## FIRE AND ASH

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>English</th>
<th>Hebrew</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>ASH</strong> = the powdery residue of matter that remains after burning.</td>
<td><strong>ASH</strong> = <strong>וַתָּא</strong></td>
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### IE Root

To burn, glow. Oldest form *es-*; colored to *as-.*

Derivatives include **arson** and **azalea**.

1. **Extended form** *asg-*. ash, from Old English æsce, asce, ash, from Proto Germanic *askon-.*

(cf. Old Norse aska, Old High German asca, German asche, Gothic azgo "ashes", (cf. Sanskrit asah "ashes, dust," Armenian azazem "I dry up," Greek azein "to dry up, parch").

bef. 950; Middle English a(i)sshe, Old English asce, æsce; c. Frisian esk, Dutch asch, Old Norse, akin to L ārēre be dry (see arid), Tocharian ās- get dry, Hittite hassi on the hearth.

2. **Suffixed form** *as-a-*. from Latin ara, altar, hearth. ara sepulchri, a funeral pile,

3. **Suffixed (stative) form** *as-e-.*

   a. arid, from Latin aridus, dry, parched, from arare, to be dry;

   b. ardent, ardor, arson, from Latin ardere, to burn, be on fire, from aridus, parched. In the older languages ara derived from Oscan aasa; Umbrian asa.

4. **Extended form** *asd-.*

We can see the alternate Latin "s" and "r" forms in

- *aestus* ūs, an agitation, glow, heat, rage of fire:
- *āridus* = dry, withered, arid, parched.

### Greek

- *aza* azô drought.

### BDB

**fire** (Assyrian *išatu*, Syriac ܦܫܬ, *ešoto*, ܐܫܬܐ (*všāt)*)

1. **fire**, of conflagration, e.g. in briers, endangering or destroying crops, Ex 22:5 cf. 3:2, more often deliberate destruction by fire, especially golden calf Ex 32:20, other idols Dt 7:5, 25, Asherim 12:3, chariots Jos 11:6, 9, 2 K 23:11, house Ju 12:1; 14:15, tower 9:52, city-gates Ne 1:3; 2:3, 13, 17, city Jos 6:24 Ju 18:27.

2. of supernatural fire, attending theophany Ex 3:2; 19:18, Dt 4:11, 12, 15, 33, 36; of destructive fire from Nu 11:1, 2, 3; of Yahweh’s glory Ex 24:17, Dt 4:24; 9:3.

3. fire for cooking, roasting, parching, etc. Ex 12:8, 9, Lv 2:14 2 Ch 35:13 Is 44:16, 19; of tender for lighting fire Gn 22:6, 7; of fire for melting (gold for the idolatrous calf) Ex 32:24; for refining Je 6:29.

4. especially of altar-fire Lv 1:7; 6:2, 3, 5, 16; in offering incense Lv 10:1, fire from consuming sacrifice (cf. 2 Lv 9:24 2 Ch 7:1, 3; of fire in child-sacrifice (usually) 2 K 16:3; 21:6.


6. in various combinations, Gn 15:17 a torch of fire; Ex 3:2 flame of fire, spark of his fire Jb 18:5, ἡ 21:10 oven of fire, Zc 12:6; light of fire ἡ 78:14; flaming fire ἡ 104:4; Is 5:24 tongue of fire, Ez 1:13 coals of fire.

### Akkadian

- *išātu* = fire; išātu ummudu to set afire, (bon)fire beacon
<table>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>azapa, azata</strong></td>
<td><strong>azaleos</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>azama</strong></td>
<td><strong>azô</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>azomai</strong> (act. azô, Hesiod)</td>
<td><strong>azô</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>azô</strong> to dry up, parch.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>a. zamia, from Greek azein, to dry;</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>b. azalea, from Greek azaleos, dry.</strong></td>
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**Sanskrit**

ās = A kitchen, fire-place.

ās = Anger;

**Persian**

(atesh) Fire.

(ateshe-parsee) Fever heat, febrile, labial herpes. St. Antony's fire, (ateshzadan) to set on fire, to light. Figurative, to exasperate, to put an end to, to consume, as by burning. Hence, to waste away. Transitive verb, to put fire into, to furnish with fire, to light.

**List of References**


**SEC**: *Strong's Exhaustive Concordance*, J. Strong, Abingdon Press, New York, 1890. Now available on line from multiple sources, such as BIBLESOFT, 22014 7th Ave. South, Seattle, WA 98198.


**TWOT**: *Theological Wordbook of the Old Testament* by R. Laird Harris, Gleason L. Archer, and Bruce K. Waltke, Moody Press, 1980. Now available on line from multiple sources, such as BIBLESOFT, 22014 7th Ave. South, Seattle, WA 98198.

**The Word**: Isaac Mozeson, SPI Books, New York, 1989

I offer no references for words that come from various other languages, and that can be traced by browsing the World Wide Web.