One of the central concepts in rabbinic Judaism is the notion of the Evil Inclination, which appears to be related to similar concepts in ancient Christianity and the wider late antique world. The precise origins and understanding of the idea, however, are unknown. This volume traces the development of this concept historically in Judaism and assesses its impact on emerging Christian thought concerning the origins of sin. The chapters, which cover a wide range of sources including the Bible, the Ancient Versions, Qumran, Pseudepigrapha and Apocrypha, the Targums, and rabbinic and patristic literature, advance our understanding of the intellectual exchange between Jews and Christians in classical Antiquity, as well as the intercultural exchange between these communities and the societies in which they were situated.

James Aitken is Reader in Hebrew and Early Jewish Studies at the Faculty of Divinity, University of Cambridge. Publications include No Stone Unturned: Greek Inscriptions and Septuagint Vocabulary (2014) and The T&T Clark Companion to the Septuagint (2015).

Hector Michael Patmore is Associate Professor in the Faculty of Theology and Religious Studies at the KU Leuven. His research focuses on the interpretation of the Hebrew Bible and the development of Jewish beliefs in Antiquity. Publications include Adam, Satan, and the King of Tyre and The Transmission of Targum Jonathan in the West.

Ishay Rosen-Zvi is Professor in the Department of Jewish Philosophy and Talmud at Tel Aviv University. A scholar of rabbinic literature, he was elected to the Israel Young Academy of Sciences in 2013. He is author of several books, most recently, Goy: Israel's Multiple Others and the Birth of the Gentile.
The Evil Inclination in Early Judaism and Christianity

Edited by

JAMES AITKEN
University of Cambridge

HECTOR M. PATMORE
KU Leuven

ISHAY ROSEN-ZVI
Tel Aviv University
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**Acknowledgments**  
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Contributors

James Aitken, Reader in Hebrew and Early Jewish Studies, Faculty of Divinity, University of Cambridge.

Augustine Casiday, Honorary Senior Research Fellow, School of History, Archaeology and Religion, Cardiff University and Affiliate Lecturer, Department of Theology, University of Glasgow.

Leeor Gottlieb, Lecturer, Zalman Shamir Bible Department, Bar-Ilan University.

Robert Hayward, Professor of Hebrew (retired), Department of Theology and Religion, University of Durham.

Yishai Kiel, Research Fellow, Faculty of Law, Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

Sophie Lunn-Rockliffe, Lecturer in Patristics, Faculty of Divinity, University of Cambridge.

Noam Mizrahi, Associate Professor, Department of Bible, Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

Ophir Münz-Manor, Associate Professor of Rabbinic Culture, Department of History, Philosophy and Judaic Studies, Open University of Israel.

Hector M. Patmore, Associate Professor in Biblical Studies, Faculty of Theology and Religious Studies, KU Leuven.
List of Contributors

Monika Pesthy-Simon, Independent Scholar and Doctor of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Budapest.

Timothy Pettipiece, Instructor, College of Humanities, Carleton University, and Department of Classics and Religious Studies, University of Ottawa.

Ishay Rosen-Zvi, Professor and Head of the Talmud and Late Antiquity Section, Department of Jewish Philosophy, Tel Aviv University.

Riemer Roukema, Research Professor in Early Christianity, Protestant Theological University, Groningen.

Daniel Schumann, Marie Skłodowska-Curie Fellow, Faculty of Theology and Religion, University of Oxford.

Loren T. Stuckenbruck, Professor of New Testament, Faculty of Protestant Theology, Ludwig-Maximilians University, Munich.

David G. K. Taylor, Associate Professor of Aramaic and Syriac, Faculty of Oriental Studies, University of Oxford.

George van Kooten, Lady Margaret’s Professor of Divinity, Faculty of Divinity, University of Cambridge.

Sharon Weisser, Senior Lecturer in Ancient Philosophy, Department of Philosophy, Tel Aviv University.

Benjamin Wold, Associate Professor of Early Judaism & Christianity, School of Religion, Faculty of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences, Trinity College Dublin, the University of Dublin.