israel Oriental Society

JAJSup Journal of Ancient Judaism Supplements

JBL Journal of Biblical Literature

JCTCRS Jewish and Christian Texts in Contexts and Related Studies

JJS Journal of Jewish Studies

JJTP The Journal of Jewish Thought and Philosophy
JLCRS Jordan Lectures in Comparative Religion Series

JSHRZ-St Studien zu den Jüdischen Schriften aus hellenistisch-römischer Zeit

JQR Jewish Quarterly Review

JSJ Journal for the Study of Judaism in the Persian, Hellenistic, and Roman Periods

JSJSup Supplements to the Journal for the Study of Judaism

JSNTSup Journal for the Study of the New Testament: Supplement Series

JSOT Journal for the Study of the Old Testament

JSOTSup Journal for the Study of the Old Testament: Supplement Series

JSP Journal for the Study of the Pseudepigrapha

JSPSup Journal for the Study of the Pseudepigrapha: Supplement Series

JSS Journal of Semitic Studies JTS Journal of Theological Studies

KUSATU Kleine Untersuchungen zur Sprache des Alten Testaments und seiner Umwelt

LCL Loeb Classical Library

LNTS Library of New Testament Studies

LSJ Liddell, H. G., R. Scott, H.S. Jones, A Greek-English Lexicon. 9th ed. with revised

supplement. Oxford, 1996.

LSTS Library of Second Temple Studies MLBS Mercer Library of Biblical Studies MScRel Mélanges de science religieuse

NJPS Tanakh: The Holy Scriptures: The New JPS Translation according to the Traditional

Hebrew Text. Philadelphia: Jewish Publication Society, 1985.

NovT Novum Testamentum

NRSV New Revised Standard Version NTL New Testament Library NTS New Testament Studies

Numen Numen: International Review for the History of Religions

OBO Orbis biblicus et orientalis
OLA Orientalia lovaniensia analecta
OTL Old Testament Library
OtSt Oudtestamentische Studiën

PAAJR Proceedings of the American Academy of Jewish Research

Abbreviations 15

PACS Philo of Alexandria Commentary Series

PTSDSSP Princeton Theological Seminary Dead Sea Scrolls Project

PVTG Pseudepigrapha Veteris Testamenti Graece

QC Qumran Chronicle
RB Revue biblique
RelSoc Religion and Society
RevQ Revue de Qumran

RRJ Review of Rabbinic Judaism RStB Ricerche storico bibliche

SAACT State Archives of Assyria Cuneiform Texts
SBLDS Society of Biblical Literature Dissertation Series

SBLEJL Society of Biblical Literature Early Judaism and Its Literature

SBLMS Society of Biblical Literature Monograph Series

SBLSCS Society of Biblical Literature Septuagint and Cognate Studies

SBLSP Society of Biblical Literature Seminar Papers
SBLSymS Society of Biblical Literature Symposium Series
SBLTT Society of Biblical Literature Texts and Translations

SBT Studies in Biblical Theology SC Sources chrétiennes

ScrHier Scripta hierosolymitana

SDSSRL Studies in the Dead Sea Scrolls and Related Literature

SGRR Studies in Greek and Roman Religion
SJLA Studies in Judaism in Late Antiquity
SJOT Scandinavian Journal of the Old Testament

SJT Scottish Journal of Theology

SPhilo Studia philonica SR Studies in Religion

SSN Studia semitica neerlandica

STAC Studien und Texte zu Antike und Christentum STDJ Studies on the Texts of the Desert of Judah

StPB Studia post-biblica
SubBi Subsidia biblica

SUNT Studien zur Umwelt des Neuen Testaments SVTP Studia in Veteris Testamenti pseudepigraphica

TBN Themes in Biblical Narrative

TSAI Texte und Studien zum antiken Judentum

TUGAL Texte und Untersuchungen zur Geschichte der altchristlichen Literatur

TZ Theologische Zeitschrift

VCSup Vigiliae christianae Supplements

VD Verbum domini VT Vetus Testamentum

VTSup Supplements to Vetus Testamentum

WBC Word Biblical Commentary

WMANT Wissenschaftliche Monographien zum Alten und Neuen Testament

WUNT Wissenschaftliche Untersuchungen zum Neuen Testament

YJS Yale Judaica Series
ZA Zeitschrift für Assyriologie

ZAW Zeitschrift für die alttestamentliche Wissenschaft

ZTK Zeitschrift für Theologie und Kirche

Symbols Employed in Text Transcriptions

Dead Sea Scrolls

k certain letter k probable letter

in most texts: possible letter; in 1QHa: damaged letter

• (mid-line circlet) remnant of an undetermined letter

reconstructed text

[...] lacuna; does not indicate length

... text not cited

<> a modern editorial correction <<>> a modern editorial deletion {\mathbf{x}}, {a} erased letter(s) or surface

מעל, truth crossing out a letter or word with a line deletion dot(s) above, below, or around letters (אי) alternative or uncertain reconstruction (saying) in the translation: words added for clarity

שועקתם, six months supralinear insertion

Tetragrammaton in paleo-Hebrew

vacat interval (usually: writing space intentionally left blank)

word 1/ word 2 (in translation) alternative translations

Ben Sira (Hebrew)

* probable reading

15_{add} verses/stichs that do not appear in the Septuagint version

insertion in the original manuscript

* marginal notations and additions in the original manuscript

reconstructions by the editor

reconstructions by Segal based on LXX

Chapter One Introduction

In the Second Temple period, the nexus between sin and human existence became a subject of considerable thought and debate. Earlier biblical texts contained statements regarding sin (such as the sin that crouches at the door in Gen 4:7), but did not address sin as a problem that must be solved. This study investigates the manner in which the "problem" of sin was addressed, in particular through three interacting issues that are evident in the texts themselves: the source of sin, determinism and free will, and identity.

The object of this study is to investigate all Second Temple works that reflect ideas regarding the source of sin and to outline the views of sin that these texts reflect. The study distinguishes between texts that are specific to the Qumran community and more generally attributed Second Temple works and notes the significant differences between them. At the same time, this study aims to explore these texts on their own terms and to maintain their rich diversity, making no assumptions regarding what aspects of sin "must" accompany each other or "should" be expressed in various works due to an assumed Qumran theology.

Sin, Religious Thought, and the State of Research

Sin at its most basic is a transgression of the divine will. As such, it defines the relationship between human and God. On the one hand, the concept of sin implies that God expects specific behavior of human beings. On the other, the fact that humans are able to sin marks a limit to divine influence and indicates the disparity between human will and divine will.

As such, sin, its nature and origins, has become a major locus of religious thought, particularly in the two Western religions that developed during the Second Temple period: Judaism and Christianity. The way that sin is presented in Second Temple texts has for the most part been filtered through the later understandings of sin prominent in these two religions, and in particular, through the debates regarding sin and its nature that have formed an important part of religious thought.

The approaches of these two religions to sin and its origin took specific forms. In Judaism, sin originates with "the evil inclination" (ysr hr, sometimes simply called "the inclination," hysr), a personified version of the human

20 Introduction

desire to sin. The concept of the evil inclination is evident in Tannaitic sources and is developed further in the Talmud.¹ This nearly demonic entity, as it appears in the Talmud, is part of the human condition and explains the human desire to sin.²

Consequently, many studies have searched for the source of this concept in Second Temple texts. An early work by F. Porter explored the rabbinic view of the evil inclination and searched for possible sources of this idea in Sirach, 4 Ezra, 2 Baruch, and 2 Enoch.³ Numerous studies have focused on terminological surveys of the use of the term yṣr in Second Temple texts. For example, R. Murphy explored the appearance of the term yēṣer in the Hebrew Bible, Sirach, the Testaments of the Twelve Patriarchs, and the Hodayot.⁴ A later terminological study by Lichtenberger focused specifically on the use of the term yēṣer in Jubilees and in Qumran texts.⁵ A more extensive terminological study by G. Cohen Stuart, like the earlier study by Porter, attempted to find the source of the rabbinic yēṣer hāra' in Second Temple texts.⁶

The search for the origins of the rabbinic "evil inclination" was further colored by the widespread assumption that the "evil inclination" functioned solely within a dualistic framework and was always opposed by a "good incli-

¹ On the nature of the "evil inclination" in Tannaitic literature, see I. Rosen-Zvi, "Two Rabbinic Inclinations? Rethinking a Scholarly Dogma," *JSJ* 39 (2008): 513–39 and I. Rosen-Zvi, *Demonic Desires*: "Yetzer Hara" and the Problem of Evil in Late Antiquity (Divinations: Rereading Late Ancient Religion; Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania, 2011), 14–35. On its development in the Talmud, see Rosen-Zvi, *Demonic Desires*, 65–86.

² See Rosen-Zvi, Demonic Desires, 84.

³ F.C. Porter, "The Yeçer HaRa: A Study in the Jewish Doctrine of Sin," in *Biblical and Semitic Studies: Critical and Historical Essays by the Members of the Semitic and Biblical Faculty of Yale University* (Yale Bicentennial Publications; New York: Scribner's, 1901), 93–156.

⁴ R.E. Murphy, "Yēṣer in the Qumran Literature," Bib 39 (1958): 334–44. His findings distinguished between the "non-individualized" tendency to evil found in the Hebrew Bible, the "individualization" of the yēṣer in Sir 15:14, and the more dualistic associations found in the Testaments and at Qumran. Murphy's study of yēṣer in the Hodayot did not distinguish fully between yēṣer as creature and yēṣer as inclination, for example, citing yēṣer ḥēmār (כמר חמר) as an example of both human weakness and sinfulness. Murphy concluded that while yēṣer is sometimes used in the Hodayot (or as Murphy puts it, "in the Qumran literature") to reflect a neutral tendency, it usually refers to the inclination to sin.

⁵ H. Lichtenberger, "Zu Vorkommen und Bedeutung von ישר im Jubiläenbuch," *JSJ* 14 (1983): 1–10. Lichtenberger determined that the use of *yēṣer* in these texts was closer to the neutral biblical use than it was to the later negative rabbinic use of the term.

⁶ G.H. Cohen Stuart, *The Struggle in Man Between Good and Evil: an Inquiry into the Origin of the Rabbinic Concept of Yeser Hara'* (Kampen: Kok, 1984). Cohen Stuart understood *yēṣer* in Sirach 15 as "freedom of choice" and, like Lichtenberger, found that *yēṣer* in the Dead Sea Scrolls is principally a neutral term.

nation" (*yṣr hṭwb*),⁷ or that the "evil inclination" was sexual in nature.⁸ Thus J. Cook argues that the source of the idea of two inclinations can be found in the Septuagint translations of Prov 2:11 and 2:17 and in Sir 15:14.⁹ A recent study by E. Tigchelaar also seeks out traces of a "sexual" evil inclination as well as the opposition of a positive counterpart to the evil inclination as signs of a precursor to the rabbinic "evil inclination." However, the association of the rabbinic evil inclination with sexual desire and dualism has been vigorously refuted by I. Rosen-Zvi.¹¹ Furthermore, as M. Kister has observed, while

⁷ This opposition is evident in *m. Ber.* 9:5; *t. Ber.* 6:7; *Sifre Deut.* 32 and in multiple sources in the Babylonian and Palestinian Talmud. However, this dualistic framework is far from ubiquitous; see Rosen-Zvi, "Two Rabbinic Inclinations."

⁸ This assumption was supported by D. Boyarin's influential study claiming that the rabbinic view of the inclination was both sexual and opposed by a good inclination; see D. Boyarin, *Carnal Israel: Reading Sex in Talmudic Culture* (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1993), 61–76. The assumption that the evil inclination (*yēṣer hārā'*) in rabbinic literature principally expresses sexual desire was later adopted in several studies, such as those of E.S. Alexander, "Art, Argument, and Ambiguity in the Talmud: Conflicting Conceptions of the Evil Impulse in b. Sukkah 51b–52a," *HUCA* 73 (2002): 97–132, J. Schofer, "The Redaction of Desire: Structure and Editing of Rabbinic Teachings Concerning Yeṣer ('Inclination')," *JJTP* 12 (2003): 19–53, and P. W. van der Horst, "A Note on the Evil Inclination and Sexual Desire in Talmudic Literature," in *Jews and Christians in Their Graeco-Roman Context: Selected Essays on Early Judaism, Samaritanism, Hellenism, and Christianity* (WUNT 1/196; Tübingen: Mohr Siebeck, 2006), 59–65.

⁹ J. Cook, "The Origin of the Tradition of the 'יצר הרע' and 'יצר הרע'," *JSJ* 38 (2007): 80–91.

¹⁰ E.J.C. Tigchelaar, "The Evil Inclination in the Dead Sea Scrolls, with a Re-Edition of 4Q468i (4QSectarian Text?)," in *Empsychoi Logoi: Religious Innovations in Antiquity; Studies in Honour of Pieter Willem van der Horst* (ed. A. Houtman, A. de Jong, and M. Misset-van de Weg; AJEC 73; Leiden: Brill, 2008), 347–57. Tigchelaar finds suggestions of these ideas in the connection between an evil inclination and "lecherous eyes" in the *Damascus Document* (CD II.16) and in the "ethical dualism" he sees in the *Barkhi Nafshi* text. In addition, Tigchelaar considers the juxtaposition of a śāṭān and an "evil inclination" in the *Plea for Deliverance* to be parallel to the identification of Satan with the evil inclination in the Babylonian Talmud (b. B. B. 16a).

¹¹ In two separate studies, Rosen-Zvi has argued that the "good inclination" is barely present in Tannaitic texts and is marginal even in later Amoraic literature (Rosen-Zvi, "Two Rabbinic Inclinations") and that the sexualization of the <code>yēṣer</code> lacks textual evidence even in the Amoraic period, occurring only afterwards (idem, "Sexualising the Evil Inclination: Rabbinic 'Yetzer' and Modern Scholarship," <code>JJS</code> 60 [2009]: 264–81). In his recent work focusing nearly exclusively on the term <code>yēṣer</code>, Rosen-Zvi argues that the rabbinic idea of the evil inclination was part of a move to psychologize evil and demonic forces. Rosen-Zvi points to specific texts in the Qumran corpus as evidence of the early reification and internalization of the <code>yēṣer</code>; see <code>Demonic Desires</code>, 52. He also sees these texts as evidence of an early association of demonic forces with the <code>yēṣer</code>. However, Rosen-Zvi's exclusive focus on the term <code>yēṣer</code> slants the results of his study to overemphasize the association of the <code>yēṣer</code> with demonic forces in Qumran texts. While his argument for an association between the term <code>yēṣer</code> and terms of a demonic nature is

22 Introduction

phrases including *yṣr* do appear in Qumran texts, they are not particularly central at Qumran.¹² Thus terminological studies frequently give undue emphasis to particular texts and ignore other relevant passages that deal with similar concepts or themes.

The study of sin is, of course, central to Christian theology, particularly because of Pauline statements regarding the power of sin, the sinfulness of the flesh, and Paul's dichotomy of "flesh" and "spirit" in Rom 5-8 and his representation of sin as originating with Adam in Rom 7. Later theologians developed Paul's ideas. Augustine in his reading of Rom 7 propagated the doctrine of "original sin": all humans sinned through Adam and are therefore damned. Luther through his doctrine of "totus homo peccator, totus homo justus" declared the ubiquity and inevitability of human sinfulness alongside human righteousness. As a result of these ideas, many studies of Second Temple texts have focused on the anthropology of sin. 13 For example, an important study by H. Lichtenberger examined views of sin in Qumran literature in the course of an anthropological analysis of these texts. 14 This approach was particularly fruitful in analyzing the Hodayot, and produced an early study by J.P. Hyatt. 15 Studies by W. Davies and H. Hübner focused on finding possible links between Qumran ideas and the Pauline anthropology contrasting "flesh" and "spirit."16

valid, it does not follow that the *yēṣer* was a *central* and *demonic* figure at Qumran and that it impacted Qumran thought as such.

¹² M. Kister, "Inclination of the Heart of Man,' the Body and Purification from Evil," in *Meghillot: Studies in the Dead Sea Scrolls VIII* (ed. M. Bar-Asher and D. Dimant; Jerusalem: Bialik Institute and Haifa University Press, 2010), 256.

While the term "theological anthropology" can be applied in the wider sense to the study of the relationship between God and human, it frequently denotes the examination of the "spiritual makeup" of human beings and how this makeup affects the human ability or tendency to sin.

¹⁴ H. Lichtenberger, Studien zum Menschenbild in Texten der Qumrangemeinde (SUNT 15; Göttingen: Vandenhoeck und Ruprecht, 1980). While Lichtenberger noted the diversity of approaches found in different Qumran texts regarding determinism and free will, his aim was to reconstruct a single, unified anthropological view reflected in Qumran texts (ibid., 237–9). He concluded that the basic belief revealed in Qumran texts is that, as creatures, humans require divine assistance to choose the right path and keep the law. In his view this belief is a reflection of the anthropology set forth in the Hebrew Bible. Lichtenberger posited that, following the influence of dualism on Qumran thought, the basic belief in obedience to the law was impacted by questions of determination and predestination, resulting in the variety of views reflected in Qumran texts. He noted that some of these clearly reflect the possibility of human choice.

¹⁵ J.P. Hyatt, "The View of Man in the Qumran '*Hodayot*'," NTS 2 (1955–1956): 276–84.

¹⁶ W.D. Davies, "Paul and the Dead Sea Scrolls: The Flesh and the Spirit," in *Christian Origins and Judaism* (The Jewish People: History Religion Literature; Philadelphia: Westminster Press, 1962), 145–78; repr. from *The Scrolls and the New Testament* (ed. K. Stendahl; New

Another approach to using Second Temple texts to explain later Jewish and Christian thought has been taken by G. Anderson, who has explored the nature of sin through the metaphor of "sin as debt" in biblical and post-biblical texts. ¹⁷ In his study Anderson investigates rabbinic passages that discuss earning "merits" with God and the early Christian emphasis on "salvation through works" by tracing the evolution of this metaphor.

Adam's fall as an explanation of human sinfulness is generally absent in most Second Temple texts, but has sometimes been sought by researchers. ¹⁸ More importantly, the significance of this idea in Christian thought has caused many to assume that a *historical* origin of sin was important to Second Temple writers. This assumed prominence has in turn led to the centrality of a demonic origin of sin in the studies of P. Sacchi. ¹⁹ Sacchi paired this etiology of sin with a theory of salvation, in an echo of comparable pairings in Pauline

York: Harper & Brothers, 1957); H. Hübner, "Anthropologischer Dualismus in den Hodayot?" NTS 18 (1971-2), 268-84. Davies concluded that while the terms "flesh" and "spirit" are shared by the Pauline epistles and the Dead Sea Scrolls, the Pauline epistles are more in line with both Old Testament and rabbinic thought than the Scrolls. More recent studies of "spirit" or ruah terminology at Qumran have suffered from severe methodological deficiencies. An example is a study by A. E. Sekki, who concluded that, apart from the Treatise of the Two Spirits (1QS III.13-IV.26), one column of the Hodayot (1QHa XV) and 4QHoroscope (4Q186), rûaḥ in the Scrolls reflects biblical categories (A. E. Sekki, The Meaning of Ruah at Qumran [SBLDS 110; Atlanta: Scholars Press, 1989]). The drawbacks of Sekki's study "ranging from assumptions and methodology to clarity and expression" were identified at length by M.P. Horgan, review of Arthur Everett Sekki, The Meaning of Ruah at Qumran, CBQ 54 (1992): 544-6. A later survey of nonbiblical Qumran texts by R. Kvalvaag, "The Spirit in Human Beings in Some Qumran Non-Biblical Texts," in Qumran between the Old and New Testaments (ed. F. H. Cryer and T.L. Thompson; JSOTSup 290; Sheffield: Sheffield Academic Press, 1998), 159-80, relied heavily on Sekki's conclusions while at the same time recognizing the range of views reflected in Qumran texts. Kvalvaag proposed a division between body and spirit in Qumran texts that was influenced more by Pauline thought than by Qumran approaches.

¹⁷ G. A. Anderson, Sin: A History (New Haven: Yale University Press, 2009).

¹⁸ See I. Lévi, *Le péché originel dans les anciennes sources juives* (Paris: Leroux, 1909); G-H. Baudry, "Le péché originel chez Philo d'Alexandrie," *MScRel* 50 (1993): 99–115; idem, "La théorie du penchant mauvais et la doctrine du péché originel," *BLE* 95 (1994): 271–301. For a study assuming that Adam's fall was a prominent explanation of sin *rejected* by certain groups in the Second Temple period, see M. W. Elliott, "Origins and Functions of the Watchers Theodicy," *Hen* 24 (2002): 63–75.

¹⁹ P. Sacchi, *Jewish Apocalyptic and Its History* (trans. W.J. Short; JSPSup 20; Sheffield: Sheffield Academic Press, 1990); P. Sacchi, "The Theology of Early Enochism and Apocalyptic: the Problem of the Relation between Form and Content of the Apocalypses; the Worldview of Apocalypses," *Hen* 24 (2002): 77–85. Sacchi posits an apocalyptic "Enochic Judaism" that had a theology centered on the idea that evil derives from a contamination of the natural and human sphere through the disorder that angels brought into God's cosmic order, based on the Enochic *Book of the Watchers* (*BW*).

24 Introduction

thought and in Augustine's theological arguments.²⁰ While most scholars have not accepted the idea of an apocalyptic "Enochic Judaism,"²¹ Sacchi's student G. Boccaccini has developed Sacchi's theories in order to explore the possible origins of the Qumran community, proposing that this community resulted from a schism within "Enochic Judaism" due to differing ideas regarding evil and soteriology.²²

The prominence of demons and exorcism in the New Testament and early Christian literature has also been a motivating force in studies of Second Temple works. Studies have frequently focused on specific demonic figures or the possible context of the exorcisms depicted in the Gospels.²³ These studies have generally avoided the trap of reading these Second Temple works through the prism of the New Testament; they explore the nature of the demons and angels depicted in their own terms.

The study of Qumran texts has continued to focus on certain of their features that became prominent following the transcription of the earliest-discov-

²⁰ According to Sacchi, the *Book of the Watchers* reflects the conviction that evil derives from a contamination of the natural and human sphere through the disorder that angels brought into God's cosmic order. Therefore, salvation cannot be effected by human beings, but only by God's influence on the "in-between," angelic sphere.

²¹ See, for example, the discussion in J.J. Collins, Seers, Sibyls, and Sages in Hellenistic-Roman Judaism (Boston: Brill, 2001), 287–99.

²² G. Boccaccini, Beyond the Essene Hypothesis: the Parting of the Ways between Qumran and Enochic Judaism (Grand Rapids, Mich.: Eerdmans, 1998), 119–62.

²³ Examples of the former include P.S. Alexander, "The Demonology of the Dead Sea Scrolls," in The Dead Sea Scrolls After Fifty Years: A Comprehensive Assessment (ed. P.W. Flint and J.C. VanderKam; vol. 2, 2 vols.; Leiden: Brill, 1998), 331-53; D. Dimant, "Between Qumran Sectarian and Non-Sectarian Texts: The Case of Belial and Mastema," in The Dead Sea Scrolls and Contemporary Culture: Proceedings of the International Conference Held at the Israel Museum, Jerusalem (July 6-8, 2008) (ed. A. Roitman, L.H. Schiffman, and S. Tzoref; STDJ 93; Leiden: Brill, 2011), 235-56; A. Steudel, "God and Belial," in The Dead Sea Scrolls: Fifty Years after their Discovery 1947-1997; Proceedings of the Jerusalem Congress, July 20-25, 1997 (ed. L.H. Schiffman, E. Tov, and J.C. VanderKam; Jerusalem: Israel Exploration Society, 2000), 332-40. For examples of the latter, see E. Eshel, "Demonology in Palestine during the Second Temple Period" (Ph.D. diss., Hebrew University, Jerusalem, 1999 [Hebrew]); E. Eve, The Jewish Context of Jesus' Miracles (JSNTSup 231; London: Sheffield Academic Press, 2002); A. Lange, "The Essene Position on Magic and Divination," in Legal Texts and Legal Issues: Proceedings of the Second Meeting of the International Organization for Qumran Studies, Cambridge, 1995, Published in Honour of Joseph M. Baumgarten (ed. M. Bernstein, F. García Martínez, and J. Kampen; STDJ 23; Leiden: Brill, 1997), 377-435; A.T. Wright, "Evil Spirits in Second Temple Judaism: the 'Watcher Tradition' as a Background to the Demonic Pericopes in the Gospels," Hen 28, no. 1 (2006): 141-59. On the differences between exorcisms in the Gospels and approaches to demonic possession in earlier Jewish texts, see L.T. Stuckenbruck, "Jesus' Apocalyptic Worldview and His Exorcistic Ministry," in Pseudepigrapha and Christian Origins: Essays from the Studiorum Novi Testamenti Societas (ed. Gerbern S. Oegema and James H. Charlesworth; JCTCRS 4; New York: T & T Clark International, 2008), 68-84.

ered scrolls. There has been a trend to define a single "theology" for Qumran texts, particularly regarding their approach to sin. In fact, Second Temple texts, including those found at Qumran, display a variability that is frequently unremarked in modern studies, which usually focus on creating a single harmonized view of sin that can be used to explain later theological developments. In particular, texts do not fall into easy categories of righteous versus sinner and determinism versus free will. This has been increasingly recognized in recent studies, although many surveys continue to ignore important differences between texts. Recent nuanced approaches to the issues explored in this study include L. Stuckenbruck's study of dualism and the degree to which the Treatise of the Two Spirits differs from other Second Temple texts²⁴ and J. Klawans' recognition that in ancient Judaism, neither free will nor determinism was absolute.²⁵ Yet the expectation of theological consistency within and between ancient texts remains a noticeable feature of modern research. A close study of these texts demonstrates just how anachronistic such an expectation is when applied to Second Temple literature.

The Source of Sin

In attempting to solve the "problem" of sin, and through the manner in which they reflect already accepted "solutions," Second Temple works address the issue of where sin originates. The source of sin is not necessarily a historical point in time. Rather, these texts reflect the idea that sin is inherent to the human, originates from external influences, or is a combination of these two factors. Attempts to "explain" sin sometimes seek to justify the existence of sin despite a benevolent Deity. If God does not want humans to sin, why do they have this capability? Furthermore, why do humans, the creations of God, actually desire to sin? The centrality of these questions in Second Temple literature lies behind my decision to focus this study on the portrayal of the source of sin in Second Temple texts. The examination of these works, however, has high-

²⁴ L.T. Stuckenbruck, "The Interiorization of Dualism within the Human Being in Second Temple Judaism: The Treatise of the Two Spirits (1QS III: 13-IV: 26) in its Tradition-Historical Context," in *Light Against Darkness: Dualism in Ancient Mediterranean Religion and the Contemporary World* (ed. A. Lange et al.; JAJSup 2; Göttingen: Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht, 2011), 145–68.

²⁵ J. Klawans, "Josephus on Fate, Free Will, and Ancient Jewish Types of Compatibilism," *Numen* 56 (2009): 44–90, esp. 64; idem, "The Dead Sea Scrolls, the Essenes, and the Study of Religious Belief: Determinism and Freedom of Choice," in *Rediscovering the Dead Sea Scrolls: An Assessment of Old and New Approaches and Methods* (ed. M. L. Grossman; Grand Rapids, Mich.: Eerdmans, 2010), 264–83.