

Gen 6:18 – brit (H1285) means covenant and first used with Noah

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Introduction

My passion is law and that’s all about covenant/contracts, so a detailed word study of covenant (*brit* in Hebrew) seems appropriate. There is a teaching that there are [many covenants](#) in scripture (some suggest 7) which I find interesting, but the first time *brit* is used is with Noah not with Adam. There was an arrangement and understanding between YHVH and Adam in the garden but, nevertheless, *brit* was not used to describe that event. So what’s the difference between Adam who was in the garden and Noah who was not? I contend that because Noah inherited from Adam the fruit of the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil, YHVH was forced to purpose a formal covenant (a *brit*) with Noah. This is because Noah had the right to refuse this covenant. One of my hard and fast rules is that “a covenant is a special form of contract, but a contract nonetheless”. Because a covenant inherits all the qualities of a contract, the ramification is that a contract/covenant offered can be refused by the offeree. The nature of a covenant/contract is that YHVH, the offeror, must respect this and allow Noah, the offeree, the right of refusal.

If you accept my right of refusal thesis from then we can draw some powerful conclusions.

Some Verses

Gen 6:18 – First use of covenant (*brit*)

But with thee will I establish (*koom*) my covenant (*brit*); and thou shalt come into the ark, thou, and thy sons, and thy wife, and thy sons' wives with thee.

Gen 9:11 – No more will flood waters “cut off” (*karath*) the people

And I will establish (*koom*) my covenant (*brit*) with you; neither shall all flesh (*basar*^{H1320}) be cut off (*karath*) any more by the waters of a flood; neither shall there any more be a flood to destroy the earth.

References

- “Word-Study-H3772-karath-cut-made-covenant-confederate-league-loose-freed”
 - **Strong’s H3772 karath:** A primitive root; to *cut* (off, down or asunder); by implication to *destroy* or *consume*; specifically to *covenant* (that is, make an alliance or bargain, originally by cutting flesh and passing between the pieces):...
- “Word-Study-brit-H1285-covenant-comes-from-bara-H1254-created”
 - Has a brake down of the brit H285
 - *brit* comes from word *bara* (H1254) created (e.g. Gen 1:1) (<http://myhebrewbible.com/article/100>)
- “Word-Study-H6965-and-H6966-Koom-rise-up-establish-stand” Article [#385](#)

H1285 *beriyth* covenant,

ברית

From [H1262](#) (in the sense of *cutting* (like [H1254](#))); a *compact* (because made by passing between *pieces* of flesh): - confederacy, [con-]feder[-ate], covenant, league.

KJC: 285; covenant 265, league 17, confederate 2, confederacy 1; **LXX:** [G1242](#) *diatheke*, [G1785](#) *entole*

Table of Agreements / Covenants

#	Name	Verses
1	Adamic	Gen 1:26 .? isn't this just a commandment to rule over the earth, not a covenant.
2	Edenic	Gen 2:15-17 .
3	Noadic	Gen 6:13-22, 7:1; Gen 9:9 This is the 1st time Brit is used
4	Avrahamic	Gen 17:1-16
5	Mosaic	Exo 20:1-21, Exo 31:13-18 .
6	Davidic	2Sa 23:1-5
7	Renewed	Heb 8:13
8	? Peace	Num 25:10-13 (Given to Phinehas ben Eleazar), Mal 2:4-5, Mal 3:1; Eze 34:25
9	? Levi	- ?