

6. SEALS US WITH _____

²⁷ *So shall they put my name upon the people of Israel, and I will bless them.*

God's name is synonymous with his _____, his _____, his _____, & his _____

It is our connection with God, whose name we bear, that we receive *shalom* . . . well-being.

Colossians 3:17 – And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Acts 11:26 – The disciples were called Christians first at Antioch.

1 Peter 4:16 – However, if you suffer as a Christian, do not be ashamed, but praise God that you bear that name.

2 Corinthians 1:21-22 – ²¹ Now it is God who makes both us and you stand firm in Christ. He anointed us, ²² set his seal of ownership on us, and put his Spirit in our hearts as a deposit, guaranteeing what is to come.

THE SPOKEN BLESSING

Numbers 6:22 – 27

WHAT IS BLESSING?

Prayers are addressed to God on behalf of others. Prayers are spoken for others and with them.

Blessings are addressed to others on behalf of God. Blessings are spoken over them. (*Courageous Grandparenting Seminar*)

Numbers 6:22 – 27

²² The LORD spoke to Moses, saying, ²³ “Speak to Aaron and his sons, saying, ‘Thus you shall bless the people of Israel: you shall say to them,’

²⁴ The LORD bless you
and keep you;

²⁵ the LORD make his face to shine upon you
and be gracious to you;

²⁶ the LORD lift up his countenance upon you
and give you peace.

²⁷ “So shall they put my name upon the people of Israel, and I will bless them.’” (ESV)

Blessing is _____

²² *The LORD spoke to Moses, saying . . .*

God originates blessing; it is not God responding to Moses' request for his blessing.

“Here’s how I want you to bless the people.”

HOW DOES GOD BLESS HIS PEOPLE?

1. GOD _____

²⁴ *The LORD bless you and keep you . . .*

BLESS – (*barak*) – Generally involves a _____ or _____ upon the person or people it’s spoken over.

When **we** bless God, as in Psalm 103:1, it means that we **ascribe** or **credit goodness** to him. We recognize and acknowledge His goodness.

When the **priests** blessed the Israelites . . . **or we bless our family** . . . it means that we’re asking for God’s blessing on the people we’re speaking it over.

When **GOD** blesses people, being God, he is able to _____ the good that he wishes.

2. GOD _____

²⁴ *The LORD bless you and keep you . . .*

“**To keep**” is to exercise _____ over, to guard, to watch over.

Psalm 121 — ¹ I lift up my eyes to the hills. From where does my help come? ² My help comes from the LORD, who made heaven and earth. ³ He will not let your foot be moved; he who **keeps** you will not slumber. ⁴ Behold, he who **keeps** Israel will neither slumber nor sleep. ⁵ The LORD is your **keeper**; the LORD is your shade on your right hand. ⁶ The sun shall not strike you by day, nor the moon by night. ⁷ The LORD will **keep** you from all evil; he will **keep** your life. ⁸ The LORD will **keep** your going out and your coming in from this time forth and forevermore.

3. GOD SHOWS _____

²⁵ *the LORD make his face to shine upon you . . .*

Face to shine – this is a figure of speech for his _____ and _____.

4. GOD SHOWS _____

be gracious to you

God’s blessing is a **gift** bestowed on those who cannot claim it as a right . . . it is an act of God’s gracious character.

God’s grace can show itself in:

- forgiveness – Psalm 41:4 – As for me, I said, “O LORD, be gracious to me; heal me, for I have sinned against you!”
- in answer to prayer – Psalm 4:1 – Answer me when I call, O God of my righteousness! You have given me relief when I was in distress. Be gracious to me and hear my prayer!
- in deliverance from enemies – Psalm 9:13 – Be gracious to me, O LORD! See my affliction from those who hate me, O you who lift me up from the gates of death . . .

5. GOD GRANTS _____

²⁶ *the LORD lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace*

Lifting up his countenance is a figure of speech for _____ toward us

Psalm 30:7 – Your favor, O LORD, made me as secure as a mountain. Then you turned away from me, and I was shattered. (NLT)

Psalm 44:24 – Why do you look the other way? Why do you ignore our suffering and oppression? (NLT)