



## Further Documentation of “Molech” As a Ritual Rather Than a Deity; Lucifer’s Strategy: The Loss of Thought Leads to False Ethics & Immoral Civil Acts

Before going to documentary passages I would like to confirm this assertion from a second source. The reason is that most biblical references refer to this word as a cultic god and thus capitalize the *M*. The second source refuting this is:

**de Vaux, Roland. *Ancient Israel: Its Life and Institutions*. Translated by John McHugh. (Grand Rapids: William B. Eerdmans Publishing Co., 1961), 444-46:**

*Sacrifices to Moloch.* The word *molek* is always used in (Scripture) in connection with the sacrifice of a child, male or female, who was said to “pass through the fire.” (p. 444)

Its origin must be sought in Canaanite culture. Punic and Neo-Punic inscriptions contain the expressions *mlk 'mr* and *mlk 'dm*. These phrases mean ‘offerings of lamb’ and ‘offering of man,’ and refer to the sacrifice of an infant, or of a lamb as substitute.

This interpretation is supported by a find in the sanctuary of Tanit [Tennit] at Carthage, where archaeologists have discovered urns containing burnt bones of lambs and goats, and more often, of children. There is, too, a famous text of Diodorus Siculus: in 310 B.C., when a disaster was threatening Carthage, the inhabitants of the town decided it was due to the anger of Kronos, to whom they had formerly sacrificed their finest children. Thereupon, they sacrificed two hundred children from the noblest families. There was a bronze statue of Kronos with outstretched arms, and the child was placed on its hands and rolled into the furnace.

The *molk* offering mentioned in two steles from Malta belong to the seventh or the sixth century B.C. The sacrificial term has not so far been found in inscriptions from Phoenicia proper, but child-sacrifice was practiced there: a fragment of Philo of Biblos cited in Eusebius says that the Phoenicians had an ancient custom—“they offered their dearest children in a way full of mystery” when danger threatened the nation. Porphyry [por' fe-rē] [third century A.D. Greek writer] says that the Phoenician History written by Sanchuniaton [san-chu-nī' a-than] [thirteenth century B.C. Phoenician writer] was full of stories about child-sacrifices offered to Kronos in times of calamity. These texts furnish the connecting-link with the story told by Diodorus Siculus. (p. 445)

The sacrifice of children, then, by burning them to death probably made its way into Israel from Phoenicia during a period of religious syncretism. The custom must have been fairly wide-spread to have deserved the condemnations uttered by Deuteronomy, Leviticus, and the Prophets. Though Phoenician texts do not mention the word (*molech*), it is possible that the sacrifice was called *molk* in Phoenicia, as in Carthage, and that it came into Israel under this name. (p. 446)

Albright and de Vaux’s analyses enable us to corroborate from archaeological evidence the historicity of the biblical accounts of the Baal cult in Phoenicia and in Israel. Further documentation of its penchant for child sacrifice is provided by:

**Orr, James (ed.). *The International Standard Bible Encyclopaedia*. (Grand Rapids: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co., 1956), 1:345-46:**

**Baal (בַּעַל *Bā' al*):** “Lord,” was the title of the supreme god among the Canaanites whose full title was “lord of heaven.”



As the Sun-god, Baal was worshipped under two aspects, beneficent and destructive. On the one hand he gave light and warmth to his worshippers; on the other hand the fierce heats of summer destroyed the vegetation he had himself brought into being. Hence human victims were sacrificed to him in order to appease his anger in time of plague or other trouble, the victim being usually the first-born of the sacrificer and being burnt alive. In the Old Testament this is euphemistically termed "passing" the victim "through the fire." (p. 245)

After the time of Ahab the name became associated with the worship and rites of the Phoenician deity introduced into Samaria by Jezebel, and its idolatrous associations accordingly caused it to fall into disrepute.

Temples of Baal at Samaria and Jerusalem had been erected at the time when the Ahab dynasty endeavored to fuse Israelites and Jews and Phoenicians into a single people under the same national Phoenician god.

In the reign of Ahab, Baal was served in Israel by 450 priests (1 Kings 18:19), as well as by prophets (2 Kings 10:19), and his worshipers wore special vestments when his ritual was performed (2 Kings 10:22). The ordinary offering made to the god consisted of incense (Jeremiah 7:9) and burnt sacrifices; on extraordinary occasions the victim was human (Jeremiah 19:5). At times the priests worked themselves into a state of ecstasy, and dancing round the altar slashed themselves with knives (1 Kings 18:26, 28), like certain dervish orders in modern Islam. (p. 246)

It is clear from these articles that Lucifer orchestrated the operations of the Baal cult and that certain ambassador demons influenced all the monarchs of the Northern Kingdom. They have found Ahab and Jezebel most especially as willing and enthusiastic votaries of the Baal cult's religious system.

All religious systems are based on human viewpoint and are designed to foster Lucifer's grand design to first eradicate all believers from the earth.

Although Lucifer will never be successful in such an operation, his goal if he is successful is to then reconstruct human society upon the evil principles of satanic viewpoint which he will enforce with tyrannical efficiency.

On this subject we have recently noted a statement in *The International Standard Bible Encyclopaedia's* article on King Ahab (1:79): Wrong religious principles have their counterpart in false ethical ideals and immoral civil acts.

Religion is a satanic invention designed to imitate, diminish, replace, or destroy Christianity and is promoted among mankind by human viewpoint.

The plan of Satan may be described as evil. Evil may be defined as: Human good panaceas which attempt to solve the problems of life apart from doctrine and divine establishment. Consequently, evil is a distortion of thought which results in an attack on the divine institutions.

Where on the one hand, human viewpoint may appear to a doctrinally informed believer as disordered and contradictory, on the other hand, to Lucifer it is viewed as an effective method of manipulating mankind to accomplish his objectives.



Believers analyze issues and circumstances from the absolute standards of divine revelation. But the unbeliever or reversionist, caught up in human viewpoint, operates from flexible and vacillating standards that change according to the flow of historical trends.

Current downtrends in our nation's Zeitgeist reflect the negative impact of human viewpoint on Judeo-Christian ethics. The deviation away from the absolute standards of divine thought and the resultant inability to think categorically has led to a false system of ethics. When a society's system of ethics becomes fuzzy and contradictory it eventually permits the commission of immoral civil acts.

The inability of our system of jurisprudence to function from traditional standards of justice means that immoral civil acts tear at the divine institutions. This inversion of thought presents contradictions that give testimony to the paradox of human viewpoint.

For example, progressives denounce homosexuality in the Catholic Church but insist that the Boy Scouts of America employ homosexual scout masters. This may appear contradictory to you but not to Lucifer.

He will attack homosexuality practiced by Catholic priests in order to expose the hypocrisy of the church's official policy against it. But he will promote homosexual Scout Masters because of the Boy Scouts' principled effort to protect the children within its organization. Thus, from the standpoint of evil there is no contradiction.

Ahab was also manipulated by Lucifer. The satanic objective was to influence the Northern Kingdom into deeper and deeper affiliation with religion and greater and greater deviation from Judaism. He employed as many parallels between the two as possible and was able to sell these to those who had lost the thought or never had it.

If successful, Lucifer hoped to then transport Baal worship to the Southern Kingdom which he was able to do following the death of King Jehoshaphat of Judah. His immediate objective was to distort, diminish, and destroy the worship of *YHWH Elohim*. His ultimate objective was to destroy the line of Christ.

Clear evidence of this is found in the ultimate expression of religious degeneracy which is human sacrifice. The writings of both William F. Albright and Roland de Vaux \de-vō\ agree that the cultic term *molech* does not refer to a heathen god but rather to a heathen practice: human sacrifice. The literal meaning of the word is "burnt offering." This is also the conclusion of Johannes Botterweck, et al., in their *Theological Dictionary of the Old Testament*, 8:385. This clue allows us to go to the Scripture and note several examples of this horrific practice among the Israelites. First of all the prohibitions:

**Leviticus 18:21** - 'And you shall not give any of your offspring to pass through the fire of Molech [ מֹלֶךְ ] *molech*: the process of offering children as a burnt offering to Baal ], nor shall you keep on dishonoring the name of your God; I am the Lord.'

**Leviticus 20:1** - Then the Lord spoke to Moses, saying,



v. 2 - “You shall also say to the sons of Israel, ‘Whoever he is from the children of Israel or of the aliens sojourning in Israel, who gives any of his children to Molech, shall surely be put to death; the people of the land shall stone him with stones.

v. 3 - ‘I will also set my face against that man and will cut him off from among his people, because he has given some of his offspring to Molech, so as to defile my sanctuary and to profane My holy name.

v. 4 - ‘If the people of the land, however, should hide their eyes from that man when he gives any of his offspring to Molech, so as not to put him to death,

v. 5 - then I Myself will set My face against that man and against his family; and I will cut off from among their people both him and all those who play the harlot after him, by playing the harlot after Molech.”

The concept associated with Molech, which is the process of causing a child to be offered to Baal as a burnt offering, is found in the phrase “he who causes his offspring to pass through the fire,” or some similar construction. It looks like this in the Hebrew:

**אֵשׁ עָבַר** *abar esh* - “pass through the fire”

This phrase is descriptive of what Molech actually is: children offered as a burnt offering to the false gods.