

Paraphrase and summarize the following four passages as accurately as possible, a paragraph or so each.

1. *PL* 3.116-34
2. *PL* 4.32-113
3. *PL* 4.411-39
4. *PL* 4.634-58

Prompt: Most readers of *Paradise Lost* focus on Satan or Eve as the poem's most problematic voices. Some might counter that it is Milton's God who seems strangely conceived, instead. The Almighty's long speech early in Book 3 appears designed to "justify the ways of God to men," as the invocation to Book 1 ends. What every student of the poem must consider is this. If God truly foreknows that his creatures are either damned or barely saved from damnation (first passage), why does Milton labor so mightily to make them sympathetic or suggest that we might empathize with them? (second, third, fourth passages). Use specific evidence from your reading to support your points. **Avoid summary.**

Due Friday, 10 April, 9 a.m., via email