

PURSUING OUR CAPACITY

“Joy to the world: *He comes to make his blessings flow*”

Living Under God's Blessing

What Is A Blessing In Scripture?

Blessing = Hebrew = *baw-rak*, a primitive root; to kneel; by implication to bless God (as an act of adoration), and (vice-versa) man (as a benefit)

Dictionary: a gift or favor bestowed by God

The First Mention Of A Blessing

Genesis 1:26–28 (KJV)

²⁶ And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth. ²⁷ So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them. ²⁸ **And God blessed them, and God said unto them,** Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth.

Isaiah 55:8–11 (NIV)

⁸ “For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways,” declares the LORD. ⁹ “As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts. ¹⁰ As the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return to it without watering the earth and making it bud and flourish, so that it yields seed for the sower and bread for the eater, ¹¹ so is my word that goes out from my mouth: It will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it.

God Sustains All Things By His Word

Hebrews 1:3 (NIV)

³ The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being, sustaining all things by his powerful word.

Numbers 6:22–27 (JPS)

²² And the LORD spoke unto Moses, saying: ²³ ‘Speak unto Aaron and unto his sons, saying: On this wise ye shall bless the children of Israel; ye shall say unto them: ²⁴ The LORD bless thee, and keep thee; ²⁵ The LORD make His face to shine upon thee, and be gracious unto thee; ²⁶ The LORD lift up His countenance upon thee, and give thee peace. ²⁷ **So shall they put My name upon the children of Israel, and I will bless them.**’

God First Introduced His Name

Exodus 3:13–14 (JPS)

‘I AM THAT I AM’; and He said: ‘Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel: I AM hath sent me unto you.’

I AM = He Brings into Existence Whatever Exists

Exodus 6:3 (JPS 1917)

Jehovah = יהוה yhwh = Yahweh, Lord

What Is In A Name?

Jehovah Mekaddishkem = the Lord
who sanctifies

Jehovah Tsidkenu = the Lord our
righteousness

Jehovah Nissi = the God who sees

Jehovah Jireh = the God who
provides

Jehovah Rapha = the Lord who heals

Jehovah Shalom = the Lord is peace

El Shaddai = all sufficient One

El Ohim = all powerful One

Jehovah Shammah = the Lord is
here

Adonai = my Lord

Elyon = most high God

Yahweh = I am, the self-existent One

Jehovah Rohi = the Lord is my
shepherd

May The Lord Bless You

Hebrew Blessing = *baw-rak* = to kneel; by implication to bless God (as an act of adoration), and (vice-versa) man (as a benefit)

May YaHWeH your heavenly Father kneel before you, making himself available to you, like a good father kneeling before his child in order to minister and bestow His gifts and promises

And Keep You

Hebrew keep = *shamer* = keep as place of protection

May YaHWeH, your heavenly Father guard you as with a hedge of thorny protection that will protect you from Satan and all your enemies from harming your body, soul, mind and spirit, your loved ones and all your possessions

The Lord Make His Face Shine Upon You

Hebrew face = *panim* and is plural = more than one face

Hebrew shine = *or* = light divided from darkness

light shining out of darkness

May YaHWeH, your heavenly Father illuminate the wholeness of His being toward you, continually - bringing you to order so that you will fulfill your God given destiny and purpose

...And Be Gracious To You

Hebrew gracious = *chanan* = to show favour

May YaHWeH, your heavenly Father provide you with perfect love and fellowship, never leaving you, to exhibit a yearning toward you - and give you sustenance, provision and friendship

The Lord Lift Up His Countenance Upon You

Hebrew lift = *mitnasse* = lift up continually

May YaHWeH, your heavenly Father lift up and carry His fullness of being toward you (bringing everything that He is to your aid) supporting you with His divine embrace and His entire being

And Give You Peace

Hebrew give = *siym* = to cause it to be established

Hebrew peace = shalom = more than the absence of strife
to make amends

May YaHWeH, your heavenly Father set in place all you need
to be whole and complete so you can walk in victory
moment by moment, by the power of the Holy Spirit

A person is standing on a mountain peak at night, looking out at a vast, starry sky. The person is wearing a blue shirt and dark shorts. The sky is filled with many bright stars, and the mountains in the background are dark and silhouetted against the night sky. The overall mood is serene and contemplative.

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