

Title: Called to Bless
Pastor: Fred May
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Zechariah 8:13

¹³And it shall come to pass that just as you were a curse among the nations, O house of Judah and house of Israel, so I will save you, and you shall be a blessing. Do not fear, let your hands be strong.

A. 1. To invoke blessing

Genesis 24:60

⁶⁰And they blessed Rebekah and said to her: "Our sister, may you become The mother of thousands of ten thousands; And may your descendants possess The gates of those who hate them."

Genesis 27:27

²⁷And he came near and kissed him; and he smelled the smell of his clothing, and blessed him and said: "Surely, the smell of my son Is like the smell of a field Which the LORD has blessed."

2. *Berach* – to speak up to someone / receive down from

Eulogeo – to speak well of / praise / extol / give thanks

3. a) It is NOT good wishes / wishes for 'good luck', RATHER a prophetic decree by one with authority to release it.

E.g.

Genesis 27: Isaac → Jacob & Esau

Genesis 48-49: Jacob → sons

Deuteronomy 33: Moses → nation

b) The power of the invocation

Numbers 6:22-27 NIV

²² The LORD said to Moses, ²³ "Tell Aaron and his sons, 'This is how you are to bless the Israelites. Say to them: ²⁴ "'The LORD bless you and keep you; ²⁵ the LORD make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you; ²⁶ the LORD turn his face towards you and give you peace.' ²⁷ "So they will put my name on the Israelites, and I will bless them."

B. Source

God the blessing

Genesis 1:22, 28

²² And God blessed them, saying, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth." ²⁸ Then God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth."

Genesis 9:1

¹ So God blessed Noah and his sons, and said to them: "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth."

Covenant of blessing

Genesis 12:1-3

¹Now the LORD had said to Abram: "Get out of your country, From your family And from your father's house, To a land that I will show you. ²I will make you a great nation; I will bless you And make your name great; And you shall be a blessing. ³I will bless those who bless you, And I will curse him who curses you; And in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

Evidence of God's heart of love

Deuteronomy 7:7-9

⁷The LORD did not set His love on you nor choose you because you were more in number than any other people, for you were the least of all peoples; ⁸but because the LORD loves you, and because He would keep the oath which He swore to your fathers, the LORD has brought you out with a mighty hand, and redeemed you from the house of bondage, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt. ⁹Therefore know that the LORD your God, He is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and mercy for a thousand generations with those who love Him and keep His commandments;

Deuteronomy 7:13-15

¹³And He will love you and bless you and multiply you; He will also bless the fruit of your womb and the fruit of your land, your grain and your new wine and your oil, the increase of your cattle and the offspring of your flock, in the land of which He swore to your fathers to give you. ¹⁴You shall be blessed above all peoples; there shall not be a male or female barren among you or among your livestock. ¹⁵And the LORD will take away from you all sickness, and will afflict you with none of the terrible diseases of Egypt which you have known, but will lay them on all those who hate you.

Motive: the golden rule

Matthew 7:12

¹²Therefore, whatever you want men to do to you, do also to them, for this is the Law and the Prophets.

C. Self-invocation

Psalms 67:1-2

¹God be merciful to us and bless us, And cause His face to shine upon us, Selah. ²That Your way may be known on earth, Your salvation among all nations.

I Chronicles 4:10

¹⁰And Jabez called on the God of Israel saying, "Oh, that You would bless me indeed, and enlarge my territory, that Your hand would be with me, and that You would keep me from evil, that I may not cause pain!" So God granted him what he requested.

Romans 12:14

¹⁴Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse.

James 3:10

¹⁰Out of the same mouth proceed blessing and cursing. My brethren, these things ought not to be so.