

The Aaronic Blessing

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Ref: Numbers 6:24-26 (all scriptures are in KJV)

“The LORD bless thee, and keep thee:

The LORD make His face shine upon thee, and be gracious unto thee:

The LORD lift up His countenance upon thee, and give thee peace.”

- To give you a background of this interpretation of the Aaronic blessing, first we have to understand the language in which it was written.
- The Hebrew language is rich in meaning – not two, three or four words can sometimes describe the meaning of one Hebrew word.
- The Hebrew language has more concrete meaning to words that are abstract in the English language. It almost always describes something or an action.

These are a few basic comparisons of abstract English interpretations, and concrete Hebrew meanings attached to these:

Glory	- Armament, armour, weapons
Believe	- Support, to give support to something, to hold up
Holy	- Pious, virtuous, religious – set apart, special purpose
Spirit	- Wind

We will now take a few words in the Aaronic blessing and go deeper into the Hebrew interpretations.

Bless – Genesis 24-11: “And He made his camels to kneel down (**barakh**)...”

To drop down to the knee in respect to another person

As if to present a gift – for example, like a marriage proposal. (The groom giving a gift to the bride – does that remind you of Jesus?)

Berekh – knee *Berakah* – gift (blessing)

Greek thinking - Blessing/words (abstract)

Hebraic thinking - Blessing/actions (concrete)

For the Hebrews, actions are more important than words!

Keep – Deuteronomy 4:40:

“Therefore you shall keep his statutes, and his commandments, which I command thee this day, that it may go well with thee, and with thy children after thee, and that thou mayest prolong thy days upon the earth, which the LORD thy God giveth thee, for ever.”

We usually equate keep with obedience, but this doesn't agree with the Aaronic blessing.

Think of a shepherd – who builds a kraal out of stones & thorn bushes

Shamar means basically to create a protective kraal, to hedge and to guard.

Shameer comes from the word *Shamar*, and it means thorns.

Included is the meaning to guard with a hedge of protection.

Face – *Paniym*

Exodus 33:14:

“And He said, My presence will go with you, and I will give you rest.”

Previously the LORD said He will not go with Moses, that He was fed up with the Israelites and wanted to kill them.

The presence is His face, it also means His representative in the Hebraic perspective. So if God the Father did not go, but sent His “face” (His representative). Who was this representative? Doesn’t it make you think of Jesus?

The LORD spoke to Moses face to face as a friend, then a few verses later He says: No one can see my face, they will surely die. Who then did Moses speak to face to face?

Someone else is clearly involved, once again, I’m thinking of Jesus!

Shine – the Hebrew word *or* which means Light & Darkness and is also interpreted as Order and Chaos

Included is the meaning to illuminate, to bring about order.

Gracious – *Chanan* (*prounounced with the Jewish “ch” sound*)

Proverbs 5:19: “a pleasant row” (alternative meaning “graceful goat”)

Chen – more concrete – gracefulness of a deer or a goat.

The idea behind it is, that it is a sight to behold – beautiful to look at

Chanan/Chen – Mechenah – which means camp, a place of gracefulness

A shepherd comes home, he is tired and hungry, and then he sees the camp over the horizon. That feeling he gets, that’s *chen*.

Hebrews are very emotional people – their emotions are important to them.

That’s why Hebrew words are most often related to emotions.

So the camp means relief, friendship, companionship, food and warmth.

Chen & mechenah – home

Provide love, sustenance and friendship.

Lift up – *Nasa* – means, to lift up.

Give – *Siym* – to set something in place, or to be established.

Peace – *Shalom* – usually understood as the absence of strife or war.

The root word is *Shalam* – is to make restitution or to restore to its original state.

Brought back to completeness – wholeness

Nothing missing, nothing broken – being whole and complete

Name – *Shem*

Neshemah means breath and is closely derived from *shem* – in Hebraic thought, your breath is your character or personality. Your name IS your character or personality.

Numbers 6:27

They (which are the *haKohen* – teachers, priests – Levites) will place My name upon the people of Israel, and I will bless them. (kneel down, present a gift)

The Aaronic blessing spells out the character of YHWH.

It’s the responsibility of the Kohen to take the character of YHWH, and set it on the people.

By teaching them the word of YHWH and how to act.

He kneels down and presents them with a gift – His character – His Word.

Now...let's extrapolate the Aaronic blessing, with the newly interpreted Hebrew words, and see the fullness of the meaning.

This is absolutely awesome! How great is our God!

Aaronic Blessing – Interpreted

YHWH will kneel before you presenting gifts and will guard you with a hedge of protection.

YHWH will illuminate the wholeness of His being toward you bringing order; and He will provide you with love, sustenance and friendship.

YHWH will lift up and carry His wholeness of being toward you and He will set in place all you need to be whole and complete.

The teachers and priests, will place my character into you by teaching my Word, and you will be My people, and I will kneel down and present you with a gift.

Understanding the fullness of the Hebrew language brings a new dimension to the scriptures, and makes the word come to life!

Be Blessed in Jesus name!

Amen
