

Joshua 24, The LORD's Treaty with Israel

	Treaty of Muwattališ and Aleksandus 1400-1300 BC.	Joshua 24
Introduction of the Speaker	1. These are the words of the Sun, Muwattalis, the Great King, King of the land of Hatti, Beloved of the Weather-God, ...	2 ... Thus saith the LORD God of Israel, ...
Historical Prolog	2. When in former times Labarnas, my grandfather, attacked the lands of Arzawa and the land of Wilusa, he conquered (it) ... The Land of Wilusa never after fell away from the land of Hatti, but ... remained friends with the king of Hatti.	2 ... Your fathers dwelt on the other side of the flood in old time, [even] Terah, the father of Abraham, and the father of Nachor: and they served other gods. 3 And I took your father Abraham from the other side of the flood, and led him throughout all the land of Canaan, and multiplied his seed, and gave him Isaac. 4 And I gave unto Isaac Jacob and Esau: and I gave unto Esau mount Seir, to possess it; but Jacob and his children went down into Egypt. 5 I sent Moses also and Aaron, and I plagued Egypt, according to that which I did among them: and afterward I brought you out. ... 7 ... and your eyes have seen what I have done in Egypt: and ye dwelt in the wilderness a long season. 8 And I brought you into the land of the Amorites, which dwelt on the other side Jordan; and they fought with you: and I gave them into your hand, that ye might possess their land; and I destroyed them from before you. ... 13 And I have given you a land for which ye did not labour, and cities which ye built not, and ye dwell in them; of the vineyards and oliveyards which ye planted not do ye eat.
Stipulations	3. Thou, Alaksandus, shalt protect the Sun as a friend!" "If anyone says an unfriendly word about the Sun and you keep it secret from the Sun, ... then thou, Alaksandus, sinnest before the oath of the gods; let the oath of the gods harry thee!" [May include requirement to defend the overlord, bring tribute regularly, return fugitives, ...]	14 Now therefore fear the LORD, and serve him in sincerity and in truth: and put away the gods which your fathers served on the other side of the flood, and in Egypt; and serve ye the LORD. 15 And if it seem evil unto you to serve the LORD, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that [were] on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD. 16 And the people answered and said, God forbid that we should forsake the LORD, to serve other gods; 17 For the LORD our God, he [it is] that brought us up and our fathers out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage, and which did those great signs in our sight, and preserved us in all the way wherein we went, and among all the people through whom we passed: 18 And the LORD drave out from before us all the people, even the Amorites which dwelt in the land: [therefore] will we also serve the LORD; for he [is] our God. 23 Now therefore put away, [said he], the strange gods which [are] among you, and incline your heart unto the LORD God of Israel. 24 And the people said unto Joshua, The LORD our God will we serve, and his voice will we obey.
Curse and Blessing	6. If thou, Alaksandus, break the words of this document, which are placed on this document, then may these oaths wipe the out ... and wipe thy seed from the face of the earth. But if thou keepest these words, then may the thousand gods ... keep thee, thy wife, thy sons ... with friendly hand.	19 And Joshua said unto the people, Ye cannot serve the LORD: for he [is] an holy God; he [is] a jealous God; he will not forgive your transgressions nor your sins. 20 If ye forsake the LORD, and serve strange gods, then he will turn and do you hurt, and consume you, after that he hath done you good. 21 And the people said unto Joshua, Nay; but we will serve the LORD.
Witnesses (usually Gods)	5. The Sun God of heaven, lord of the lands, Shepherd of men, the Sun Goddess of Arinna, the Queen of the lands, the Weather-God, ...[, let these be witnesses to this treaty and to the oath]	22 And Joshua said unto the people, Ye [are] witnesses against yourselves that ye have chosen you the LORD, to serve him. And they said, [We are] witnesses. 27 And Joshua said unto all the people, Behold, this stone shall be a witness unto us; for it hath heard all the words of the LORD which he spake unto us: it shall be therefore a witness unto you, lest ye deny your God.
Document	4. Moreover, let someone read thee this tablet, which I have made for thee, three times every year.	25 So Joshua made a covenant with the people that day, and set them a statute and an ordinance in Shechem. 26 And Joshua wrote these words in the book of the law of God, and took a great stone, and set it up there under an oak, that [was] by the sanctuary of the LORD.