

The Rise of the Fall Virgin

by HaRav Ariel Bar Tzadok

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Beautiful she is when she is who she is supposed to be.

She is untouched whenever she cleanses herself of all foreign contact.

She is pure every time that she makes herself to be.

She comes before the great scales because this is her natural place.

She serves us as role model. As she purifies the way before the great scales, so too do we, like her, purify ourselves.

Her way is to seek the simplicity of youth. This can be restored even to the very old.

She is the perennial Virgin, although her clothing can become soiled, she herself will forever remain pure.

We ourselves say this every morning; “my G-d the soul you have given me is pure.”

The closer we move towards the scales, the more and more we become again like the Virgin.

We too remove our soiled clothes and can stand naked, pure, fresh and unashamed, just like it was in Eden of old.

The Fall begins the time of change, when summer heat cools and the Earth prepares to sleep.



The Earth cannot sleep in filth. As it changes, it discards and buries its dead.

Fresh summer leaves turn to many colors and fall to the ground, ready to be covered by the winter snow.

They are absorbed again into the Earth, bringing replenishment so the cycle may begin again later.

Our souls cannot go through the great scales filthy. They too must discard its filth and soiled garments.

Our past actions must be discarded and cast into the depths of the sea, there to be remembered no more.

The time of the Virgin shows us the way to be pure, to be forever pure, forever fresh, and forever new.

We can then walk through the great scales as we did the first time and be blessed.

At this time, we pause and ponder; we contemplate how we can restore that purity that compromise robs from us.

Elul is the time of bonding, to rekindle the dwindling flame, to reunite with Heaven and by doing so regain our spiritual virginity even as it was in the beginning.

The scales approach. Only the pure shall balance them. Those in balance fear not the scorpion's sting or the winter's snow.