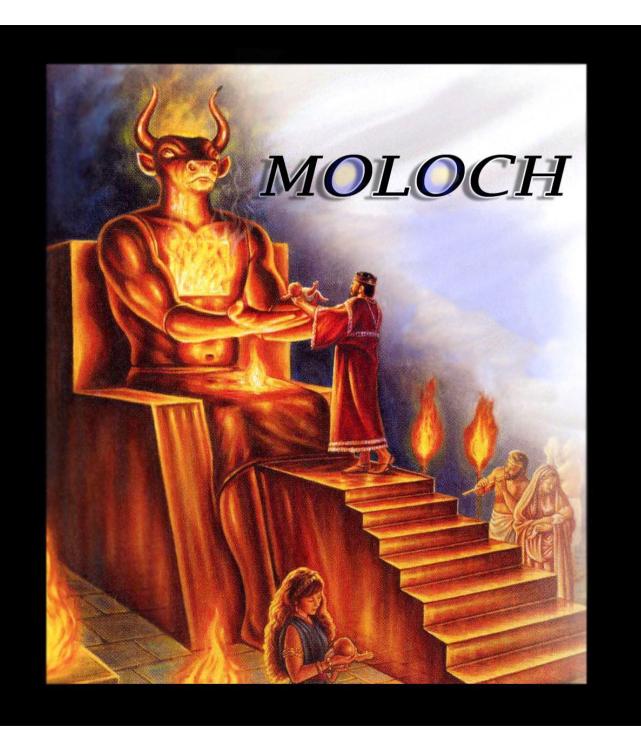


A place of torrment

- This is the Valley of Hinnom, the place called Gehenna (γέεννα in Greek). During the time of the Messiah's ministry, Gehenna was a dump for both garbage and the bodies of the poor and criminals. The fires burned both day and night. This place, which is translated as Hell, was used as the example of the end time Lake of Fire in the New Testament.
- This place is same place where the idol Molech was erected and was used as a sacrificial furnace for children. Molech was a demon worshiped by the Canaanites, Phoenicians, Ammonites, and then Israel began sacrificing to it. They would place their young children in the hands of Molech which were heated by the furnace within. The drums would beat loudly so that the parents would not hear the screams of their children as they burned alive.



Our English translations use the word "hell" are use for mainly two different biblical concepts. The first is the above mentioned place of Gehenna. The second is the Hebrew "Sheol" and the Greek "Hades" which refer primarily to the grave. The English translators have translated these words as "hell," because all three words -- sheol, hades, and hell -- originally all meant to be covered up, out of sight.

 Is there anything to the idea of living forever in endless agony and torment? No. But many church organizations, and even pagan philosophies, have achieved a lot of compliance from their followers because they were able to instill this fear. There is a coming judgment and destruction, but that fire is the all consuming one, an eternal one which leaves this world cleansed from sin.