

Massebot in the Torah

16 And Jacob awaked out of his sleep, and he said: 'Surely the LORD is in this place; and I knew it not.' 17 And he was afraid, and said: 'How full of awe is this place! this is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven.' 18 And Jacob rose up early in the morning, and took the stone that he had put under his head, and set it up for a pillar, and poured oil upon the top of it. 19 And he called the name of that place Beth-el ["the house of God"], but the name of the city was Luz at the first. 20 And Jacob vowed a vow, saying: 'If God will be with me, and will keep me in this way that I go, and will give me bread to eat, and raiment to put on, 21 so that I come back to my father's house in peace, then shall the LORD be my God, 22 and this stone, which I have set up for a pillar [masseba], shall be God's house; and of all that Thou shalt give me I will surely give the tenth unto Thee.'(Genesis 28: 16-22)

21 Thou shalt not plant thee an Asherah* of any kind of tree beside the altar of the LORD thy God, which thou shalt make thee. 22 Neither shalt thou set thee up a pillar [masseba], which the LORD thy God hateth. (Deuteronomy 16: 21-22)

*a sacred tree or pole that stood near Canaanite religious locations to honor the Ugaritic mother-goddess Asherah.

According to the Masoretic Text, a New Translation with the aid of previous versions and with constant consultation of Jewish Authorities.

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