

YHVH's Prayer for you – Often called “the Aaronic /Priestly Blessing”



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YHVH has shared a prayer from him – to YOU-- that He wrote. It's the only prayer of YHVH for US and to us that I'm aware of. You may have heard of it. But I hope this sermon inspires you to feel and appreciate YHVH's love for you. Commonly called “the Aaronic Blessing”, many of you will gain new appreciation for this ancient prayer of blessing. The notes for this sermon are not 100% word-for-word, so I recommend you hear the audio with the notes. You'll glean more that way.

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***Keep voice DEEP, enunciate. BePOWERFUL. Be CLEAR.
KEPT THIS MOVING – done in 50 minutes. HEART. STORIES.***

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Hi everyone. Welcome to Light on the Rock. This is Philip Shields with more thoughts from our Father's book, the Bible. Welcome all of you from countries all over the world who come to our free site.

How would you like to hear a prayer from God our Father specifically for you? We read of Yeshua's prayer in the garden of Gethsemane, but do you know there is a prayer from God our Father for his people, and specifically for YOU – I mean YOU, just you? You'll see what I mean as we go along.

This prayer is for HIS people, HIS family. This prayer is in our Maker's own words. It's HIS prayer, BY him, and FOR His people. And today I want to explore that with you.

In patriarchal Bible times – in the days of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob and probably even way before then – it was customary for a father to either pray a blessing over his sons or in some cases, to pronounce a curse on his descendants. I may give a sermon just on that point sometime after this.

But YHVH Most High, our heavenly Father, also wants to bless all his children. He told Aaron, the High Priest, that he and his sons (the priests) should bless the children of Israel regularly. So YHVH gave the Aaronic priesthood a specific set of words to bless his children with.

YHVH'S OWN PRAYER OF BLESSING

NOW, I'm sure you're waiting for Yehovah's great, simple, but so powerful prayer he gives us. You may have heard of this prayer. **Most call it "The Aaronic Blessing".** *But I think that is very misleading!* I may be getting technical, but I feel this is Yehovah's blessing, not Aaron's. Aaron was the conduit, the spokesman for this, but the one doing the blessing is YHVH above! The words are not Aaron's or the priests' words, but the Almighty's words.

Here's the blessing:

Numbers 6:22-27

And YHVH spoke to Moses, saying: 23 "Speak to Aaron and his sons, saying, 'This is the way you shall bless the children of Israel. Say to them:

24 "YHVH bless you and keep you;

25 YHVH make His face shine upon you,

And be gracious to you;

26 YHVH lift up His countenance upon you,

And give you peace."

27 "So they shall put MY NAME* ON THE CHILDREN OF ISRAEL, and I will bless them."

There's more to this blessing than first meets the eye, and that is what I want to convey today. We can get very very technical, but I'm going to avoid that and get to the HEART of this powerful prayer from God himself, for you. In the HEBREW apparently, these few short words says much, much more than we get from the English translation.

Let's DISECT IT a bit:

- **WHO is the one blessing?**

It's not Aaron. It's YHVH himself. See Verse 27 – last phrase – "...and I will bless them." The wording was given by YHVH –v 22-23 – "THIS is the way you shall bless the children of Israel."

- **Who can receive this blessing? Anyone?**

NO. Not just anyone. It's only for children of Israel in the Old Covenant, -- but for the "Israel of God" in the new covenant. (Galatians 6:16 – written to Gentile Galatians, says they too, can be part of the Israel of God.)

Numbers 6:23 – "...This is the way you shall bless the children of ISRAEL."

To receive this blessing you have to be part of the People of God. Believers. People with God's spirit and their children. That's it. It's not for rebels, it's not for people who refuse to accept Yeshua as their Messiah. It's not even for the physical Jewish people in the New Covenant, at least, because now, one is a Jew spiritually – ONE WHO HAS believed in Yeshua as the promised Messiah.

GOD SO LOVED the world, yes I get that -- that he GAVE us His son. BUT – WE have to BELIEVE on him, ACCEPT him as our king and Saviour as **John 3:16** – "...that whosoever believes on him shall not perish but have everlasting life". For if we don't accept and believe in Christ, the wrath of God abides on us still! People love John 3:16 but rarely read out loud John 3:36.

John 3:36

"He who believes in the Son has everlasting life; and he who does not believe the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God abides on him."

So the principle I'm giving is this: To BE A PART of God's prayer for each of US*, WE have to be part of God's family. That means repenting of our sins, TURNING from our sins to HIS way of holy righteousness, and being baptized and receiving God's SPIRIT in us. We've read many times this is what makes us children of God (**Romans 8:9, 14**), and a part of the "ISRAEL of GOD" – **Gal.6:16**; a spiritual JEW (**Romans 2:28-29; Gal. 3:26-29**). What I'm about to read is from Rabbi Shaul (Saul – Paul) trained at the feet of Gamaliel or as the Jews say – Gamliel.

Galatians 3:26-29

"For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus. 27 For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. 28 There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus. 29 And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise."

Any of you Jews hearing this: you are NOT a part of the new *Israel of God* unless* and until* you believe in Yeshua of Nazareth as YOUR Redeemer and King. It's all clearly spelled out in the **end of Romans 2, Romans 9** – the early verses and last verses of Romans 9, plus the beginning of Romans 10, and all of **Romans 11** about the Olive Tree of God.

This is not my subject today – but to you of Israel, or ANY country, the ISRAEL OF GOD" today is composed of those who have God's Spirit, PERIOD. And those who have God's spirit will be those who have accepted God's SON, the **prophesied SON of God in Psalm 2** and the suffering Servant of **Isaiah 52 and 53, and Psalm 22** – passages they no longer read in the weekly Torah and Haf-Torah readings each sabbath at synagogue. Psalm 2 is about YHVH speaking of his Anointed, his Messiah/Christ, who is identified later in the Psalm as the SON of God. But they are ONE, so perfectly ONE as Hebrews 1 explains.

So my heart goes out to you, of physical Israel – and that your eyes be opened to see your Redeemer IS coming to rule, but he came the first time to live and die for you and me and be resurrected as the first of the firstborn of God.

So this ancient prayer, in God's own words, was NOT given for all the world*, but to his people Israel – at that time – but now is given to all people from everywhere* who accept Yeshua as their Messiah**. So if you're Chinese or Russian, or from Guatemala or Poland or Israel – if you accept Yeshua as your Savior and King – you can hear this prayer from YHVH pronounced and placed on you!!! Isn't that exciting!?

- **GOD'S BLESSING TO US IS SPOKEN BY THE PRIESTHOOD.**

Priests in the Old Covenant were all and only from the sons of Aaron. Aaron was a Levite, but ONLY his family could be priests. Levites helped around the tabernacle, but NOT as priests. This was part of the reason for Korah's rebellion of Numbers 16; he wanted the priesthood as well.

The High Priest today is Yeshua, even though he was born of the tribe of Judah. Hebrews 7 says he is of the Order of Melchizedek, the priest of God in Salem, which we equate with Jerusalem in the days of Abraham. Please read it again yourself – in Genesis 14:18 onwards. Melchizedek blesses Abram saying in **Gen 14:19** – "Blessed be Abram of Elohim MOST High, Possessor of heaven and earth; And blessed be GOD MOST HIGH (the Father)..."

So AS our High Priest, I am confident that Yeshua is pronouncing this prayer of blessing over his brothers and sisters – the true believers – around the

world, many, many times a week. Have you thought of that? HE is praying for you. Remember he prayed for Peter as well. Yeshua tells Peter in **Luke 22:31-32** that Satan had asked for him, to sift him as wheat. “**But I have prayed for you**, that your faith should not fail; and when you have returned to me, strengthen your brethren”.

Yeshua as our High Priest of the ancient order of Melchizedek is praying for YOU, and specifically this prayer of blessing from God our father. For YOU. For ME.*

Hebrews 7:1-3

“For this **Melchizedek, king of Salem, priest of the Most High God**, who met Abraham returning from the slaughter of the kings and blessed him, 2 to whom also Abraham gave a tenth part of all, first being translated "king of righteousness," and then also king of Salem, meaning "king of peace," 3 without father, without mother, without genealogy, having neither beginning of days nor end of life, but made like the Son of God, remains a priest continually.”

But it wasn't just the High Priest who could say it – but ALL the sons of Aaron. In the NEW Covenant, if you have God's holy Spirit residing in you, you also* are a PRIEST of God. That's what scripture says.

So YOU and I should be saying this prayer and blessing people with it, in their presence, from time to time.* Are you? Am I? Are we doing this? Are you fulfilling your role as part of the “royal priesthood” (**1 Peter 2:8**).

1 Peter 2:9-10 (also 1 Peter 2:5 – a holy priesthood)

“But you are a chosen generation, **a royal priesthood**, a holy nation, **His own special people***, that YOU may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light; 10 who once were not a people but are now **the people of God**, who had not obtained mercy but now have obtained mercy.”

Here's YHVH's Prayer of Blessing again so you have it handy:

Numbers 6:22-27

And YHVH spoke to Moses, saying: 23 "Speak to Aaron and his sons, saying, 'This is the way you shall bless the children of Israel. Say to them:

24 "YHVH bless you and keep you;

25 YHVH make His face shine upon you,

And be gracious to you;

26 YHVH lift up His countenance upon you,

And give you peace."

27 "So they shall put MY NAME* ON THE CHILDREN OF ISRAEL, and I will bless them."

- Notice that YHVH is NOT AT ALL SHY about using his name! This notion that we are not to use his name at all is poppycock!

BROTHERS AND SISTERS – how on earth or in heaven are we going to place GOD'S NAME on the hearers, if you don't USE*

God's name? You'll see that his name – YHVH – is used at least 4 times in these few short verses.

When this blessing is read as "the LORD" – hear me – the whole POINT of this blessing* is missed. "The LORD" Is not his name. That is certainly NOT placing the name of YHVH on the Israel of God if we don't USE his name.

I'M NOT OVERSTATING THIS. God in heaven wants the whole world to know who the TRUE God is. It's not Baal (which means "Lord"),* It's not Allah the moon god of muslims, it's not the hundreds of Hindu gods and goddesses, it's not anyone but YHVH.

Part of the promise of the new covenant is that the knowledge of who YHVH IS, shall cover the whole world as waters cover the seas, remember? Jer. 31:31-33. HE WANTS US to use his name.

Where our English Bibles say "the LORD" – remember in Hebrew of these texts, there is no "the" **there before YHVH that they translated as "the LORD". Let me just do a quick review. In 6,828 places** in the Old Testament Bible, translators – who did not change the names of the many pagan gods (Baal, Marduk, Ashtaroah, Dagon, etc) DID change Our ONE TRUE GOD'S REVEALED NAME from YHVH to "the LORD". They ERASED the ONE NAME of God that is his personal unique name and changed it to "the Lord".

Understand why they stopped saying the proper NAME of the One true God. After the Bar Kochba revolt against the Romans in 132-135 AD, the Romans forced Jews everywhere to **give up 4 of their core beliefs**, in their drive to tamp down the Jews' fervor. The 4 were:

- The 7th day sabbath * Circumcision * Reading the Torah
- Using the unique name of their God – YHVH.

So after a rabbi was burned alive with his Torah scroll for using the name of the living God – YHVH – **they decided to substitute it**. And so everywhere that YHVH was written, and it was written 6,828 times, plus 49x where it was simply YAH on top of that – they changed his name to Adonai – Meaning the Lord, or my Lord. So when Jews read even the Blessing where God's true name is used on every phrase, they substituted it to "the LORD" – or Adonai, they say. But Adonai is not his name. It's a title.

YHVH has MANY titles but just ONE NAME. Even Yeshua tells us to pray "Hallowed be thy NAME" – not "names". Some of the titles include El, EL Shaddai, Eloah, El Elyon, Adonai, and more. But those titles were often used *by the surrounding PAGANS as well, for their gods. Did you know that?*

So when you say "God" or Elohim – that's not his name. That's what he IS – GOD. But if you say you pray to "God" or worship "God", a Hindu or Muslim would say they *also* pray and worship God. But they'd mean their own gods. So OUR God has a unique NAME; and it is YHVH.

The word or name "Elohim" which – when referring to the living God, is translated in the singular as "God", but when applied to pagan deities, it is translated as "gods" – as when YHVH says he will destroy all the elohim of Egypt in the 10 plagues.

So this is why we often read the phrase "I am YHVH your Elohim" – to differentiate himself from all the myriads of other elohim that are out there. So Elohim means God. When I pray, I can say "dear God" – but now I recognize him as my Father, so I much rather say, "holy Father" when I pray.

But my father and your father in heaven has a NAME.

Exodus 15:3 and Jeremiah 33:2 – "...YHVH is His name"

Isaiah 42:8 – "YHVH is my name"

Psalms 83:18 – "He alone is YHVH".

It can't get any clearer than these words directly from our Maker.

And remember when Moses admitted he was so schooled in Egyptian thought that he didn't even KNOW the true God's true name and asked for it in Exodus 3. The answer was "I AM who I am", and tell them "YHVH the God of your fathers sent me."

Exodus 3:13-16

Then Moses said to God, "Indeed, when I come to the children of Israel and say to them, 'The God of your fathers has sent me to you,' and they say to me, 'What is His name?' what shall I say to them?"

14 And God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM." And He said, "Thus you shall say to the children of Israel, '**I AM** has sent me to you.'" 15 Moreover God said to Moses, "Thus you shall say to the children of Israel: **YHVH, God of your fathers**, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you. **This is My name forever**, and this is My memorial to all generations.' 16 Go and gather the elders of Israel together, and say to them, '**YHVH**, God of your fathers...has sent me..."

He has many, many titles – LORD, Redeemer, Creator, Wonderful, God with us, etc. – but He himself says his one true name is YHVH.

- **I now know God Most High as my Abba, my daddy, my wonderful awesome Father in Heaven.** And I know YHVH Yeshua, the Son of God, as my King, my brother, my SAVIOUR, redeemer and more. Watch for my sermon coming up "Who is this Yeshua?" So I refer to God Most High as Father, and to my Redeemer as "Yeshua" – which means Saviour. The FULL version of his name would have been "Yeshoshua" – meaning "Self-Existent One Saves" – and was the name for Joshua of the Old Covenant times.

YHVH does not mean "Lord". It means, literally – He exists. Self-Existent One, Eternal, I AM who I am. Adonai is another term – meaning "My Lord", but the original Hebrew word is YHVH. This sacred name *was* clearly revealed to Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, even to Hagar, and even to the world's leaders at various times, and like I say – this ONE NAME is used more than El, Elohim, Adonai and ALL other titles and names* PUT* together! But it's been scrubbed from your Bibles, almost.

Again – but they KEPT the pagan gods' names without editing them out. So we read of Baal, Dagon, Marduk, Ashtoreth and more – but not of YHVH.
**What a crying shame.

So I will say Yehovah. I nowadays use Yehovah because the oldest found ancient manuscripts that show the vowel points of pronunciation point to "Yehovah". The most POPULAR pronunciation is YAHWEH, and I used to use Yahweh as well, but now use Yehovah since the scientific finds of late favor this as the historic pronunciation.

We should not argue or disfellowship those who use his name differently than we might. Let's get along. God will reveal in time, the pronunciation of YHVH.

WONDERFUL PRAYER OF BLESSING IN YHVH'S OWN WORDS

Here's the prayer again, and we'll break it down

27 In this way they will put My name on the Israelites, and I will bless them."

Numbers 6:22-27

And YHVH spoke to Moses, saying: 23 "Speak to Aaron and his sons, saying, 'This is the way you shall bless *the children of Israel*. Say to them:

24 "YHVH bless you and keep you;

25 YHVH make His face shine upon you,

And be gracious to you;

26 YHVH lift up His countenance upon you,

And give you peace."

27 "*So they shall put MY NAME* ON THE CHILDREN OF ISRAEL, and I will bless them.*"

We'll break this down for a few minutes. Here are several points:

- **YHVH bless YOU and keep YOU, make his face shine upon YOU.**

In KJV it is "bless THEE", not "bless YE". It's not a "y'all" like they say here in the south, but just the isolated YOU, you by yourself, yes you.

Just as our God died just for me, just for you, and for all – his blessing is also a laser point right on my chest. He means ME. He means YOU, not just a generic blessing to all of us. I hope you get that. Yehovah is being VERY personal here.

When you hear this prayer, remember YHVH Most High is talking to you*, from His heart. Individually to you. Personally.

- **Remember YHVH gives this blessing to a nation that had formed a gold calf and had rebelled numerous times.** They weren't really all that zealous, and yet their loving God still wants to bless them! Remember that! You don't have to be perfect for God to bless you – as long as keep coming back to him and abiding in Him, he is there for you. When we sin, he is faithful to blot out our sins when we repent. He will spank and correct us, but He also sends blessings.

V. 24 YHVH BLESS you...

Our God WANTS to bless us. He wants good for us. IN the Hebrew there's a hint of kneeling before us as he gives us his gifts. I balk a bit at that, but on the other hand, Yeshua knelt before his disciples and did the job of a slave or least in the household: washing dusty feet. Perhaps if we resist the meaning in the Hebrew – barakh – it's because we're like Peter at the footwashing: "No, I can't have GOD kneeling – whether figuratively or literally – before me."

Check it out in the Hebrew. The word can mean to bless, kneel, salute or greet. It's a sharing of good things and words and your being with someone.

"...YHVH bless you and KEEP you"

Here the word has a lot to do with putting a hedge around you, protect you. We put sheep in a "keep". That's the meaning here. Our God wants to watch over you as shepherds do by night, and protect you. Holman translation says "the Lord bless you and PROTECT you." And God knows, we need a lot of protecting going on in this world. The Hebrew word "*samar*" (#8104) means – and the way this word is used in scripture means "*to watch, keep, preserve, guard, watch carefully over, to preserve, to pay close attention to.*"

So may Yehovah bless you, look after you, and protect you as he watches over you carefully. Amen. Thank you, our King. I SEE and feel this KEEPING as him putting his strong, fatherly, perfectly loving arms around me, and telling me "It's OK now Son. I've got you". I tell my grandsons that if they're afraid of something. I hug...and say, "It's OK, Ollie, Poppy's here. So everything's OK." And I'm just a MAN... BUT MY father is KING OF THE UNIVERSE!!!

v. 25a – "YHVH make his face SHINE upon you...."

This is opposite when God hides his face from us when we've rejected him. In modern English I'd say, "May Yehovah's face BEAM WITH JOY upon you". May he be so happy He's beaming, just like a happy dad or mom does as they watch their toddler play in the back yard.

David said he wanted to seek his Maker's face. In Psalm 27:4 he says the one thing he desired was to dwell in the House of YHVH and to behold the "*BEAUTY of YHVH*, and to inquire in his temple." **Ps 27:8-9** – when you said "Seek My face, my heart said to You, "Your face, YHVH, I will seek. Do not hide your face from me..."

Num 6:25b --“...AND BE GRACIOUS TO YOU.”

Even in this blessing, YHVH reminds us he wants to pour out his divine FAVOR, his GRACE, to us. He is all about grace, from beginning to end.

Numbers 6:26 –“ YHVH lift up His countenance upon you,

And give you peace.”

When you enjoy someone, your head is lifted up as you gaze on that person. When you're upset, or saddened, your gaze is down. I see our God as someone who has picked us up from the ground and raised us up above his head in joy! He is noticing you, He hears your cries and your prayers, and wants you to feel him picking you up and in delight gazing into your eyes.

In the Hebrew, I am told this word countenance – Panim – is plural. It points to the **entirety** of what God is. Did you get that? In the plural form, which this is, it means everything that the person is.

What's going on here is that God the Father –through the High Priest (Yeshua) – is offering us everything that he IS, and ultimately, everything that he HAS. We – with Christ – become inheritors of all things with Christ as Romans 8 says. We are Co-HEIRS, as Father lifts up his countenance towards us, he is offering us everything that HE IS*.

Did you have any idea this prayer by God, from the Father, through the High Priest – to you and me individually – was so loaded with blessing?

This is why apostle John tells us this:

1 John 3:1-3

“Behold what manner of love **the Father** has bestowed on us, that we should be called children of God! Therefore the world does not know us, because it did not know Him. 2 Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He [Father] is revealed, **we shall be like Him,* for we shall see Him as He is.** 3 And everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure.”

WOW, WOW, WOW loving Father in heaven. WOW!

“...And give you peace (shalom)”

Notice, true peace COMES FROM God. It's a fruit of his Nature, his spirit. This is just like what Yeshua said, “Peace I leave with you. MY

peace I give you, not as a world gives. LET not* your heart be troubled, neither let it* be afraid.” (John 14:27).

Great peace have they who love God's law (Psalm 119:165). Peace is a fruit of God's nature, his spirit, in us. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.” (Matthew 5:9). The implication is ONLY peacemakers will be God's children. But it's also an inner peace we need to let God develop in us – no matter what's happening around us, there's deep peace in our heart as we focus on him. “

Worry means we're afraid our God is not up to the task of whatever worries us.** **Let's stop worrying.** Let's accept the peace from God's blessing, from his personal prayer for each of us.

Isaiah 26:3 “YOU will keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on you, because he trusts in you.” YHVH wants to give us that peace.

Numbers 6:27 – “So they shall PUT MY NAME upon the children of ISRAEL, and I WILL* bless them.”

In this prayer, he puts his NAME upon us. Names. You know how it goes. Someone's name is mentioned. We instantly feel good or feel bad about that person. “He's a lying thief” – or “She's such a gossip” we say, as we gossip about her. Or, “he's such a kindhearted soul...” or “She brings joy wherever she goes”. We instantly have an impression in our hearts when a name comes up. It's the same with God.

God's name is not JUST his name, but is a description of his character. It's what he IS. It's what he DOES. It reveals Him to us. When you think of Father in heaven, it should convey lots of wonderful, warm, protective, blessings, joy and love – for that is what He is.

Yeshua says in **Revelation 3:12** to the church at Philadelphia that he will write upon us who overcome “the name of my God”. We will forever be identified as the children of the Highest.

So in this prayer of Blessing, God's OWN prayer, his OWN PRAYER for each of us, he ends by saying, “Thus I, YHVH, shall put MY name (not names) upon the children of Israel and I will bless them.”

There's joy and power in this prayer. Say it out to yourself and to others much more often than you're probably doing now. This is God's prayer – THROUGH the priesthood. Enjoy it. Relish in it. And bless Him back!

Numbers 6:22-27

And YHVH spoke to Moses, saying: 23 "Speak to Aaron and his sons, saying, 'This is the way you shall bless the children of Israel. Say to them:

24 "YHVH bless you and keep you;

25 YHVH make His face shine upon you,

And be gracious to you;

26 YHVH lift up His countenance upon you,

And give you peace."

27 "So they shall put MY NAME* ON THE CHILDREN OF ISRAEL, and I will bless them."

SO recap:

This is God the Father's prayer for YOU, individually, for YOU. You have to be part of the Israel of God first though. So repent, be baptized and receive God's Spirit. Then focus on ABIDING IN Christ (Joh 15:1-5) and you will bear the fruit of the spirit – as you walk and live and pray in the spirit as your focus. You WILL be more and more like Christ as you do this. Instead of focusing on minutiae, focus on our Redeemer and our Abba – and believe me, we will change to be more like him the more His Spirit is what is guiding us.

YHVH bless you. He gets down at our level, and the Hebrew believe it or not, has the meaning of kneeling, as Christ did at the Passover footwashing, so he can tenderly gift us with everything he has, and everything he IS. Yeshua, who is the EXACT image of the Father, says he did not come to be served, but to serve. He was showing us what Abba Yehovah would be doing. Wow, Father.

Then YHVH puts his arms around us as he KEEPS us, protects us, watches over us, guards us. "YHVH bless you and KEEP you."

YHVH make his face SHINE upon you.

In his relationship with you, His face is shining, beaming with delight and love for you... yes, even when you fail and come back to him. Like the Father of the Prodigal son, he RACES OUT to welcome you back to him and CELEBRATES your repentance and change. And he restores you to a full relationship – the ring, the robe, the sandals. Wow, Father, wow.

"...And be gracious unto you..."

AND EXTEND HIS DIVINE FAVOR TO YOU. He wants to show you his graciousness and give it to you.

God is not a respecter of persons, but he does favor humility and righteousness. Look at Cain and Abel. **Genesis 4:4-7** says God respected Abel

and his offering but did not respect Cain and his offering. So Cain got all depressed. And what did God do? He said, Cain, Cain, if you do well, will you not also be accepted? But if you don't, sin lies at the door – but you should overcome it, rule over it! Come on Cain”.

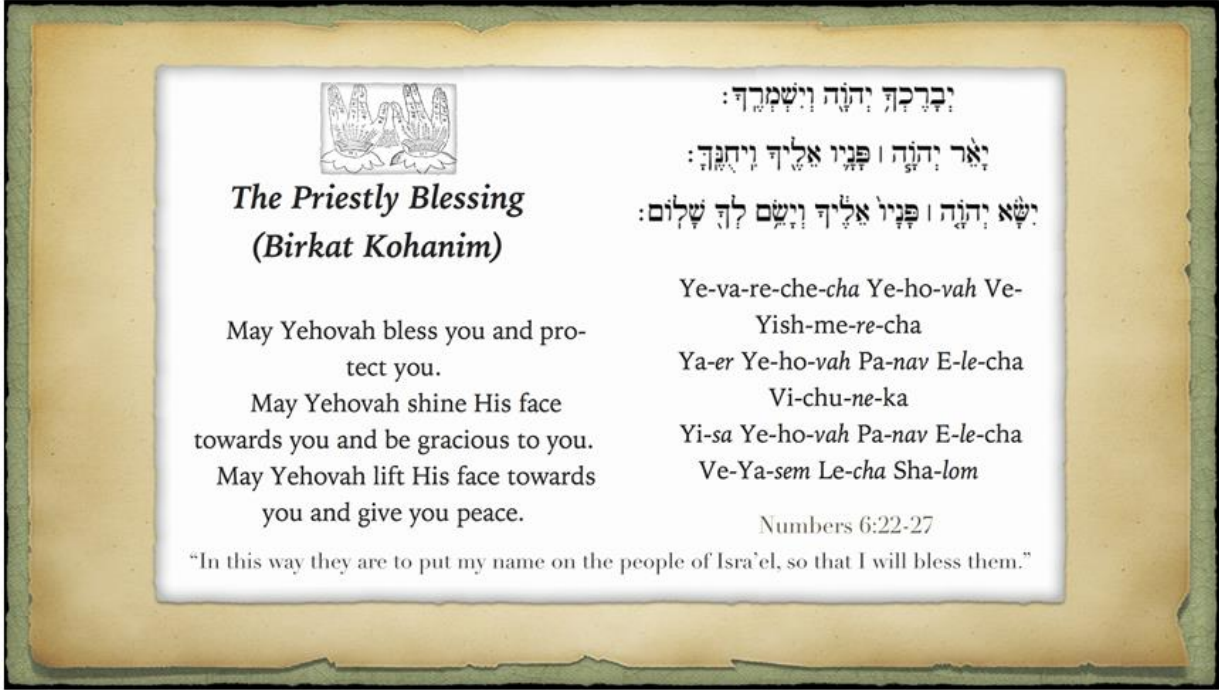
What a loving God we have.

“YHVH lift up his countenance upon you” – He is focusing on his children, full time, you never leave his mind, his sight or his heart.

And GIVE you peace (shalom). The word for give is to fashion, work it out for you, hand it over, give it to you. We have to accept. We have to look for him extending his perfect peace.

And so shall you put MY NAME upon the children of Israel and I WILL* bless* them.

Closing prayer.



**The Priestly Blessing
(Birkat Kohanim)**

May Yehovah bless you and protect you.
May Yehovah shine His face towards you and be gracious to you.
May Yehovah lift His face towards you and give you peace.

“In this way they are to put my name on the people of Isra’el, so that I will bless them.”

יְבָרֶכֶּה יְהוָה וְיִשְׁמְרֶה:

יָאֵר יְהוָה | פָּנָיו אֵלֶיךָ וְיַחֲנֹךְ:

יֵשָׁא יְהוָה | פָּנָיו אֵלֶיךָ וְיַשֵּׁם לָךְ שְׁלוֹם:

Ye-va-re-che-cha Ye-ho-vah Ve-
Yish-me-re-cha
Ya-er Ye-ho-vah Pa-nav E-le-cha
Vi-chu-ne-ka
Yi-sa Ye-ho-vah Pa-nav E-le-cha
Ve-Ya-sem Le-cha Sha-lom

Numbers 6:22-27