

Lord, that it shall no more be called Topheth, nor the Valley of the Son of Hinnom, but the Valley of Slaughter; for they shall bury in Topheth, till there be no place."

Jer. 19:6 -- "Therefore, behold, the days come, saith the Lord, that this place shall no more be called Topheth, nor the Valley of the Son of Hinnom, but the Valley of Slaughter."

Because of the judgment pronounced over the valley of Hinnom, the place came to be associated in apocryphal literature with the fire of the last judgment; and thus *gehinnom* came to be used for the eschatological fire of hell.

Since *Geenna* was a localized word used by the Jews, it should not surprise us to learn that this word is not found in classical Greek, nor in the LXX, although its absence from Josephus and Philo does surprise us a little.

However, *Geenna* is used 12 times in the New Testament. Let us examine its uses.

Matthew 5:21-22 -- "Ye have heard that it was said by them of old, 'Thou shall not kill and whosoever shall kill shall be in danger of judgment.' But I say unto you that whosoever is angry with his brother shall be in danger of judgment. And 'Whosoever shall say to his brother, 'Raca,' shall be in danger of the council.' But whosoever shall say, 'Thou fool,' shall be in danger of *Geenna*."

The emphasis here appears to be upon the punishment consequent upon God's judgment of wickedness.

Matthew 5:29-30 -- "And if thy right eye offend thee, pluck it out, and cast it from thee; for it is profitable for thee that one of thy members should perish and not that thy whole body should be cast into *Geenna*. And if thy right hand offend thee, cut it off, and cast it from thee; for it is profitable for thee that one of thy members should