

“Cut a covenant” [*krt bryt*] in Genesis

21.27-32

[ABRAHAM AND ABIMELECH]

So Abraham took sheep and oxen and gave them to Abimelech, and the two men **made a covenant**. Abraham set apart seven ewe lambs [*kivesoth*] of the flock. And Abimelech said to Abraham, "What is the meaning of these seven ewe lambs that you have set apart?" He said, "These **seven ewe lambs** you shall accept from my hand, in order that you **may be a witness for me that I dug this well**." Therefore that place was called Beer-sheba; because there **both of them swore an oath**. When they had made a covenant at Beer-sheba, Abimelech, with Phicol the commander of his army, left and returned to the land of the Philistines.

26.28-31

[ISAAC AND ABIMELECH]

They said, "We see plainly that YHWH has been with you; so we say, let there be an oath between you and us, and let us **make a covenant** with you so that **you will do us no harm**, just as **we have not touched you and have done to you nothing but good and have sent you away in peace**. So he **made them a feast, and they ate and drank**. In the morning they rose early and exchanged oaths; and Isaac set them on their way, and they departed from him in peace.