

Blessings

Sukkot 2022

GENESIS 1:26-27

- ✘ Then Elohim said, “Let us make man in our *image*, according to our *likeness*, and let them rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over the cattle and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.” And Elohim created man in His own *image*, in the *image* of Elohim He created him; male and female He created them. And Elohim *blessed* them and Elohim said, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth . . .”

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- ✘ Numbers 6:22-27 “Then Yahweh spoke to Moses, saying, ‘Speak to Aaron and to his sons, saying, ‘Thus you shall bless the sons of Israel. You shall say to them: Yahweh bless you, and keep you; Yahweh make His face shine on you, and be gracious to you; Yahweh lift up His countenance on you, and give you peace.’ So they shall invoke My name on the sons of Israel, and I then will bless them.’”

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- ✘ I realized there is something to this blessing which I had been overlooking all of my life.
- ✘ In my later studies, I looked up the definition of the word “bless” in the American Heritage Dictionary, and was blown away by what I observed:

AMERICAN HERITAGE DICTIONARY 1975

- ✘ to make holy by religious rite; sanctify
- ✘ to invoke divine favor upon
- ✘ to preserve from evil
- ✘ to honor as holy; glorify
- ✘ to confer well-being or prosperity upon
- ✘ to endow or favor, as with talent
- ✘ root word – **to hallow with blood!**

THE BLESSED SABBATH DAY

- ✘ Yahweh also brought to my attention that in Genesis 2 He blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy. And in Exodus 20 discussing the fourth commandment, He says, “Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy.” How did He make the day holy to Him? By blessing it, and that blessing is ongoing today. I began to realize that Yahweh was setting a precedence, or giving us examples, which we are to follow because we are made in His **image**. If He blesses, then we are to bless.

OUR WORDS ARE POWERFUL

- ✘ Consider the fact that even the heathen know this. In Daniel 6:6-12, it is recorded that the Medes realized they could not change a law - their word. The same precept is set forth in Esther 1:19 and 8:8 regarding the Persians and the Medes. The king could not change his decree.

OUR WORDS ARE POWERFUL

- ✘ In Matthew 24:35, Yahshua says that His words do not pass away, and in Isaiah 31:2, Yahweh says He does not retract His words. Yeshua also points out in Matthew 12:36 that we shall give an account for every **careless** (**idle** - KJV) word - not some of our words, but every word. In looking up the definition of this Greek word translated as **idle** or **careless**, we see that it means **lazy or unemployed**.

CARELESS, IDLE WORDS

- ✘ “Son of a _____,” “Lazy good for nothing bum,” and “You will never amount to a hill of beans.”
- ✘ The first words that can pop, real easy like, into our minds when someone offends us. On the other hand, we are to use active, employed, energetic words. We are in His employment as priests, 1 Peter 2:9, and, we are to bless those who curse us. It takes effort to do this. It takes energy. It takes Yeshua in us.

PRAYER?

- ✘ When we speak a blessing, is it a prayer to Yahweh to bring about our blessing? No.
- ✘ It is a statement of fact invoking divine favor and endowment upon the recipient of the blessing which they, with their free will, can accept or decline.

WHAT JACOB KNEW ABOUT BLESSINGS

- ✘ He could see that the blessings of Genesis 1:22, 28, and 9:1 - “Be fruitful and multiply”- ongoing
- ✘ He was made in the likeness or image of Yahweh, and the first thing Yahweh did was to bless and it took place.
- ✘ The blessing of **Genesis 12:1-3** spoken to Abraham and his seed/descendants.
- ✘ Abraham was blessed, financially, materially, militarily and otherwise.
- ✘ The importance of the blessing -- enough to risk the wrath or curse of his father by securing the blessing
- ✘ He knew his dad’s words were a “done deal” - could not be changed - as his dad, Isaac, also knew

TODAY!

- ✘ And all we have to do is to look at the blessings which are passed down to Jacob and to Jacob's seed (primarily to Joseph's seed, Manasseh and Ephraim) to see that they are a fact today:

TODAY

- ✘ We are a blessing to those around us and to all the families of the earth - Genesis 12:2 and 3.
- ✘ Those who bless us are blessed, and those who curse us (Cuba and North Korea) are cursed.
- ✘ Peoples serve us - Genesis 27:29.
- ✘ The rest of the world wants to be “like us”, like Ephraim and Manasseh - Genesis 48:20.



We are grain
exporters -
Genesis 27:28
Grain overflowing

We have the blessings of “the deep that lie beneath”
Genesis 49:25





We have the
blessings of the
heavens above

NASA spinoffs
Genesis 49:25



Why enemy pilots don't sleep well.

“Your enemies
shall cringe
before you.”
Deuteronomy 33:29

“And you shall tread upon their high places.”
Deuteronomy 33:29



BUT, ARE WE NOW ACTING AS BABYLON THE GREAT?

- ✘ Yahweh's Word is Faithful.
- ✘ How can we have all these blessings and yet end up described in Revelation 18 - if we turn to evil and away from Father Yahweh.

TO BLESS IS TO ENABLE

- ✘ If there is failure...?
- ✘ What do we do if the blessed fails to use the blessing?
- ✘ Exodus 32, the golden calf.
- ✘ Numbers 6: 22-27: THE blessing!
- ✘ So,... just keep blessing 😊

OUR RESPONSE?

Yahweh blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy (clean). Do all of mankind keep the Sabbath day holy and keep out “junk” which interferes with our communication and fellowship with Father Yahweh on His special day? No. Did that stop Yahweh from blessing the Sabbath day? Did He know that mankind in general would fail in at least some aspects of the spoken blessings? Yes, but, it did not keep Him from blessing us.

SPEAK BLESSINGS TODAY

- ✘ Disunity at a Sukkot
- ✘ Immaturity of assembly members
- ✘ Children – impure sights and thoughts
- ✘ Bless with Unity
- ✘ Bless with Maturity
- ✘ Bless with Heavenly Purity

BLESSINGS TODAY

- ✘ Nonbelievers.
- ✘ Fathers who fail to protect and provide.
- ✘ Disobedient children.
- ✘ Adulterous spouse.
- ✘ Bless with eyes to see, ears to hear, a heart to repent and obey.
- ✘ Bless with protective and providing spirit.
- ✘ Bless with an obedient heart.
- ✘ Bless with marriage fidelity, commitment.

WE ARE EVEN TO BLESS YAHWEH!

- ✘ Psalm 103:1-2 “Bless Yahweh, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless His holy name. Bless Yahweh, O my soul, and forget none of His benefits;
- ✘ Psalm 145:2 ***Every day*** I will bless You, and I will praise Your name forever and ever.

AARON'S BLESSING

- ✦ Numbers 6:22-27 “Then Yahweh spoke to Moses, saying, ‘Speak to **Aaron** and to **his sons**, saying, Thus you shall bless the sons of Israel. You shall say to them: Yahweh bless you, and keep you; Yahweh make His face shine on you, and be gracious to you; Yahweh lift up His countenance on you, and give you peace. So they shall invoke My name on the sons of Israel, and I then will bless them.’”

AARON AND TO HIS SONS

- ✘ “Aaron” the high priest was a picture of Yeshua, our High Priest.
- ✘ “His sons.” We are sons/offspring of Yeshua, our High Priest.
- ✘ Therefore, we are to speak this blessing – especially over our fellow Israelites.
- ✘ But why stop there? Jeremiah 4: 1-2. “Then the **nations** will **bless** themselves in Him, and in Him they will glory.”

Sabbath Blessing Meal







WHO, WHAT TO BLESS

- ✘ New-born child
- ✘ Weddings and Marriages
- ✘ Employers and employees
- ✘ That person you cannot stand ☹️
- ✘ Unruly kids 😊

IN CONCLUSION,

- ✘ “Name it and claim it”? NO!
- ✘ I Peter 2:9: We are Yahweh’s priests, so just do it – Just do our job.
- ✘ Bless someone NOW – and here on out.

THE AARONIC BLESSING OF NUMBERS 6

- ✘ Brothers and sisters:
- ✘ Yahweh bless you and keep you,
- ✘ Yahweh make His face shine upon you, and be gracious to you,
- ✘ Yahweh lift up His countenance upon you, and give you peace.

The End

Be Blessed



And not only speak blessings, but BE a
Blessing