What does the Bible say about **BLESS**, **BLESSED**, **BLESSING** and other derivatives, what it is?



Bible studies on **BLESS**, writing what I feel the Lord says to me, each time the word **BLESS** (or the derivatives of the word) occurs in the Scriptures.

> Bible Studies by Malcolm D. Powell © 2020-2022 Page 1 of 223

Preface

We all know what **BLESS** means, and what it is, don't we?

BLESSINGS come from ADONAI, Elohim, Yehovah (*an amalgamation of Yod Hey Vav Hey and ADONAI, I am told*) the Lord God of Isra'el, the Mighty One of Ya'akov, Lord of Hosts, to give only some of His many names

In another study, into the names of ADONAI, I have found over 120 names and attributes of ADONAI. Fortunately, that study and the other studies on a word, are on the web site <u>www.bible-studies-on-a-word.org.uk</u>

In common with the other studies I have done so far, each on a single word in the Scriptures, the index is at the beginning, instead of more traditionally at the end, showing the Study number in order to help find the particular verse with the word **BLESS** and what the Lord is telling me to write, on each occasion. I have done this in order that these studies may be used as a source of reference, although not really intended to be used as daily bible study notes, please feel free to use them in any way you wish. The first ten studies on a word along with, some of the names of God may be found at:

www.bible-studies-on-a-word.org.uk

where I hope these studies will join them, an 11th study on a given word in the Scriptures.

What I have done, is to read the **whole context** (frequently, the whole chapter or even more) of the verse containing the word **BLESS** (and the variants on that word) then asking the Lord what he is telling me about **BLESS** (and the variants on that word) in that whole context. Obviously, I quote here, only the verse itself. I have used the Complete Jewish Bible and quoted the verse from that, I also quote the KJV (or AV) in parenthesis and italics (later studies use the NKJV) and occasionally the Orthodox Jewish Bible (OJB), below these verses. So, often, the AV simply uses the word **BLESS** without any explanation of the form of **BLESSING**. The CJB often offers a deeper meaning or the form of the **BLESS**. To find out everywhere the word appears in the Bible, I have used my Cruden's Complete Concordance of the Authorised Version - AV. I have "cut 'n pasted" the verses from the Bible Gateway web site – so much easier than typing each verse separately... <u>www.biblegateway.com</u> This is where about 90 different translations are to be found.

I am, of course, acutely aware that my own thoughts have probably intruded in these studies, for which I ask your forgiveness, as and where needed

This is a means of Bible Study, which I suggest, is an alternative but a good way to study the Bible, finding out what the Lord is saying to you, but there are, of course, many other ways to study the Scriptures – —yer pays yer money an' yer takes yer choice, so to speak. Should the reader wish to use these Studies as daily reading notes, please feel free, but be aware that is not the original purpose, but rather to be a place of reference or just simply to read the Studies as a matter of interest or curiosity

I started doing these Studies in 1983 with studies on the word "RIGHTEOUSNESS." Now, with these studies into **BLESS**, there are 11 of them altogether.

May these studies be a source of **BLESSING** to all who read, consult or otherwise use them.

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Index of Scripture references: BLESS

- 1. Genesis 30:27
- 2. Genesis 39:5
- 3. Psalm 29:11
- 4. Ephesians 1:3
- 5. Genesis 2:3
- 6. Exodus 20:11
- 7. Psalm 104:1
- 8. Psalm 103:1
- 9. Genesis 27:23
- 10. Numbers 6:23
- 11. Numbers 6:24
- 12. 2 Samuel 6:18

Index of Scripture references:

BLESS

God being the agent

- 13. Genesis 12:2
- 14. Genesis 26:3
- 15. Genesis 26:24
- 16. Genesis 12:3
- 17. Genesis 17:16
- 18. Genesis 22:17
- 19. Hebrews 6:14
- 20. Genesis 28:3
- 21. Genesis 32:26
- 22. Genesis 48:16
- 23. Genesis 49:25
- 24. Exodus 20:24
- 25. Exodus 23:25
- 26. Numbers 6:24
- 27. Numbers 6:27
- 28. Numbers 24:1
- 29. Deuteronomy1:11
- 30. Deuteronomy 7:13
- 31. Deuteronomy 14:29
- 32. Deuteronomy 23:20
- 33. Deuteronomy 24:19
- 34. Deuteronomy 15:4
- 35. Deuteronomy 15:10
- 36. Deuteronomy 15:18

- 37. Deuteronomy 30:16
- 38. Deuteronomy 16:15
- 39. Deuteronomy 26:15
- 40. Deuteronomy 28:8
- 41. Deuteronomy 28:12
- 42. Deuteronomy 33:11
- 43. Ruth 2:4
- 44. Jeremiah 31:23
- 45. 2 Samuel 7:29
- 46. 1 Chronicles 17:27
- 47. 1 Chronicles 4:10
- 48. Psalm 5:12
- 49. Psalm 28:9
- 50. Psalm 29:11
- 51. Psalm 67:1
- 52. Psalm 67:6
- 53. Psalm 67:7
- 54. Psalm 115:12
- 55. Psalm 115:13
- 56. Psalm 128:5
- 57. Psalm 132:15
- 58. Psalm 134:3
- 59. Isaiah 19:25
- 60. Haggai 2:19

61. Acts 3:26

Index of Scripture references:

BLESS God being the object

- 62. Deuteronomy 8:10
- 63. Psalm 103:21
- 64. Judges 5:9
- 65. Psalm 103:21
- 66. Psalm 134:1
- 67. 1 Chronicles 29:20
- 68. Nehemiah 9:5
- 69. Psalm 16:7
- 70. Psalm 26:12
- 71. Psalm 34:1
- 72. Psalm 63:4
- 73. Psalm 66:8
- 74. Psalm 68:26
- 75. Psalm 96:2
- 76. Psalm 100:4

- 77. Psalm 103:1
- 78. Psalm 103:2
- 79. Psalm 103:22
- 80. Psalm 104:1
- 81. Psalm 104:35
- 82. Psalm 103:20
- 83. Psalm 103:21
- 84. Psalm 103:22
- 85. Psalm 115:18
- 86. Psalm 134:2
- 87. Psalm 135:19
- 88. Psalm 135:20
- 89. Psalm 145:1
- 90. Psalm 145:2
- 91. Psalm 145:10
- 92. Psalm 145:21
- 93. James 3:9

Index of Scripture references:

BLESS Man agent and object

- 94. Genesis 27:4
- 95. Genesis 27:25
- 96. Genesis 27:34
- 97. Genesis 27:38
- 98. Genesis 48:9
- 99. Genesis 48:20
- 100. Exodus 12:32
- 101. Numbers 6:23
- 102. Numbers 23:20
- 103. Numbers 23:25
- 104. Deuteronomy 10:8
- 105. Deuteronomy 21:5
- 106. Deuteronomy 24:13
- 107. Deuteronomy 27:12
- 108. Deuteronomy 29:19
- 109. Joshua 8:33
- 110. 1 Samuel 9:13

- 111. 2 Samuel 6:20
- 112. 1 Chronicles 16:43
- 113. 2 Samuel 8:10
- 114. 2 Samuel 21:3
- 115. 1 Kings 1:47
- 116. 1 Chronicles 23:13
- 117. Psalm 62:4
- 118. Psalm 109:28
- 119. Psalm 129:8
- 120. Proverbs 30:11
- 121. Isaiah 65:16
- 122. Jeremiah 4:2
- 123. Matthew 5:44
- 124. Luke 6:28
- 125. Romans 12:14
- 126. 1 Corinthians
 - 4:12
- 127. 1 Corinthians 14:16

Index of Scripture references: BLESS

128. 1 Corinthians 10:16

Index of Scripture references: BLESSED man agent and object

- 129. Genesis 14:19
- 130. Genesis 24:60
- 131. Genesis 27:23132. Genesis 27:27
- 152. Genesis 27.27
- 133. Genesis 27:29
- 134. Genesis 27:33
- 135. Genesis 27:41
- 136. Genesis 28:1
- 137. Genesis 28:6
- 138. Hebrews 11:20
- 139. Genesis 30:13
- 140. Genesis 31:55
- 141. Genesis 47:7
- 142. Genesis 47:10
- 143. Genesis 48:15
- 144. Genesis 48:20
- 145. Hebrews 11:21
- 146. Genesis 49:28
- 147. Exodus 39:43
- 148. Deuteronomy 33:1
- 149. Leviticus 9:22
- 150. Leviticus 9:23
- 151. Numbers 22:6
- 152. Numbers 23:11
- 153. Numbers 24:10
- 154. Deuteronomy 33:20
- 155. Deuteronomy 33:24
- 156. Joshua 14:13

- 157. Joshua 22:6
- 158. Joshua 22:7
- 159. Joshua 24:10
- 160. Judges 5:24
- 161. Ruth 2:19
- 162. 1 Samuel 2:20
- 163. 1 Samuel 25:33
- 164. 1 Samuel 26:25
- 165. 2 Samuel 6:18
- 166. 1 Chronicles 16:2
- 167. 2 Samuel 13:25
- 168. 2 Samuel 19:39
- 169. 1 Kings 2:45
- 170. 1 Kings 8:14
- 171. 1 Kings 8:55
- 172. 1 Kings 8:66
- 173. 2 Chronicles 6:3
- 174. 2 Chronicles 30:27
- 175. Nehemiah 11:2
- 176. Job 29:11
- 177. Job 31:20
- 178. Psalm 49:18
- 179. Psalm 72:17
- 180. Psalm 118:26
- 181. Proverbs 31:28
- 182. Ecclesiastes 10:17
- 183. Song of Songs 6:9
- 184. Isaiah 66:3
- 185. Jeremiah 20:14

- 186. Malachi 3:12
- 187. Mark 11:10
- 188. Luke 1:48
- 189. Luke 2:34
- 190. Acts 20:35

- 191. Titus 2:13
- 192. Hebrews 7:1
- 193. Hebrews 7:6
- 194. Hebrews 7:7

Index of Scripture references: BLESSED God the agent

195. Genesis 1:22 196. Genesis 1:28 197. Genesis 5:2 198. Genesis 2:3 199. Exodus 20:11 200. Genesis 9:1 201. Genesis 12:3 202. Genesis 18:18 203. Genesis 22:18 204. Genesis 26:4 205. Genesis 28:14 206. Acts 3:25 207. Galatians 3:8 208. Genesis 17:20 209. Genesis 24:1 210. Genesis 24:31 211. Genesis 25:11 212. Genesis 26:12 213. Genesis 26:29 214. Genesis 27:27 215. Genesis 30:27 216. Genesis 30:30 217. Genesis 32:29 218. Genesis 35:9 219. Genesis 48:3 220. Genesis 39:5 221. Numbers 22:12 222. Numbers 23:20 223. Deuteronomy 2:7

224. Deuteronomy 12:7225. Deuteronomy 15:14226. Deuteronomy 16:10227. Deuteronomy 7:14228. Deuteronomy 14:24229. Deuteronomy 28:3230. Deuteronomy 28:4231. Deuteronomy 28:5232. Deuteronomy 33:13233. Joshua 17:14 234. Judges 13:24 235. Ruth 3:10 236. 1 Samuel 15:13 237. Ruth 2:20 238. Ruth 3:10 239. 1 Samuel 23:21 240. 2 Samuel 2:5 241. 2 Samuel 6:11 242. 2 Samuel 6:12 243. 1 Chronicles 13:14

244. 1 Chronicles 26:5 245. 2 Samuel 7:29 246. 1 Chronicles 17:27247. 2 Chronicles 31:10 248. Job 1:10 249. Job 42:12 250. Psalm 21:6 251. Psalm 33:12 252. Psalm 37:22 253. Psalm 37:26 254. Psalm 41:2 255. Psalm 45:2 256. Psalm 89:15 257. Psalm 112:2 258. Psalm 115:15 259. Psalm 119:1 260. Psalm 128:1 261. Psalm 128:4 262. Psalm 147:13 263. Proverbs 5:18 264. Proverbs 10:7 265. Proverbs 20:7 266. Proverbs 20:21 267. Proverbs 22:9 268. Isaiah 19:25 269. Isaiah 51:2 270. Isaiah 61:9 271. Isaiah 65:23 272. Matthew 5:3 273. Matthew 5:5 274. Matthew 5:7

- 275. Matthew 5:8
- 276. Matthew 5:9
- 277. Matthew 5:10
- 278. Matthew 13:16
- 279. Luke 10:23
- 280. Matthew 14:19
- 281. Matthew 26:26
- 282. Mark 6:41
- 283. Mark 14:22
- 284. Luke 9:16
- 285. Luke 24:30
- 286. Matthew 16:17
- 287. Matthew 24:46
- 288. Luke 12:43
- 289. Matthew 25:34
- 290. Mark 10:16
- 291. Mark 14:61
- 292. Luke 1:28
- 293. Luke 1:42
- 294. Luke 1:45
- 295. Luke 6:20
- 296. Luke 11:27
- 297. Luke 12:37
- 298. Luke 12:38
- 299. Luke 14:14
- 300. Luke 19:38
- 301. Luke 23:29
- 302. Luke 24:50
- 303. Luke 24:51
- 304. Galatians 3:9
- 305. Ephesians 1:3
- 306. James 1:25
- 307. Revelation 14:13

Index of Scripture references: BLESSED God the object

- 308. Genesis 9:26
- 309. Genesis 24:27
- 310. Exodus 18:10
- 311. Ruth 4:14
- 312. 1 Samuel 25:32
- 313. 1 Samuel 25:39
- 314. 2 Samuel 18:28
- 315. 1 Kings 1:48
- 316. 1 Kings 5:7
- 317. 1 Kings 8:15
- 318. 1 Kings 8:56
- 319. 1 Kings 10:9
- 320. 1 Chronicles 16:36
- 321. 2 Chronicles 2:12
- 322. 2 Chronicles 6:4
- 323. 2 Chronicles 9:8
- 324. Ezra 7:27
- 325. Psalm 28:6
- 326. Psalm 31:21
- 327. Psalm 41:13
- 328. Psalm 68:19
- 329. Psalm 72:18
- 330. Psalm 89:52
- 331. Psalm 106:48
- 332. Psalm 124:6
- 333. Psalm 135:21
- 334. Psalm 144:1
- 335. Zechariah 11:5
- 336. Luke 1:68

- 337. Genesis 14:20
- 338. Joshua 22:33
- 339. 2 Samuel 22:47
- 340. Psalm 18:46
- 341. 1 Chronicles 29:10
- 342. 1 Chronicles 29:20
- 343. 2 Chronicles 20:26
- 344. 2 Chronicles 31:8
- 345. Nehemiah 8:6
- 346. Nehemiah 9:5
- 347. Psalm 72:19
- 348. Job 1:21
- 349. Psalm 113:2
- 350. Psalm 66:20
- 351. Psalm 68:35
- 352. 2 Corinthians 1:3
- 353. Psalm 119:12
- 354. Ezekiel 3:12
- 355. Daniel 2:19
- 356. Daniel 2:20
- 357. Daniel 4:34
- 358. Luke 2:28
- 359. John 12:13
- 360. Romans 1:25
- 361. Romans 9:5
- 362. 2 Corinthians
 - 11:31

363. Ephesians 1:3364. 1 Peter 1:3

365. 1 Timothy 1:11366. 1 Timothy 6:15

Index of Scripture references: BLESSED are they

- 367. Psalm 2:12
- 368. Psalm 84:4
- 369. Psalm 106:3
- 370. Psalm 119:2
- 371. Proverbs 8:32
- 372. Isaiah 30:18
- 373. Matthew 5:4
- 374. Matthew 5:6
- 375. Matthew 5:10
- 376. Luke 11:28
- 377. John 20:29
- 378. Romans 4:7
- 379. Revelation 19:9
- 380. Revelation 22:14

Index of Scripture references: BLESSED are you

- 381. Isaiah 32:20
- 382. Matthew 5:11
- 383. Luke 6:21
- 384. Luke 6:22

Index of Scripture references: BLESSED is he

- 385. Numbers 24:9
- 386. Psalm 32:1
- 387. Psalm 41:1
- 388. Daniel 12:12
- 389. Matthew 11:6
- 390. Luke 7:23
- 391. Matthew 21:9
- 392. Matthew 23:39
- 393. Mark 11:9
- 394. Luke 13:35
- 395. Luke 14:15
- 396. Revelation 1:3
- 397. Revelation16:15
- 398. Revelation 20:6
- 399. Revelation 22:7

Index of Scripture references: BLESSED is the man

- 400. Psalm 1:1
- 401. Psalm 32:2
- 402. Romans 4:8
- 403. Psalm 34:8
- 404. Psalm 84:12
- 405. Jeremiah 17:7
- 406. Psalm 40:4
- 407. Psalm 65:4
- 408. Psalm 84:5
- 409. Psalm 94:12
- 410. Psalm 112:1
- 411. Proverbs 8:34
- 412. Isaiah 56:2
- 413. James 1:12

Index of Scripture references: BLESSEDNESS

- 414. Romans 4:6
- 415. Romans 4:9
- 416. Galatians 4:15

Index of Scripture references: BLESSEST

- 417. Numbers 22:6
- 418. 1 Chronicles 17:27
- 419. Psalm 65:10

Index of Scripture references: BLESSETH

- 420. Genesis 27:29
- 421. Numbers 24:9
- 422. Deuteronomy 15:6
- 423. Psalm 10:3
- 424. Psalm 107:38
- 425. Proverbs 3:33
- 426. Proverbs 27:14
- 427. Isaiah 65:16

Index of Scripture references: BLESSING

428. Psalm 3:8 429. Deuteronomy 28:2430. Psalm 24:5 431. Isaiah 44:3 432. Ephesians 1:3 433. Isaiah 19:24 434. 1 Peter 3:9 435. Genesis 33:11 436. Genesis 12:2 437. Genesis 22:17 438. Hebrews 6:14 439. Genesis 27:12 440. Genesis 27:35 441. Genesis 27:38 442. Genesis 28:4 443. Genesis 33:11 444. Genesis 39:5 445. Genesis 49:28 446. Exodus 32:29 447. Leviticus 25:21 448. Deuteronomy 11:26449. Deuteronomy 30:19450. Deuteronomy 11:27451. Deuteronomy 11:29

452. Deuteronomy 12:15453. Deuteronomy 16:17454. Deuteronomy 23:5455. Deuteronomy 28:8456. Deuteronomy 33:1457. Deuteronomy 33:7458. Deuteronomy 33:16459. Deuteronomy 33:23 460. Judges 1:15 461. 1 Samuel 25:27 462. 2 Samuel 7:29 463. 2 Kings 5:15 464. Nehemiah 9:5 465 Nehemiah 13.2466. Job 29:13 467. Psalm 3:8 468. Psalm 24:5 469. Psalm 109:17 470. Psalm 129:8 471. Psalm 133:3 472. Proverbs 10:22

473. Proverbs 11:11

- 474. Proverbs 11:26
- 475. Proverbs 24:25
- 476. Isaiah 19:24
- 477. Isaiah 44:3
- 478. Isaiah 65:8
- 479. Ezekiel 34:26
- 480. Ezekiel 44:30
- 481. Joel 2:14
- 482. Zechariah 8:13
- 483. Malachi 3:10
- 484. Luke 24:53

- 485. Romans 15:29
- 486. 1 Corinthians 10:16
- 487. Galatians 3:14
- 488. Hebrews 6:7
- 489. Hebrews 12:17
- 490. James 3:10
- 491. 1 Peter 3:9
- 492. Revelation 5:12
- 493. Revelation 5:13
- 494. Revelation 7:12

Index of Scripture references: BLESSINGS

- 495. Genesis 49:25
- 496. Genesis 49:26
- 497. Deuteronomy 28:2
- 498. Joshua 8:34
- 499. Psalm 21:3
- 500. Proverbs 10:6
- 501. Proverbs 28:20
- 502. Malachi 2:2
- 503. Ephesians 1:3



1. **Genesis 30:27 CJB:** ²⁷ Lavan answered him, "If you regard me favourably, then please listen: I have observed the signs that *ADONAI* has **BLESSED** me on account of you.

(**KJV**: ²⁷ And Laban said unto him, I pray thee, if I have found favour in thine eyes, tarry: for I have learned by experience that the LORD hath **BLESSED** me for thy sake.)

Lavan is witnessing that he has prospered, been **BLESSED**, as a result of Ya'akov's working for him. So, we see here, in this first study, a meaning of **BLESSED**, to prosper. Interestingly, as an aside, reading from the beginning of the chapter, in the CJB for each of Ya'akov's children, we are given the meaning of their names, in verse 8 for instance Naftali means "my wrestling," and in verse 11, Gad means "good fortune," and so on. Here is not the place to go through them all. Thank you Lord.

This brings to mind, that when Yeshua explained the story of the rich man and the camel going through the eye of a needle to His disciples, they were staggered with what Yeshua said. In the Hebrew mind at that time, riches were seen only as a **BLESSING** from ADONAI Himself, indicating a place in Heaven for the rich man. *Tuesday 1st of December 2020*

2. **Genesis 39:5 CJB:** ⁵ From the time he appointed him manager of his household and all his possessions, *ADONAI* **BLESSED** the Egyptian's household for Yosef's sake; *ADONAI*'s **BLESSING** was on all he owned, whether in the house or in the field.

(KJV: ⁵ And it came to pass from the time that he had made him overseer in his house, and over all that he had, that the LORD **BLESSED** the Egyptian's house for Joseph's sake; and the **BLESSING** of the LORD was upon all that he had in the house, and in the field.)

So what do we learn about **BLESSING** in our verse (in context) today? Now whilst the passage, the 1st 6 verses of this chapter do not say anything about prospering, it is clearly implied that Potifar, being **BLESSED**, all his passions did well, or prospered. We shall see as we progress though these studies. 2^{nd} of December 2020. 3. **Psalm 29:11 CJB:** ¹¹ May *ADONAI* give strength to his people! May *ADONAI* **BLESS** his people with *shalom*!

(KJV: ¹¹ Hashem will give oz (strength) unto His people; Hashem will BLESS His people with shalom.)

This whole short Psalm is glorifying ADONAI and finishes, in the last verse, to ask Him to give strength to His people and to **BLESS** His people with Shalom! So in this, our verse today, we see that the peace, Shalom, of God is a form of **BLESSING** for us. Thank You Father God that where You reign is where Shalom is the **BLESSING** that reigns. *3rd of December 2020*.

4. **Ephesians 1:3 CJB:** ³ Praised be *ADONAI*, Father of our Lord Yeshua the Messiah, who in the Messiah has **BLESSED** us with every spiritual **BLESSING** in heaven.

(KJV: ³ BLESSED be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath BLESSED us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ:)

In our verse today, we learn that ADONAI has **BLESSED** us with all the Spiritual **BLESSINGS** in Heaven. He has done this through our Messiah, His son, this results that all praise should go to God the Father, ADONAI. We learn in the verse(s) following, that He has chosen each of us individually to be His sons, to stand perfect before Him, in order that we should bring Him praise and glory and honour. Father God, how can we thank you enough, for such grace and mercy. 4^{th} of Decmber2020.

5. **Genesis 2:3 CJB:** ³ God **BLESSED** the seventh day and separated it as holy; because on that day God rested from all his work which he had created, so that it itself could produce.

(KJV: ³ And God **BLESSED** the seventh day, and sanctified it: because that in it he had rested from all his work which God created and made.)

Oh the importance of the 7th day! This day started at sunset on the Friday and lasted until sunset on the Saturday – which is that which the Jews celebrate as Sabbath every week, a day of rest, when ADONAI, God, rested after all His creating on the first 6 days of Creation. It is a day when we, as believers, should also rest, since God **BLESSED** that day. We see that rest is a form of **BLESSING** for us. Not that we see much sign of resting today, when what we call Sunday is supposed to be a day of rest – the busiest day of shopping now! During and for some years after the war, shops would have "Early Closing" on a Wednesday and didn't open at all on Sunday! Only the Newsagents opened on a Sunday morning. Those were the days......

5th of December 2020.

6. **Exodus 20:11 CJB:** ¹¹ For in six days, *ADONAI* made heaven and earth, the sea and everything in them; but on the seventh day he rested. This is why *ADONAI* **BLESSED** the day, *Shabbat*, and separated it for himself. (*KJV:* ¹¹ For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the LORD **BLESSED** the sabbath day, and hallowed it.)

We see in our verse today, that ADONAI **BLESSED** the Shabbat and separated it from the rest of the week, no pun intended, but it is to be a day of rest. So once again, we find that a form of **BLESSING** is to rest. Rest is a **BLESSING** from our God. Thank You Father God for that **BLESSING**, help us to use it wisely in Your ways. 6th of December 2020.

7. **Psalm 104:1 CJB:** ¹**BLESS** *ADONAI*, my soul! *ADONAI*, my God, you are very great; you are clothed with glory and majesty, (*KJV:* ¹*BLESS the LORD, O my soul. O LORD my God, thou art very great; thou art clothed with honour and majesty.*)

This is a praise Psalm, where ADONAI is exalted, and is to be exalted. The very first words of our verse today, call us to **BLESS** ADONAI, which begs the question: how do we **BLESS** the living God? It would seem obvious, that to do this, is to follow His leading, walk only in His ways and to praise Him without ceasing, as in Psalm 84 (*which I currently read every day*) verse 4. Please Father God, help us to know Your ways and, knowing them, help us to walk only in them. Amen. 7th of December 2020.

Psalm 103:1 CJB: ¹ BLESS ADONAI, my soul! Everything in me,
 BLESS his holy name!
 (KJV: ¹ BLESS the LORD, O my soul: and all that is within me, BLESS his holy name.)

What a song there is from this Psalm! We are, in our verse today, encouraged to **BLESS** ADONAI our God, with all our - my being! So what does **BLESS** mean in this context? It means to give my all, praise, obedience, glory, honour, everything that I am, to Him, the Lord God of Isra'el. Leave nothing behind. **BLESS** the Lord with my whole, total, complete self or being.

8th of December 2020.

9. **Genesis 27:23 CJB:** ²³ However, he didn't detect him; because his hands were hairy like his brother 'Esav's hands; so he gave him his **BLESSING**.

(KJV: ²³ And he discerned him not, because his hands were hairy, as his brother Esau's hands: so he **BLESSED** him.)

Having read the chapter down to verse 29, we see that our verse today is a part of the deception perpetrated by Rivkah and Ya'akov over Esay and their father Yitz'chak. Probably, Rivkah remembered what ADONAI told her, that the elder shall serve the younger (*Genesis 26:23*) which motivated her. The result of this is, of course, that Yitz'chak gave Ya'akov the **BLESSING** due to the elder son. Whilst this was a deception, we can realise that the **BLESSING** was part of God's Will. This is not a way we should follow, even when we think that we are doing God's Will. Deception is not the way to obtain God's **BLESSINGS**, for ourselves! Reading verse 29, we see almost a repeat of **Genesis 12:3a**. It would be interesting to know if, in the original Hebrew, the 2 words usually translated curse in both these Scriptures are actually the same Hebrew words here in this case, for in **Genesis 12:3a**, they are 2 different words! *9th of December 2020*.

10. Numbers 6:23 CJB: ²³ "Speak to Aharon and his sons, and tell them that this is how you are to **BLESS** the people of Isra'el: you are to say to them, (KJV: ²³ Speak unto Aaron and unto his sons, saying, On this wise ye shall **BLESS** the children of Israel, saying unto them,)

Our verse today is Moshe telling Aharon, and his sons, what he is to say to the whole people of Isra'el, which, on reading to the end of the chapter, we find it is what is known as the **AHARONIC BLESSING**. Reading it, one realises what a **BLESSING** it is, where ADONAI tells them, and us today, what He is going to do, and is doing to us and for us. WOW! This is the ultimate **BLESSING** from God Himself. In the CJB, it gives the Hebrew language immediately above the English translation. I must to learn to speak the Hebrew version, please help me Lord. *10th of December 2020*.

Well, our verse today is the 1st line of the actual AHARONIC **BLESSING**. It is a wish for the people, us, to be **BLESSED** and kept safe, by ADONAI. The following 2 verses are the rest of that **BLESSING**, finishing with peace, but these studies are not covering them. This whole AHARONIC **BLESSING** is repeated frequently at the end of meetings by the Jews, Judaic or Messianic. It is good for us all to know it (*in English at least*) today, for it is a wonderful example of ADONAI's wishes for all humankind, who will accept it.

11th of December 2020.

12. **2** Samuel 6:18 CJB: ¹⁸ When David had finished offering the burnt offering and peace offerings, he **BLESSED** the people in the name of *ADONAI*-*Tzva'ot*.

(KJV: ¹⁸ And as soon as David had made an end of offering burnt offerings and peace offerings, he **BLESSED** the people in the name of the LORD of hosts.)

What a celebration there was, as the Ark of the Covenant was brought up into the City of David! We read in our verse today, that king David, upon finishing the burnt and peace offerings, **BLESSED** the people in the name of ADONAI-TZVA'OT. In the next verse, king David <u>then</u> distributed food to the people. Some might say that this was the **BLESSING** of the people in our verse, but, in my Bible, they are two separate acts. I would contend that the **BLESSING** in our verse was a verbal **BLESSING**, not physical, as in the next verse. **P. T. L. A.** (Praise The Lord Always.)

12th of December 2020.

BLESS

God being the agent

13. Genesis 12:2 CJB: ² I will make of you a great nation, I will BLESS you, and I will make your name great; and you are to be a BLESSING.
(KJV: ² And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will BLESS thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a BLESSING:)

In our verse today, we read one of the founding statements by ADONAI, of the nation of Isra'el. Despite what some, even many, may think, it is still true today. In spite of the Adversary and all his attempts to destroy God's chosen people, we today, are very much **BLESSED** by the nation of Isra'el, if we take the time to find out with what Isra'el has **BLESSED** the world in the last 70+ years. See <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-OivByuJT-k</u> a 3-part set of videos that run on from each other. Our Father God has kept His word, right throughout history. Isra'el has been **BLESSED** (*with awful sufferings*) and we, the world, have been **BLESSED** by ADONAI through them. Thank you, Father. Amen.

 13^{th} of December 2020.

14. **Genesis 26:3 CJB:** ³ Stay in this land, and I will be with you and **BLESS** you, because I will give all these lands to you and to your descendants. I will fulfil the oath which I swore to Avraham your father

(KJV: ³ Sojourn in this land, and I will be with thee, and will **BLESS** thee; for unto thee, and unto thy seed, I will give all these countries, and I will perform the oath which I swore unto Abraham thy father;)

In our verse today, ADONAI is telling Yitz'chak to stay in the land where he was, as he was intending to go down to Egypt because of the famine. ADONAI told him that He would **BLESS** him there. He re-iterated His oath given to Avraham, his father, to give the entire land to him and to his descendants, who would be as many as the stars. So, **BLESS** in this context is to prosper Yitz'chak, and give him all the land where he was. We see here that prosperity is a form of **BLESSING**. **Remember**, it does not follow that being prosperous means that it is a **BLESSING** from ADONAI, as Yeshua said, effectively, in Matthew 19:23-26, which came as a shock to the disciples. *14th of December 2020*.

15. **Genesis 26:24 CJB:** ²⁴ *ADONAI* appeared to him that same night and said, "I am the God of Avraham your father. Don't be afraid, because I am with you; I will **BLESS** you and increase your descendants for the sake of my servant Avraham."

(KJV: ²⁴ And the LORD appeared unto him the same night, and said, I am the God of Abraham thy father: fear not, for I am with thee, and will **BLESS** thee, and multiply thy seed for my servant Abraham's sake.)

Reading this chapter from verse 12, we see how ADONAI prospered Yitz'chak exceedingly and, again, in our verse, promised to increase his descendants, to **BLESS** him and be with him. We see that this **BLESSING** was to take away any fear that Yitz'chak had, remembering what happened about the wells in the verses before ours, and to increase his descendants, all for the sake of ADONAI's word to his father Avraham. Our God is a faithful God and, His words are a promise and they will never fail to come to pass. Hallelujah! Amen.

 15^{th} of December 2020.

16. **Genesis 12:3 CJB:** ³ I will **BLESS** those who **BLESS** you, but I will curse anyone who curses you; and by you all the families of the earth will be **BLESSED**."

(KJV: ³ And I will **BLESS** them that **BLESS** thee and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be **BLESSED**.)

Today, we are studying **BLESS**, not curses. In our verse today, these are the words of God, that He will **BLESS** those who **BLESS** His people, Isra'el, since they are descendants of Avraham, Yitz'chak and Ya'akov. Whoever wants to be **BLESSED** by ADONAI, should think about these things. To diverge a little from this study, one needs to know that the original Hebrew word translated **BLESS** is in both cases is the same Hebrew word. However, the original Hebrew has two different words, both translated as "curse." For a copy of a 3 page document (**GENESIS 12:3**) about this, it will be found on this website. What an indictment it is, of those who rant about alleged terrible things that Isra'el has done today! *16th of December 2020*.

17. **Genesis 17:16 CJB:** ¹⁵ God said to Avraham, "As for Sarai your wife, you are not to call her Sarai [mockery]; her name is to be Sarah [princess]. ¹⁶ I will **BLESS** her; moreover, I will give you a son by her. Truly I will **BLESS** her: she will be a mother of nations; kings of peoples will come from her." ¹⁷ At this Avraham fell on his face and laughed — he thought to himself, "Will a child be born to a man a hundred years old? Will Sarah give birth at ninety?" (*KJV:* ¹⁶ And I will **BLESS** her and give thee a son also of her: yea, I will **BLESS** her, and she shall be a mother of nations; kings of people shall be of her.)

Having read in the chapter from verse 7 down to the end, I thought that it was best to put above the other 2 verses with our verse today, in the middle, highlighted. Since our verse on its own seemed lacking in context. I trust that you will agree that this is the correct way here. **BLESS**? Yes, what a **BLESSING** to a 90-year-old lady to have a son. How thankful she would have been, after being barren for all those years of marriage to Avraham. Not only to have this son at her exalted age, but the **BLESSING** from God about the number and positions of her descendants: nations and kings from her. Wow! Some **BLESSING**! 17th of December 2020.

18. **Genesis 22:17 CJB:** ¹⁷ I will most certainly **BLESS** you; and I will most certainly increase your descendants to as many as there are stars in the sky or grains of sand on the seashore. Your descendants will possess the cities of their enemies

(*KJV*: ¹⁷ That in *BLESSING* I will *BLESS* thee, and in multiplying I will multiply thy seed as the stars of the heaven, and as the sand which is upon the sea shore; and thy seed shall possess the gate of his enemies;)

In our verse today, Avraham, having been completely obedient to the instructions, given to him by ADONAI in the 1st two verses of this chapter, was to be **BLESSED** with unimaginably large number of descendants. A large family is here shown to be a **BLESSING**. Thank you, Father, for the 3 sons that You have given me. Interestingly, 3 verses later, Avraham, with his young men and Yitz'chak, went further south to Be'er-Sheva – how and when did Sarah join 18^{th} of December 2020.

19. Hebrews 6:14 CJB: ¹⁴ and said, "I will certainly BLESS you, and I will certainly give you many descendants;"

(KJV: ¹⁴ Saying, Surely BLESSING I will BLESS thee, and multiplying I will multiply thee.)

Our verse today is a direct reference to the verse in the previous study. So, our verse is a confirmation of the oath which ADONAI swore by Himself to Avraham nearly 3,000 years earlier at this time, to **BLESS** him, as in our verse. If we read on in **Hebrews**, we see also, that Avraham himself saw the fulfilment of that promise. Avraham was surely **BLESSED** at the time and **BLESSED** with many descendants. We see this fulfilled today in the nation of Isra'el. This is in spite of the Adversary's many attempts, down the millennia, to eliminate that people. Our God is faithful and WILL keep His promises to His chosen people and to us. Hallelujah!

20. Genesis 28:3 CJB: ³ May *El Shaddai* BLESS you, make you fruitful and increase your descendants, until they become a whole assembly of peoples. (*KJV*: ³ And God Almighty BLESS thee, and make thee fruitful, and multiply thee, that thou mayest be a multitude of people;)

In our verse today, we read that Yitz'chak said" may El Shaddai **BLESS** Ya'akov and increase his descendants. We know from reading on in Genesis, that ADONAI did indeed **BLESS** Ya'akov greatly in material and in human relationships, for he had no fewer than 4 wives, well, 2 wives and 2 concubines. Also, that he had 12 sons and a daughter or 2, and he was **BLESSED** with descendants aplenty. We see then that a **BLESSING** can be material possessions and many descendants. 20th of December 2020.

21. **Genesis 32:26 CJB:** ²⁶ The man said, "Let me go, because it's daybreak." But Ya'akov replied, "I won't let you go unless you **BLESS** me." (*KJV:* ²⁶ And he said, Let me go, for the day breaketh. And he said, I will not let thee go, except thou **BLESS** me.)

Without going into the story in this chapter, since you can read it your-selves, our verse today is of when Ya'akov and the "man" were speaking together, after wrestling all night. They were obviously holding each other, since the "man" asked to be released as it was daybreak. Ya'akov would not do this, unless the "man" **BLESSED** him. The **BLESSING** in our case, verse 28, was to change his name from Ya'akov to Isra'el, by which name the Hebrews are known to this day. 21st of December 2020.

22. **Genesis 48:16 CJB:** ¹⁶ the angel who has rescued me from all harm, **BLESS** these boys. May they remember who I am and what I stand for, and likewise my fathers, Avraham and Yitz'chak, who they were and what they stood for. And may they grow into teeming multitudes on the earth."

(KJV: ¹⁶ The Angel which redeemed me from all evil, **BLESS** the lads; and let my name be named on them, and the name of my fathers Abraham and Isaac; and let them grow into a multitude in the midst of the earth.)

Read the whole chapter to get the full context of our verse. We see in our verse today, that Isra'el called upon the Angel, who had rescued him from all harm, to **BLESS** Yosef's two boys. Isra'el asked that the Angel would help these boys to know about and remember their Great and Great Great Grandfathers, Yitz'chak and Avraham and all that they stood for, and that the boys would have many descendants. We should realise here, that these two boys had been brought up in palaces in Egypt and knew little of their own ancestry, only that which Yosef had been able to tell them. Hence, Isra'el knew the need for them to be **BLESSED** in this way. 22^{nd} of December 2020.

23. Genesis 49:25 CJB: ²⁵ by the God of your father, who will help you, by *El* Shaddai, who will BLESS you with BLESSINGS from heaven above,
BLESSINGS from the deep, lying below, BLESSINGS from the breasts and the womb.

(**KJV**: ²⁵ Even by the God of thy father, who shall help thee; and by the Almighty, who shall **BLESS** thee with **BLESSINGS** of heaven above, **BLESSINGS** of the deep that lieth under, **BLESSINGS** of the breasts, and of the womb:)

It is wise to read the whole chapter in order to realise the context of verses 22 to 26, those concerning Yosef. Remember also, that Yosef was sold into slavery in Egypt and became "Prime Minister" of that land. So, to our verse today, such tremendous **BLESSINGS** called out to Yosef, **BLESSINGS** to come from El Shaddai in Heaven, **BLESSINGS** from the deep and **BLESSINGS** of many descendants. WOW! Comparing all this with the predictions for all his brothers, no wonder they were jealous! These words of Ya'akov to all his 12 sons, were prophetic of course, and hardly likely to endear Yosef to his brothers. These predictions didn't come to pass until Yosef had gone through some terrible times, but they certainly did come true for him, as we know. Hallelujah! 23^{rd} of December 2020.

24. **Exodus 20:24 CJB:** ²⁴⁾ For me you need make only an altar of earth; on it you will sacrifice your burnt offerings, peace offerings, sheep, goats and cattle. In every place where I cause my name to be mentioned, I will come to you and **BLESS** you.

(*KJV*: ²⁴ An altar of earth thou shalt make unto me, and shalt sacrifice thereon thy burnt offerings, and thy peace offerings, thy sheep, and thine oxen: in all places where I record my name, I will come unto thee, and I will **BLESS** thee.)

In our verse today, we have the promise of ADONAI to **BLESS** the people of Isra'el. The Lord will **BLESS** them wherever His name is mentioned. The Lord's name is to be respected, held in awe, never used as an expression of surprise or to swear, to do so, will prevent any **BLESSING**. Whenever we call upon the name of the Lord, in truth and praise Him, He will be there and cause a **BLESSING** upon us. This **BLESSING** is to meet the needs of the people, food and water. 24^{th} of December 2020.

25. **Exodus 23:25 CJB:** ²⁵ "You are to serve *ADONAI* your God; and he will **BLESS** your food and water. I will take sickness away from among you. (*KJV:* ²⁵ *And ye shall serve the LORD your God, and he shall BLESS thy bread, and thy water; and I will take sickness away from the midst of thee.*)

There is no God but ADONAI, He is the only one whom the people are to serve, all others are non-gods! Our verse today tells us that if we do serve only ADONAI, then He will **BLESS** our food and water and there will be no sickness amongst us. The **BLESSING** here is that there will be no shortage and the food and water will be the best. Thank You Father God, it sounds so simple: do as you are told and all will be well! 25th of December 2020.

26. Numbers 6:24 CJB: ²⁴ 'Y'varekh'kha ADONAI v'yishmerekha.
[May ADONAI BLESS you and keep you.]
(KJV: ²⁴ The LORD BLESS thee, and keep thee:)

In our verse today, we have the first part of the Aaronic **BLESSING**, which is a wish that ADONAI would "**BLESS** you and keep you." This is only one verse of the three which make up the Aaronic **BLESSING**. The Jews normally recite this at the end of a meeting as a **BLESSING** to all those present and to honour ADONAI. In this chapter we have a repeat of the original in **Numbers 6:24-26**. *26th of December 2020*.

27. **Numbers 6:27 CJB:** ²⁷ "In this way they are to put my name on the people of Isra'el, so that I will **BLESS** them."

(KJV: ²⁷ And they shall put my name upon the children of Israel, and I will BLESS them.)

Our verse today follows the Aaronic **BLESSING**, which was primarily, at that time, for the people of Isra'el (*verse 23*). I am sure, that since we true believers are "grafted in" to the tree of Isra'el, that it includes us, hence, we partake in that **BLESSING**. Thank You Father God! We see too, in our verse, that ADONAI wanted for His name, **YHVH**, to be put upon the people of Isra'el. Oh Lord, that it would be visible today, but Your Word tells us that it will happen. Hallelujah! Amen. 27th of December 2020.

28. **Numbers 24:1 CJB:** ¹ When Bil'am saw that it pleased *ADONAI* to **BLESS** Isra'el, he didn't go, as at the other times, to make use of divination, but looked out toward the desert.

(KJV: ¹ And when Balaam saw that it pleased the LORD to **BLESS** Israel, he went not, as at other times, to seek for enchantments, but he set his face toward the wilderness.)

Bil'am realised that ADONAI wanted him to **BLESS** Isra'el and not to curse them, and in the following verses down to verse 9, he does just that, so much that it enrages Balak! Bil'am put his life on the line here in obeying ADONAI and **BLESSING** Isra'el so richly. That is an example for us to follow in our lives. 28^{th} of December 2020.

29. **Deuteronomy1:11 CJB:** ¹¹ May *ADONAI*, the God of your ancestors, increase you yet a thousandfold and **BLESS** you, as he has promised you! (*KJV:* ¹¹ (*The LORD God of your fathers make you a thousand times so many more as ye are, and BLESS you, as he hath promised you!*)

Our verse today seems out of context somehow. Up until our verse, Moshe was complaining about the burden the people of Isra'el were to him, and this continues in the following verses. However, in our verse, Moshe is calling upon ADONAI to **BLESS** them and increase their numbers. This **BLESSING** happened and their number increased greatly. Our God always keeps His promises, be they for our good or bad, 29th of December 2020.
30. **Deuteronomy 7:13 CJB:** ¹³ He will love you, **BLESS** you and increase your numbers; he will also **BLESS** the fruit of your body and the fruit of your ground — your grain, wine, olive oil and the young of your cattle and sheep — in the land he swore to your ancestors that he would give you.

(KJV: ¹³ And he will love thee, and **BLESS** thee, and multiply thee: he will also **BLESS** the fruit of thy womb, and the fruit of thy land, thy corn, and thy wine, and thine oil, the increase of thy kine, and the flocks of thy sheep, in the land which he swore unto thy fathers to give thee.)

Best to read the whole chapter today, the first 11 verses tell the People what to do to those living in the Land before them. Following our verse today, ADONAI, through Moshe, is saying what He will do for His people if they do only what He is telling them, and what will happen to them if they go against Him. Our verse today tells the form of how ADONAI will **BLESS** His people, some list of **BLESSINGS**, and in every way! In everything, His people will be **BLESSED**. Some today, put it this way: *He will BLESS their socks off!* Thank you, Father God, for the way in which You look after your own, and thank you again, Father God, that we, as true believers, are counted as being part of Your own people. *Mmen.*

31. **Deuteronomy 14:29 CJB:** ²⁹ Then the *Levi*, because he has no share or inheritance like yours, along with the foreigner, the orphan and the widow living in your towns, will come, eat and be satisfied — so that *ADONAI* your God will **BLESS** you in everything your hands produce.

(KJV: ²⁹ And the Levite, (because he hath no part nor inheritance with thee,) and the stranger, and the fatherless, and the widow, which are within thy gates, shall come, and shall eat and be satisfied; that the LORD thy God may **BLESS** thee in all the work of thine hand which thou doest.)

Our verse today and the previous one, is our instruction as to whom and how we are to be generous and feed those mentioned in our verse! This is the second Tithe. (*The first is set out in verse 22ff above*). As we obey these instructions, ADONAI will **BLESS** the people. Many people today Tithe and will, I'm sure reap the **BLESSING**. Most certainly, this **BLESSING** cannot come to those believers who do not Tithe. *31st of December 2020*.

32. **Deuteronomy 23:20 CJB:** ²⁰ To an outsider you may lend at interest, but to your brother you are not to lend at interest, so that, *ADONAI* your God will prosper you in everything you set out to do in the land you are entering in order to take possession of it.

(*KJV*: ²⁰ Unto a stranger thou mayest lend upon usury; but unto thy brother thou shalt not lend upon usury: that the LORD thy God may **BLESS** thee in all that thou settest thine hand to in the land whither thou goest to possess it.)

Our verse today and the previous one, along with the whole chapter, sets out the lifestyle in which ADONAI our God wishes us to live our lives. Our verse is about the loan of money to brothers and to strangers, we may expect usury, interest, from strangers, but our brothers, kinsmen, we must NOT charge usury, or we shall miss the **BLESSING** from ADONAI as outlined in our verse. Interesting that between to two translations, we see that to prosper in everything one does, is the **BLESSING**. Thank you, Father God for all that you are to us.

1st of January 2021.

33. **Deuteronomy 24:19 CJB:** ¹⁹ "When harvesting the grain in your field, if you forgot a sheaf of grain there, you are not to go back and get it; it will remain there for the foreigner, the orphan and the widow, so that *ADONAI* your God will **BLESS** you in all the work you do.

(*KJV*: ¹⁹ When thou cuttest down thine harvest in thy field, and hast forgot a sheaf in the field, thou shalt not go again to fetch it: it shall be for the stranger, for the fatherless, and for the widow: that the LORD thy God may **BLESS** thee in all the work of thine hands.)

Basically, our verse today, is not so much calling us not to be stingy but, calling us to meet the needs of others less well off than ourselves. If we do this, then ADONAI says that He will **BLESS** us in all the work that we do. So, there is an incentive! So, what is this **BLESS** meaning? It doesn't mean that if we help others, as mentioned, that we can sit back and live a life of Riley (*whoever he is*) but that this **BLESSING** will flow from ADONAI as we continue to do these things, it must be a part of our Christian lifestyle and witness. Amen.

2nd of January 2021.

34. **Deuteronomy 15:4 CJB:** ⁴ In spite of this, there will be no one needy among you; because *ADONAI* will certainly **BLESS** you in the land which *ADONAI* your God is giving you as an inheritance to possess (**KJV**: ⁴ Save when there shall be no poor among you; for the LORD shall greatly **BLESS** thee in the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee for an inheritance to possess it:)

The sh'mittah is the 7th year of every 7 year cycle, at the end of which moneys owed are to be repaid, but this may only be <u>demanded</u> from non-believers. Once more, in our verse today, we see that it is to be part of our lifestyle, as true believers, to meet the needs of our fellow believers, and to any Jew in our circle. For this, ADONAI will **BLESS** us, and in those days, the Isra'elis. We must not withhold anything from those in need. Nor must we demand repayment from fellow believers, especially when they are still in need, or our **BLESSING** will be withheld! 3rd of January 2021.

35. **Deuteronomy 15:10 CJB:** ¹⁰ Rather, you must give to him; and you are not to be grudging when you give to him. If you do this, *ADONAI* your God, will **BLESS** you in all your work, in everything you undertake (*KJV:* ¹⁰ *Thou shalt surely give him, and thine heart shall not be grieved when thou givest unto him: because that for this thing the LORD thy God shall BLESS thee in all thy works, and in all that thou puttest thine hand unto.*)

Our verse today reminds me of the words in the New Testament: "God loves a cheerful giver" (2 Corinthians 9:7). When we give, it must be willingly, without any thought of our own circumstances, maybe, we were saving up for something, and we feel the Lord saying to give to a brother's need, and this would put back the time of achieving our object PTLA! Praise The Lord Anyway! Our verse tells us that ADONAI will BLESS us in all that we do, for helping a brother in his need. 4th of January 2021.

36. **Deuteronomy 15:18 CJB:** ¹⁸ Don't resent it when you set him free, since during his six years of service he has been worth twice as much as a hired employee. Then *ADONAI* your God will **BLESS** you in everything you do. (*KJV:* ¹⁸ It shall not seem hard unto thee, when thou sendest him away free from thee; for he hath been worth a double hired servant to thee, in serving thee six years: and the LORD thy God shall **BLESS** thee in all that thou doest.)

Slavery. In Biblical days, if a Hebrew couldn't pay his debt, it was that he would sell himself to a fellow Hebrew as a slave to pay off that debt. In our verse today, we see that the owner of that slave, must not be resentful when the year of Sh'mittah comes around and he is obliged to release that slave, for no one may be enslaved for more than 6 years. So what is the message for us today? If we want to receive the **BLESSING** from ADONAI, we must treat others fairly as part of our Christian Lifestyle. 5th of January 2021.

37. **Deuteronomy 30:16 CJB:** ¹⁶ in that I am ordering you today to love *ADONAI* your God, to follow his ways, and to obey his *mitzvot*, regulations and rulings; for if you do, you will live and increase your numbers; and ADONAI your God will **BLESS** you in the land you are entering in order to take possession of it.

(KJV: ¹⁶ In that I command thee this day to love the LORD thy God, to walk in his ways, and to keep his commandments and his statutes and his judgments, that thou mayest live and multiply: and the LORD thy God shall **BLESS** thee in the land whither thou goest to possess it.)

Our verse today is the culmination of the chapter up to this point, and the rest of it. ADONAI is promising life or death, **BLESSING** or a curse upon the people, depending upon their decision! ADONAI will respect their decision but, is here warning them of the consequences of the wrong decision. The same warning applies to us today, seek and walk in His ways or suffer the consequences. Our choice, a life where His **BLESSINGS** flow, or a life where everything goes wrong and we end up in the lake of fire. As mentioned, our choice. *6th of January 2021*.

38. **Deuteronomy 16:15 CJB:** ¹⁵ Seven days you are to keep the festival for *ADONAI* your God in the place *ADONAI* your God will choose, because *ADONAI* your God will **BLESS** you in all your crops and in all your work, so you are to be full of joy!

(KJV: ¹⁵ Seven days shalt thou keep a solemn feast unto the LORD thy God in the place which the LORD shall choose: because the LORD thy God shall **BLESS** thee in all thine increase, and in all the works of thine hands, therefore thou shalt surely rejoice.)

In our verse today, we see that we are to **BLESS** ADONAI for all the **BLESSINGS** He has put upon us. This **BLESSING** of ADONAI is in the form, of going to the place that ADONAI chooses, and not to go empty handed, but taking of the crops, sheep and cattle (*or if it is a long distance, the value thereof.*) with which ADONAI has **BLESSED** us. Not only that, Sukkot (*weeks*) is a 7 day festival for all the household including any slaves and foreigners. A time of rejoicing and thanksgiving in the Lord, for all that in which He has **BLESSED** us. *7th of January 2021*.

39. **Deuteronomy 26:15 CJB:** ¹⁵ Look out from your holy dwelling-place, from heaven; and **BLESS** your people Isra'el and the land you gave us, as you swore to our ancestors, a land flowing with milk and honey.' (*KJV:* ¹⁵ Look down from thy holy habitation, from heaven, and **BLESS** thy people Israel, and the land which thou hast given us, as thou swarest unto our fathers, a land that floweth with milk and honey.)

Our verse today follows on from the people declaring that they have obeyed the Mitzvot of ADONAI and are here asking Him to **BLESS** the people and the land in accordance with the oath given to their ancestors. This **BLESSING** is on the people and on the land, for the people's efforts to be rewarded in the produce of the land. If we walk in God's ways, obeying Him, we too shall be **BLESSED**. Hallelujah! 8th of January 2021.

40. **Deuteronomy 28:8 CJB:** ⁸ "ADONAI will order a **BLESSING** to be with you in your barns and in everything you undertake; he will **BLESS** you in the land *ADONAI* your God is giving you.

(KJV: ⁸ The LORD shall command the **BLESSING** upon thee in thy storehouses, and in all that thou settest thine hand unto; and he shall **BLESS** thee in the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee.)

Reading the whole chapter down to verse 15, tells of all the **BLESSINGS** that ADONAI will bestow on His people, provided they listen to and obey His every mitzvot. So, we see here, that His **BLESSINGS** are conditional upon that obedience. We too, today, must listen to and obey all that ADONAI expects of us, in order that we avoid all the curses that follow in this chapter. **AMEN**! Help us please Lord. *9th of January 2021*.

41. **Deuteronomy 28:12 CJB:** ¹² *ADONAI* will open for you his good treasure, the sky, to give your land its rain at the right seasons and to **BLESS** everything you undertake. You will lend to many nations and not borrow; (*KJV:* ¹² *The LORD shall open unto thee his good treasure, the heaven to give the rain unto thy land in his season, and to BLESS all the work of thine hand: and thou shalt lend unto many nations, and thou shalt not borrow.*)

Reading the chapter down to our verse and then on to verse 14, we see the **BLESSINGS** ADONAI would bestow on His people. One might look at them and say, **WOW!** In our verse today, we see that He is promising to give the rain in season, and that they will lend to other nations, but never need to borrow. These are some **BLESSINGS!** And what did they have to do to obtain all these? Listen to, observe and obey every one of the mitzvot that ADONAI had given them. Sounds simple enough, but they didn't manage to obey them all, and nor could we. 10^{th} of January 2021.

42. **Deuteronomy 33:11 CJB:** ¹¹*ADONAI*, **BLESS** his possessions, accept the work he does; but crush his enemies hip and thigh; may those who hate him rise no more."

(**KJV**: ¹¹ **BLESS**, LORD, his substance, and accept the work of his hands; smite through the loins of them that rise against him, and of them that hate him, that they rise not again.)

Our verse today is listing ADONAI'S **BLESSINGS** for the tribe of Levi. Verses 8 to 11 are the words Moshe spoke over the tribe of Levi as a part of his words to each of the tribes of Isra'el. The specific **BLESSING** here is to **BLESS** all Levi's possessions and to accept the work he does, but also to crush his enemies. What a **BLESING** to those who would become the priests of God Himself. May this same **BLESSING** be upon each true believer. Amen. 11th of January 2021.

43. **Ruth 2:4 CJB:** ⁴ when Bo'az arrived from Beit-Lechem. He said to the reapers, "*ADONAI* be with you"; and they answered him, "*ADONAI* **BLESS** you." (*KJV:* ⁴ *And, behold, Boaz came from Bethlehem, and said unto the reapers, The LORD be with you. And they answered him, The LORD BLESS thee.*)

Our verse today shows a form of greeting that would have been normal in those days. The employer wishes for his employees that "ADONAI be with them," to which the employees responded with "ADONAI **BLESS** you." Oh that this sort of greeting were normal today, even between friends and family. Maybe this is something which true believers should start by **BLESSING** one another when meeting. Selah, which means, think about that. *12th of January 2021*.

44. **Jeremiah 31:23 CJB:** ²³ Here is what *ADONAI-Tzva'ot*, the God of Isra'el, says: "This expression will be used again in the land of Y'hudah and its cities after I have returned their exiles: 'May *ADONAI* **BLESS** you, home of justice, holy mountain!'

(KJV: ²³ Thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel; As yet they shall use this speech in the land of Judah and in the cities thereof, when I shall bring again their captivity; The LORD **BLESS** thee, O habitation of justice, and mountain of holiness.)

Our verse today is part of a chapter in which ADONAI remembers Efrayim, calling him His eldest son, and also recounts Efrayim's repentance. This saying, "May ADONAI BLESS you.... will be used again in the land of Y'hudah and its cities," effectively, ADONAI is saying that Y'hudah will again BLESS one another by wishing ADONAI's BLESSING upon each other. The verses following our verse indicates some of what that BLESSING will be. Amen. 13th of January 2021.

45. **2 Samuel 7:29 CJB: ²⁹** So may it please you to **BLESS** the family of your servant and thereby cause it to continue forever in your presence. For you, *Adonai ELOHIM*, have said it. May your servant's family be **BLESSED** forever by your **BLESSING**."

(KJV: ²⁹ Therefore now let it please thee to **BLESS** the house of thy servant, that it may continue for ever before thee: for thou, O Lord GOD, hast spoken it: and with thy **BLESSING** let the house of thy servant be **BLESSED** for ever.)

Please read the whole chapter, of which our verse today is the last. What you have read is the Davidic Covenant. King David, was, in our verse, sitting in the Tabernacle, talking (*praying*) with ADONAI. He had protested his unworthiness for the BLESSING but, was asking that all that ADONAI had promised would come to pass. As we know from the rest of the Bible (!!!) that this promise of **BLESSING** was kept, right up to the ultimate **BLESSING** of David's line, Yeshua. Oh, Father God, how can we thank you enough, for the **BLESSING** you have offered to each of us, of Your salvation through Your Son, Yeshua. I thank you Father God that I have accepted Your offer and am saved from the Lake of Fire. Hallelujah! Amen. Amen.

46. **1 Chronicles 17:27 CJB:** ²⁷ and now it has pleased You to **BLESS** the family of Your servant and thereby cause it to continue forever in Your presence. For You, *ADONAI*, have **BLESSED**, and it is **BLESSED** forever." (*KJV:* ²⁷ *Now therefore let it please thee to BLESS the house of thy servant, that it may be before thee for ever: for thou BLESSEST, O LORD, and it shall be BLESSED* for ever.)

This chapter today, is another recounting of the story of ADONAI **BLESSING** the house of David and of how king David went into the tabernacle and prayed before God (*as in the previous study*). In our verse today, David is, in effect, thanking ADONAI for the promise (*in the previous verse*) He has made for the abundant **BLESSING** He was giving for the house of David. This is a permanent **BLESSING**, that it is to continue for ever, the house of David will continue before ADONAI, **BLESSED** forever. This is something really special. Hallelujah. Amen. 15th of January 2021.

47. **1** Chronicles 4:10 CJB: ¹⁰ Ya'betz called on the God of Isra'el: "Please **BLESS** me by enlarging my territory. May Your hand be with me! Keep me from harm, so that it will not cause me pain (*Hebrew 'atzbi'*)." God granted his request.

(Schofield **KJV:** ¹⁰ And Jabez called on the God of Isra'el, saying, Oh that You would **BLESS** me indeed, and enlarge my border, and that Your hand might be with me, and that You would keep me from evil, that it may not grieve me! And God granted him that which he requested.)

We have in this chapter a number of lineages, amongst which Ya'betz (*Jabez*) suddenly appears as being more honoured than his brothers, who are not mentioned. Nor are his mother's or his father's names mentioned, in fact his father isn't even mentioned at all. In our verse today, Ya'betz is calling on to ADONAI to **BLESS** him by enlarging his territory, to be with him to keep from harm. We then see that Gad granted that request, after which Ya'betz appears no more. **BLESSED** in our verse is to be given material things, in this case, more territory. 16th of January 2021.

48. **Psalm 5:12 CJB:** ¹² For You, ADONAI, **BLESS** the righteous; You surround them with favour like a shield.

(Schofield **KJV:** ¹² For You, LORD, will **BLESS** the righteous; with favour will You compass him as with a shield.)

Our Psalm today, by David, starts by his pleading with ADONAI to hear him and finishes with our verse today, with him exalting Him. David says that ADONAI **BLESSES** the righteous and surrounds them with favour like a shield. Today, we see that this **BLESSING** is to be surrounded by God's favour. What more could anyone ask, than to be surrounded by His favour. What a **BLESSING**! *17th of January 2021*.

49. **Psalm 28:9 CJB:** ⁹ Save Your people! **BLESS** Your heritage! Shepherd them, carry them forever.

(Schofield **KJV**: ⁹ Save Your people, and **BLESS** Your inheritance; feed them also, and lift them up forever.)

David, in the 1st part of this Psalm, is crying out to ADONAI to hear his prayer. Then in verse 6 to our verse, he is **BLESSING** ADONAI because he knows that He has heard his cry. In our verse today, he is asking ADONAI to **BLESS** His people and for Him to shepherd His people forever. This, ADONAI has done, in answer to David's cry, not withstanding, that He has had to punish them from time to time when they have gone whoring after other gods. It is always in ADONAI's heart to **BLESS** His people. 19th of January 2021.

50. **Psalm 29:11 CJB:** ¹¹ May *ADONAI* give strength to his people! May *ADONAI* **BLESS** his people with *shalom*! (*KJV:* ¹¹ *The LORD will give strength unto his people; the LORD will BLESS his people with peace.*)

This whole Psalm is given to praise and extol ADONAI up to verse 10, then David asks Him, in our verse today, to give strength to His people and **BLESS** them with Shalom. This request for strength would be for them to be seen to be strong by their potential enemies, such that those enemies will not attempt to attack them. Hence in **BLESSING** the people, may peace be upon them.

21st of January 2021.

51. **Psalm 67:1 CJB:** ¹God, be gracious to us, and **BLESS** us.

May He make his face shine toward us, (Selah) (KJV: ¹ God be merciful unto us, and BLESS us; and cause His face to shine upon us; Selah.)

Our God is a gracious God and in our verse today, the Psalmist is asking God to show that graciousness toward His people and to **BLESS** them. Now at the end of our verse is: "Selah," this means "think about what has just been read in this verse." So, what have we just read? The Psalmist is asking God for His **BLESSING** by his graciousness, and to make His face shine toward us. **BLESSING** here would be for God to show His favour toward us.

52. **Psalm 67:6 CJB:** ⁶ The earth has yielded its harvest; may God, our God, **BLESS** us.

(KJV: ⁶ Then shall the earth yield her increase; and God, even our own God, shall BLESS us.)

All glory and honour and praises belong to you, O God, for there is no other! In our verse today, we see that God has **BLESSED** the people with the harvest of the earth and then they ask that He would now **BLESS** them. This **BLESSING** would be for **BLESSING** of the womb, **BLESSING** of peace, **BLESSING** of prosperity and so on. It is wonderful that Isra'el (and we) have such a relationship with Him that we can dare to ask Him such things. Hallelujah! What a God we have! Amen. 23rd of January 2021.

53. **Psalm 67:7 CJB:** ⁷ May God continue to **BLESS** us, so that all the ends of the earth will fear him. (*KJV:* ⁷ God shall *BLESS* us; and all the ends of the earth shall fear him.)

In our verse today, the Psalmist is asking God to continue to **BLESS** them (*Isra'el*) such that all other nations shall see what God can do for this one nation, which will instil fear in the others. They will realise that there is no way in which they could fight against Isra'el and their God. What a God! Using **BLESSING** as a weapon of protection! 24th of January 2021.

54. **Psalm 115:12 CJB:** ¹² *ADONAI* has kept us in mind, and he will **BLESS**. He will **BLESS** the house of Isra'el; he will **BLESS** the house of Aharon; (*KJV:* ¹² *The LORD hath been mindful of us: he will BLESS us; he will BLESS the house of Israel; he will BLESS the house of Aaron.*)

The 1st 8 verses of this Psalm are a warning to those of the nations who worship idols. The next 3 verses are calling upon the house of Isra'el to turn to ADONAI, then from verse 12, our verse today, is where are listed the ways in which ADONAI will **BLESS** both the houses of Aharon and Isra'el. 3 times in our verse, they were told who ADONAI will **BLESS**, starting with He will keep them "in mind." Our God, ADONAI, the Lord God of Isra'el has made so many promises to Isra'el, here we have more. He will keep every one of them! Amen. Hallelujah! 25th of January 2021.

55. **Psalm 115:13 CJB:** ¹³ he will **BLESS** those who fear *ADONAI*, great and small alike.

(KJV: ¹³ He will **BLESS** them that fear the LORD, both small and great.)

Who are those who fear ADONAI? It should be every single one of us. What is fear of ADONAI? It is good to think of this, as holding ADONAI in holy awe, in reverence, looking to Him as the source of all knowledge, strength and majesty. So, what is this **BLESSING**? We need to look at the context here, to find this. The next verse, v14, shows one form of that **BLESSING**, verses 9 to 11 give us another, He will help us and shield us from our enemies. You might say, "I have no enemies," in which case you are obviously deceived by the enemy, the adversary, Ha'Satan. So, again, trust in ADONAI, as those 3 verses say. If we do fear ADONAI, whether we are great or small, He will **BLESS** each one of us. *26th of January 2021*.

56. **Psalm 128:5 CJB:** ⁵ May *ADONAI* **BLESS** you from Tziyon! May you see Yerushalayim prosper all the days of your life,

(KJV: ⁵ The LORD shall BLESS thee out of Zion: and thou shalt see the good of Jerusalem all the days of thy life.)

This Psalm is one of the 15 Psalms of Ascent (120 to 134, also known as songs of degrees) sung by pilgrims as they went up the steps to the Temple Mount. They sang one of these Psalms on each of those steps. Our verse today states: "May ADONAI BLESS you from Tziyon," the form of BLESSING is outlined in this whole Psalm. It is for a complete BLESSING and finishes with a wish for a long enough life to see one's grandchildren. I praise the Lord that I have 6 Grandchildren AND 3 Great Grandchildren! Thank you, Father GOD for the blessing that You have given me, not that I am seeing any in this Pandemic. 27th of January 2021.

Today is Holocaust Memorial Day, where we remember the 11 million Gipsys, homosexuals, JWs and including the 6 million Jews murdered by the Nazis in 1940 to 1945.

57. **Psalm 132:15 CJB:** ¹⁵ I will **BLESS** it with plenty of meat, I will give its poor their fill of food.

(KJV: ¹⁵ I will abundantly **BLESS** her provision: I will satisfy her poor with bread.)

This is another one of the Psalms of ascent. In our verse today, ADONAI will **BLESS** Tziyon with plenty of meat and feed the poor. This is the Lord God of Isra'el, who tells here that He will use Tziyon as His resting-place forever simply because He wants so much to do so - V14. Some God is the God of Isra'el, there is none to compare! 28th of January 2021.

58. Psalm 134:3 CJB: ³ May ADONAI, the maker of heaven and earth,
BLESS you from Tziyon.
(KJV: ³ The LORD that made heaven and earth BLESS thee out of Zion.)

I always thought of Psalm 133 as the shortest Psalm, but here, as we look at the last of the Psalms of Ascent, although still only 3 verses, as in Psalm 133, there are even fewer words. Each of the 3 verses has the word **BLESS**, but only here, in our verse today, do we see any attribute of ADONAI, He is the maker of Heaven and Earth. What we see here, is that ADONAI may **BLESS** His people in any way at all, since He has no limit, and Has created all things. In effect, we see that these **BLESSINGs** upon His people can be limitless. WOW!!!

29th of January 2021.

59. Isaiah 19:25 CJB: ²⁵ for *ADONAI-Tzva'ot* has **BLESSED** him:

"**BLESSED** be Egypt my people, Ashur the work of my hands and Isra'el my heritage."

(KJV: ²⁵ Whom the LORD of hosts shall **BLESS**, saying, **BLESSED** be Egypt my people, and Assyria the work of my hands, and Israel mine inheritance.)

This prophesy of Isaiah has not yet come to pass, it has yet to happen. One must read the whole chapter, which gives the context of this happening. At present we have Isra'el as God's chosen people but, in our verse today, we see that ADONAI-Tzva'ot is calling not just Isra'el as His people but Egypt and Ashur too. ADONAI-Tzva'ot has **BLESSED** all three nations. WOW! This is news, whilst I have read through the whole Bible about 9 times now, over many decades, I have no recollection of reading this chapter before. WOW! When will this **BLESSING** happen Lord? 12th of June 2021.

60. Haggai 2:19 CJB: ¹⁹ there's no longer any seed in the barn, is there? and the vine, fig tree, pomegranate tree and olive tree have produced nothing yet, right? However, from this day on, I will **BLESS** you."

(KJV: ¹⁹ Is the seed yet in the barn? yea, as yet the vine, and the fig tree, and the pomegranate, and the olive tree, hath not brought forth: from this day will I **BLESS** you.)

What ADONAI was saying, through Haggai, was that although they presently have nothing, from that day on, ADONAI will **BLESS** them. Reading the whole chapter, we see that ADONAI is rebuking the people for their tardiness, in getting on with the work, of re-building the Temple of ADONAI, yet at the same time He was **BLESSING** them, encouraging them, to get on with the work.

30th of January 2021.

61. Acts 3:26 CJB: ²⁶ So it is to you first that God has sent his servant whom he has raised up, so that he might **BLESS** you by turning each one of you from your evil ways."

(*KJV*: ²⁶ Unto you first God, having raised up his Son Jesus, sent him to **BLESS** you, in turning away every one of you from his iniquities.)

Wow! Some form of **BLESSING** is here in our verse today! It is all in the second half of the verse, He will **BLESS** by turning each us, as believers, away from our evil ways. This is a very different form of **BLESSING** to that which we have seen before, in our life before believing in Yeshua for our salvation from the Lake of Fire, we were completely evil. Now, as we see in our verse, God will **BLESS** us, by turning us away from the evil of our past life. O thank You Lord Yeshua, for what you have done for each one of us since we came to believe in You for our salvation, how can we ever thank You enough? 31st of January 2021.

BLESS God being the object

62. Deuteronomy 8:10 CJB: ¹⁰ So you will eat and be satisfied, and you will BLESS ADONAI your God for the good land he has given you. (KJV: ¹⁰ When thou hast eaten and art full, then thou shalt BLESS the LORD thy God for the good land which he hath given thee.)

Please read this chapter down to our verse today, as it is showing a very different **BLESSING** to those we have seen in previously in these studies! In this chapter, we see, especially from verse 7, all the good things that ADONAI has done for His people. Now, we see that they (*and us*) will **BLESS** ADONAI for all the good land He gave His people and today, all the good things He has given to us today. So how do we **BLESS** ADONAI? We do this by obeying all His mitzvot and giving to Him all the praise and glory belonging to Him, today and every day. 1st of February 2021.

63. Psalm 103:21 CJB: ²¹ BLESS ADONAI, all his troops, who serve him and do what he wants!

(KJV: ²¹ BLESS ye the LORD, all ye his hosts; ye ministers of his, that do his pleasure.)

This is a call to His angels to **BLESS** ADONAI, all those who serve Him. Whilst the angels are His Troops, so are we, living on the earth. For we true believers also serve Him and do what He wants, or that is what we should be doing. How do we **BLESS** ADONAI then? By doing what it says in the second half of the verse. How do we know what He wants of us? We pray to Him asking and read His word, then He will tell us, if we stay long enough to listen and hear Him, this is not easy to do as we rush through life! 2^{nd} of February 2021.

64. Judges 5:9 CJB: ⁹My heart goes out to Isra'el's leaders and to those among the people who volunteer. All of you, BLESS ADONAI.
(KJV: ⁹My heart is toward the governors of Israel, that offered themselves willingly

among the people. **BLESS** ye the LORD.)

In order to find the context of our verse in this chapter, it is necessary to read chapter 4, where the Lord helped D'vorak and Barak to defeat Sisra, the commander of Yavin's army, defeated before Isra'el (*specifically*, 10,000 men from Naftali and Z'vulun). Ignoring the 1st part of our verse today, all Isra'el were told to **BLESS** ADONAI, in thanks for that victory. 3^{rd} of February 2021.

65. Psalm103:21 CJB:²¹ BLESS ADONAI, all his troops, who serve him and do what he wants!

(KJV: ²¹ Bless ye the LORD, all ye his hosts; ye ministers of his, that do his pleasure.)

In our verse today, all His troops are here told to **BLESS** ADONAI, and in the previous verse, it was His angels, warriors, who were told to **BLESS** Him. The difference here is not unimportant, maybe the people are the troops. No matter, all must **BLESS** ADONAI. How are we to **BLESS** Him? The only indication is found in the 1st two verses of this Psalm, where my soul is told to **BLESS** ADONAI. The soul is within me, so this **BLESSING** cannot be a physical action, only really to declare His Mighty self, how wonderful, majestic, powerful, merciful, all knowing, beautiful and so many other superlatives that apply to ADONAI. May be singing His praises. Hallelujah.

5th of March 2021.

66. **Psalm 134:1 CJB:** Come, **BLESS** *ADONAI*, all you servants of *ADONAI*, who serve each night in the house of *ADONAI*.

(*KJV*: Behold, *BLESS* ye the LORD, all ye servants of the LORD, which by night stand in the house of the LORD.)

Who are all these servants of the Lord? What is this house of ADONAI? The servants are you and I and the house of ADONAI is you and I! Remember that we are each the Temple of the Lord, wherein is the Ruach Ha'kodesh (*the Holy Spirit*). So how then, do we **BLESS** ADONAI here? We do this by keeping Him pre-eminent in our minds, upholding Him with adoration and praising Him, exalting Him to others, keeping His commandments, meeting together (*Hebrews 10:25*) loving others, even our enemies, to do these things. All these will **BLESS** ADONAI and bring Him joy.

4th of February 2021.

67.1 Chronicles 29:20 CJB: ²⁰ Then David said to all the community, "Now BLESS *ADONAI* your God." All the community BLESSED *ADONAI*, the God of their ancestors, bowing their heads and prostrating themselves before *ADONAI* and before the king.

(KJV: ²⁰ And David said to all the congregation, Now **BLESS** the LORD your God. And all the congregation **BLESSED** the LORD God of their fathers, and bowed down their heads, and worshipped the LORD, and the king.)

Our verse today could be said to be a "self-contained verse." It has a context, of course, the whole chapter down to verse 22. King David told the people to **BLESS** ADONAI and we see here that the form of that **BLESSING** was to bow their heads and prostrate themselves. Strange. But then what does it mean to bow and prostrate oneself to someone? It means to honour and venerate that one, hence honouring and venerating ADONAI (*and the king*). Now we all know what prostrating is, to fall flat on the ground with ones face to the ground, but venerate? That means to "regard with great respect, to revere." We have today seen a different way to **BLESS**, here, ADONAI. *5th of February 2021*.

68. Nehemiah 9:5 CJB: ⁵ Then the L'vi'im Yeshua, Kadmi'el, Bani, Hashavn'yah, Sherevyah, Hodiyah, Sh'vanyah and P'tachyah said, "Stand up, and BLESS ADONAI your God from everlasting to everlasting; let them say: "BLESSED be your glorious name, exalted above all BLESSING and praise.
(KJV: ⁵ Then the Levites, Jeshua, and Kadmiel, Bani, Hashabniah, Sherebiah, Hodijah, Shebaniah, and Pethahiah, said, Stand up and BLESS the LORD your God for ever and ever: and BLESSED be thy glorious name, which is exalted above all BLESSING and praise.)

BLESS, **BLESSED** and **BLESSING** are all in this one verse. Reading from the beginning of the Chapter to our verse, we see that Isra'el had separated themselves from all the foreigners among them, fasted and confessed all the sins of their own and their ancestors. Then the Levites read to them from the Torah for six hours, after that, for another six hours, they continued confessing and also prostrating themselves before ADONAI. The Levites on the platform cried out loudly to ADONAI. Then we come to our verse today, where those Levites told the people to stand up and **BLESS** ADONAI for ever and ever, by saying: "**BLESSED** be your glorious name, exalted above all **BLESSING** and praise." They were to exalt and praise His name, lifting it high above all. This chapter down to this verse, gives us an indication of some of the ways to **BLESS** ADONAI. Amen. 6th of February 2021.

69. **Psalm 16:7 CJB:** ⁷ I **BLESS** *ADONAI*, my counsellor; at night my inmost being instructs me.

(**KJV**: ⁷ I will **BLESS** the LORD, who hath given me counsel: my reins also instruct me in the night seasons.)

Here, king David has written a mikhtam, an "atonement," I'm told. In our verse today, he is **BLESSING** ADONAI for being his counsellor, his instructor in the night. From this, we see that there is a lesson for us, having asked ADONAI for His protection, he is, in our verse, **BLESSING** ADONAI, for being the one who keeps him "on the straight and narrow," so to speak. We must always also seek ADONAI for His guidance. ADONAI loves to help us, but we need to seek Him for that guidance ourselves. Then we may **BLESS** Him by giving Him our thanks.7th of February 2021.

70. Psalm 26:12 CJB: ¹² My feet are planted on level ground; in the assemblies I will BLESS ADONAI.
 (K.W: 12 My feet standath in an even place; in the congregations will I BLESS

(KJV: ¹² My foot standeth in an even place: in the congregations will I BLESS the LORD.)

As I read this Psalm, I thought, as I read the 1st 5 verses, oh Lord, if only that were the truth in my life! Then the next 6 verses, I read as my prayer to the Lord. In our verse today, I praise my God, ADONAI, that He has planted my feet on level ground, hence, I will **BLESS** Him by thanking Him and offering Him my praises, inadequate as they may be. "**BLESS** the Lord, Oh my soul, and all that is within me **BLESS** His holy name. He has done great things, HALLELUJAH......" Thank You Father God that my feet are planted on level ground. Amen. 8th of February 2021.

71. **Psalm 34:1 CJB:** ¹I will **BLESS** *ADONAI* at all times; his praise will always be in my mouth.

(*KJV*: ¹ *I* will *BLESS* the LORD at all times: his praise shall continually be in my mouth.)

ADONAI had just delivered David from his enemy by subterfuge. I wonder, with a smile, where David got the idea to feign madness?[©] Probably, this is why he would **BLESS** ADONAI at all times and praise Him always. For myself, I would hope to **BLESS** ADONAI in this way, especially when He rescues me, for He is always worthy of all glory, honour and praises. The words of that song in the previous study comes to mind again. **BLESS** You and thank You, ADONAI, for the ways in which You manifest Your love to each one of us all the time. *9th of February 2021*.

72. **Psalm 63:4 CJB:** ⁴ Yes, I will **BLESS** you as long as I live; in your name I will lift up my hands.

(KJV: ⁴ Thus will I BLESS thee while I live: I will lift up my hands in thy name.)

Oh Father God, help me, that I might, as David did, **BLESS** You as long as I live, lifting up my hands in Your name. So, how did David **BLESS** ADONAI in this Psalm? Here he was in the desert, recalling how he used to contemplate Him in the sanctuary (*v2*) seeing the power and glory of God, but here, we see that he **BLESSES** God by worshipping Him by what he says (*and sings?*) and lifting up his hands to the Lord in His name ("Shem" in Hebrew). Oh Lord, that I might **BLESS** You singing Your praises all my life. 10th of February 2021.

73. **Psalm 66:8 CJB:** ⁸ **BLESS** our God, you peoples! Let the sound of his praise be heard!

(KJV: ⁸ O BLESS our God, ye people, and make the voice of his praise to be heard:)

From our verse today, we see that we must let the sound of His praise be heard, which is to **BLESS** ADONAI. Let there be glory and honour and praises be to our God, for He alone is worthy! Should we be given praise, we should deflect it to our God and saviour, for it is He who has given us the ability to do whatever it is that has drawn the praise, all glory belongs to Him. We should **BLESS** Him for all He has given us. *11th of February 2021*.

74. **Psalm 68:26** CJB: ²⁶ "In choruses, **BLESS** God, *Adonai*, you whose source is Isra'el." (*KJV*: ²⁶ *BLESS* ye God in the congregations, even the Lord, from the fountain of Israel.)

For our verse today, the CJB, as so often, is a little more specific and says "In choruses, **BLESS** God, *Adonai*," in other words, sing praises to Him to **BLESS**, honour, magnify and glorify Him. Doesn't one sometimes feel the glory of God when we do this? Stroking a cat comes to mind, when it will purr with satisfaction or joy, one can imagine how ADONAI might feel as we sing praises to Him. Hallelujah! Amen. 12th of February 2021.

75. Psalm 96:2 CJB: ² Sing to *ADONAI*, BLESS his name! Proclaim his victory day after day!

(*KJV*: ² Sing unto the LORD, *BLESS* his name; shew forth his salvation from day to day.)

Whilst our verse today exhorts us to **BLESS** ADONAI, the whole of the rest of the **Psalm** is telling us how to do this. The next verse tells us to declare His glory among the nations, in other words, we must **BLESS** Him by declaring His glory to all people. One way in which this is happening today is by Christian broadcasting on radio and satellite TV. Thank you, our great God, Oh praise the Lord, His glory and His wonders really are being proclaimed to all the earth and virtually to all the peoples and ADONAI is being **BLESSED**. Hallelujah! AMEN! 13th of February 2021.

76. Psalm 100:4 CJB: ⁴ Enter his gates with thanksgiving, enter his courtyards with praise; give thanks to him, and BLESS his name.
(KJV: ⁴ Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him and BLESS his name.)

What a wonderful Psalm is this, as the heading in the CJB reads: A Psalm of thanksgiving. We are to give thanks as we enter His gates, we are to give Him praise as we enter His courtyards (*of the Temple*) and having done these, we are to **BLESS** His name. What the lord is saying to me as I type this is that this **BLESSING** to ADONAI is that doing these things brings a **BLESSING** to Him, they give Him pleasure, as we, His people, thank and praise Him. So, to **BLESS** is to give pleasure or joy. Hallelujah. Thank You Lord. 14th of February 2021.

77. Psalm 103:1 CJB: ¹ BLESS ADONAI, my soul! Everything in me, BLESS his holy name!
(KJV: BLESS the LORD, O my soul: and all that is within me, BLESS his holy name.)

What a wonderful song, that is based upon this verse in the KJV. **BLESS** the Lord, O my soul! Is this a command, or a reflection of what is going on in the mind of every true believer? Whichever, it is a wonderful song and to sing it uplifts the one singing. To **BLESS** the Lord not only brings a **BLESSING** to Him, but it brings joy to the one(s) singing this first line especially. Hallelujah, what a saviour! A joy to us to bring this to **BLESS** ADONAI. Then we have, "**BLESS** His holy name." What is His holy name? It is basically, the Tetragrammaton YHWH pronounced Yahweh, or more normally ADONAI or in very old English, Jehovah. We are to **BLESS** that name. How? By exalting, by praising that name. One song that comes to mind is: "Jesus, name above all names...." Which lifts up the name of the Son of God, who is part of the triune God. This is also praising our God at the same time, all of which **BLESSES** Him. This should be, of course, all part of our lifestyle, which is what the world sees and they take note of it, it is our witness to Him. *16th of February 2021*.

78. **Psalm 103:2** CJB: ² **BLESS** *ADONAI*, my soul, and forget none of his benefits! (*KJV:* ² *BLESS the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits:*)

At first reading, this could be mistaken for an advert! However, read in context, especially after the 1st verse, this makes more sense. We are exhorted to **BLESS** ADONAI once again, in this verse, to **BLESS** Him for all the benefits He bestows upon every true believer, which start with salvation, of course. Some of these benefits are listed as one reads through this Psalm and there are many more than this. Hallelujah, He alone is worthy of all glory and honour and praises and **BLESSINGS**. Hallelujah! 17th of February 2021.

79. Psalm 103:22 CJB: ²² BLESS ADONAI, all his works, in every place where he rules! BLESS ADONAI, my soul! (KJV: ²² BLESS the LORD, all his works in all places of his dominion: BLESS the LORD, O my soul.)

The 1st and the last phrase in the Psalm are the same, "**BLESS** *ADONAI*, my soul!" Interesting that at the end is an exclamation mark, it is a command to me/you to **BLESS** ADONAI, my soul, for all that He is, high and lifted up above all. He has done great things and some of them are listed in the Psalm, He alone is worthy to be praised, glorified, magnified and **BLESSED**, so that is what we must do for our God. 18th of February 2021. 80. **Psalm 104:1 CJB: BLESS** *ADONAI*, my soul! *ADONAI*, my God, you are very great; (*KJV: BLESS* the LORD, O my soul. O LORD my God, thou art very great; thou art clothed with honour and majesty.)

Once again, we are to tell our own soul to **BLESS** ADONAI our God. We are to extol Him, for he is far above all His creation, worthy of all glory. honour and praises. We **BLESS** him by giving Him all that glory, honour and praise, in this way, my/our soul will **BLESS** ADONAI. Our very soul must tell Him how great He is. Clothed with glory and majesty. We should declare these things from our very soul, to **BLESS** Him. 19th of February 2021.

81. Psalm 104:35 CJB: ³⁵ May sinners vanish from the earth and the wicked be no more! BLESS ADONAI, my soul! Halleluyah!
(KJV: ³⁵ Let the sinners be consumed out of the earth and let the wicked be no more.
BLESS thou the LORD, O my soul. Praise ye the LORD.)

Wow! Having read the whole Psalm, it is about the provision of ADONAI for our every need. No wonder these last few words of this Psalm are telling our souls to **BLESS** ADONAI. Verse 33 tells Him that "I will sing to ADONAI as long as I live, sing praise to my God all my life." I will **BLESS** Him for ever with singing praises to Him. To **BLESS** Him I will tell Him that I love Him and praise Him for ever. Having read the whole Psalm, as mentioned, I still wonder at His provision for me, but for all His creation. Yes, Hallelujah! 20th of February 2021.

82. Psalm 103:20 CJB: ²⁰ BLESS ADONAI, you angels of his, you mighty warriors who obey his word, who carry out his orders!
(KJV: ²⁰ BLESS the LORD, ye his angels, that excel in strength, that do his commandments, hearkening unto the voice of his word.)

Our verse today is telling all His Angels to **BLESS** ADONAI. These Angels are mighty warriors, who obey His word and carry out His orders. These are those who, as in **Psalm 91**, will care for us, guard us and carry us. They are ADONAI's created beings, who are here told to **BLESS** the Lord. There are other Angels, who followed Ha'Satan and are no longer His Angels, they will not **BLESS** ADONAI since they are trying to usurp Him. We should **BLESS** ADONAI along with His Angels. *21st of February 2021*.

83. Psalm 103:21 CJB: ²¹ BLESS *ADONAI*, all his troops, who serve him and do what he wants!

(KJV: ²¹ BLESS ye the LORD, all ye his hosts; ye ministers of his, that do his pleasure.)

Who are these troops? It would seem that they are the Angels together with all true believers. Those who serve ADONAI and do His will, these are the ones who are to **BLESS** Him. They **BLESS** ADONAI by doing as our verse says, serving Him and doing what He wants. We can only do this with His help via a lot of prayer. Hallelujah, all glory and honour and praise to you, our wonderful God, there is no other God but you. Oh **BLESS** You almighty Father who alone is worthy to be praised. Hallelujah! 22nd of February 2021.

84. Psalm 103:22 CJB: ²² BLESS ADONAI, all his works, in every place where he rules! BLESS ADONAI, my soul! (KJV: ²² BLESS the LORD, all his works in all places of his dominion: BLESS the LORD, O my soul.)

Today, in our verse, we see that all His works must **BLESS** ADONAI. Who or what are these works? All creation He has made, these are His works and that includes you and me. Then there are so many of His works in Scripture, such as where he parted the Reed Sea for all Isra'el to pass through on dry land. That was a big one, but there are so many "little" and "medium" ones throughout Scripture, where He protects Isra'el and where he punishes them. Everything is here told to **BLESS** our wonderful Father God. Wherever we look, is God's creation, works. We look at the trees as they come out into leaves and blossom and we should **BLESS** Him for all His works. 23^{rd} of February 2021.

85. **Psalm 115:18 CJB:** ¹⁸ But we will **BLESS** *ADONAI* from now on and forever. *Halleluyah*!

(**KJV**: ¹⁸ But we will **BLESS** the LORD from this time forth and for evermore. Praise the LORD.)

The previous verse says that the dead cannot praise ADONAI, in contrast, our verse says that I/you, true believers, will **BLESS** ADONAI from now on and forever. What more do we need but to **BLESS** ADONAI forever? What amount of **BLESSING** we fail to do here, we shall do in Heaven, where we shall **BLESS** and praise the almighty God forever. Hallelujah! Amen. 24th of February 2021.

86. **Psalm 134:2 CJB:** ² Lift your hands toward the sanctuary and **BLESS** ADONAI. (*KJV:* ² Lift up your hands in the sanctuary and **BLESS** the LORD.)

The shortest Psalm here exhorts us lift our hands toward the sanctuary and to **BLESS** ADONAI. Of course, the sanctuary doesn't exist at present, so, we lift our hands to He who has replaced that building, Yeshua. Where is He? In Heaven with the Father. Hence, we lift our hands toward Heaven. This will **BLESS** ADONAI as we acknowledge Him as the almighty King of kings and Lord of lords, high and exalted above all. Hallelujah! *25th of February 2021.*

87. Psalm 135:19 CJB: ¹⁹ House of Isra'el, BLESS ADONAI! House of Aharon, BLESS ADONAI! (KJV: ¹⁹ BLESS the LORD, O house of Israel: BLESS the LORD, O house of Aaron:)

House of Isra'el is the nation of Isra'el, house of Aharon is the priesthood. They are both here told, commanded, to **BLESS** ADONAI. How? In the context of this Psalm, it is to keep away from any form of idol worship and to warn those who do! By implication, they are to **BLESS** Him by praising Him and spending their lives praising Him, giving Him all the glory, honour and praises due to this wonderful Lord God of Isra'el. *26th of February 2021*.

88. Psalm 135:20 CJB: ²⁰ House of Levi, BLESS ADONAI! You who fear ADONAI, BLESS ADONAI! (KJV: ²⁰ BLESS the LORD, O house of Levi: ye that fear the LORD, BLESS the LORD.)

From this tribe (*or house*) of Levi comes the Priesthood, but this is only a very small proportion of the tribe. This verse is calling on the whole tribe of Levi to **BLESS** ADONAI and all those who fear Him, all are to **BLESS** ADONAI. Amongst other functions of the Levi's is to be the musicians and singers in the Temple, leading the praises of ADONAI by the people to **BLESS** ADONAI. We too are to **BLESS** Him with praises. 27th of February 2021

89. **Psalm 145:1 CJB:** ¹⁾ I will praise you to the heights, my God, the king; I will **BLESS** your name forever and ever.

(KJV: ¹ I will extol thee, my God, O king; and I will **BLESS** thy name for ever and ever.)

In this Psalm, David is praising ADONAI to his absolute limit, acknowledging Him as his God and King. David goes on to tell ADONAI that he will **BLESS** His name for ever and ever. We learn here that the form of **BLESSING** is **BLESS** His name for ever and ever by praising Him to the heights, to the best of his ability. David will do this for as long as he lives, being his "forever and ever." O that we would do the same, praise Him forever and ever. HALLELUJAH! HALLELUJAH! AMEN! 1st of March 2021.

90. **Psalm 145:2 CJB:** ² Every day I will **BLESS** you; I will praise your name forever and ever.

(KJV: ² Every day will I BLESS thee; and I will praise thy name for ever and ever.)

Strangely, David reverses the order of praise and **BLESSING** in this verse, from verse 1. Every day, as this Psalm says, we should **BLESS** ADONAI and praise His name forever and ever. This praising and extolling His name with our tongues is a form of **BLESSING** to Him, as long as it is done with a sincere heart and mind. To speak or sing His praises, to lift up His name on high, is to bring glory and honour to His name, as we should always. Hallelujah. HALLELUJAH. AMEN! 2nd of March 2021.

91. Psalm 145:10 CJB: ¹⁰ All your creatures will thank you, ADONAI, and your faithful servants will BLESS you.
(KJV: ¹⁰ All thy works shall praise thee, O LORD; and thy saints shall BLESS thee.)

This is a Psalm of praise to our wonderful God! Do read it all. In our verse today, all His creatures will thank Him for all His provision. Then His faithful servants, you and I, true believers, will **BLESS** Him. This **BLESSING** would seem to be in thanking Him for all that He does for us and gives us. To do this, we must be fully aware of all that ADONAI has done for us, given us. This can only done, when we regularly read His word to see what are those things He has done. Otherwise, we only know those things of which we are aware in our own lives and He has done so much, **much** more, as recorded in His word, in the Scriptures, old and new Testaments. 3^{rd} of March 2021.

92. **Psalm 145:21 CJB:** ²¹ My mouth will proclaim the praise of *ADONAI*; all people will **BLESS** his holy name forever and ever.

(KJV: ²¹ My mouth shall speak the praise of the LORD: and let all flesh **BLESS** his holy name for ever and ever.)

Reading the whole Psalm again, David is again reminding the readers of all the goodness, mercy, kindness and provision that ADONAI has given us. In our verse today, he is declaring the praises of ADONAI and extolling the people, you and I, to **BLESS** the Holy Name of Him forever and ever. When we look back on our own lives, every one of us can see where ADONAI has **BLESSED** us, in the "bad" parts, He has been with us, upholding us, encouraging us, providing for us, even if we didn't realise it at the time. Such a wonderful God we have, who does such things for us. To Him, we must give our thanks and **BLESS** Him always, even if we don't feel like it. What we feel is irrelevant, it is what we have seen our God doing for us all the time, as mentioned, maybe only when we look back on our lives, then we will **BLESS** ADONAI. *4th of March 2021*.

93. James 3:9 CJB: ⁹ With it we BLESS ADONAI, the Father; and with it we curse people, who were made in the image of God.^[a]
(KJV: ⁹ Therewith BLESS we God, even the Father; and therewith curse we men, which are made after the similitude of God.)
[a] Genesis 1:26, 27

The note here [a] takes us to where God created humankind in His own image but, we remember the fall and, that is where, as in the 1st eight verses of this chapter, we remember how we misuse our tongues! We use it to **BLESS** ADONAI, our God, and we then use it to curse other people who, like us, are made in the image of God. As true believers, we MUST learn to control or bridle our tongues! What we say and HOW we say anything, is all part of our witness to Him. What sort of witness am I? Do I, or you, represent the fresh or the bitter water? We must examine ourselves frequently and decide. Thank you, Father God, that you gave each one of us the ability to control our tongues, which we must DO and **BLESS** Him! Amen. 6^{th} of March 2021.

BLESS Man agent and object

94. Genesis 27:4 CJB: ⁴ Make it tasty, the way I like it; and bring it to me to eat. Then I will BLESS you [as firstborn], before I die."
(KJV: ⁴ And make me savoury meat, such as I love, and bring it to me, that I may eat; that my soul may BLESS thee before I die.)

Rivkah, their mother was complicit in this deception of her husband, their father, as we see in the next verse. For she remembered what ADONAI had said to her when she was pregnant with the twin boys. The subject here in our verse today, is the **BLESSING** of the first-born by the father, Yitz'chak, where he asked Esav, the physical first-born, to get him some of his favourite food. After this he would **BLESS** him as the first-born. Yitz'chak was going to do the correct thing as a father to his son. Lesson for us? We, as believers, must know the Scripture, old and new, to do our duty too. 8th of March 2021.

95. Genesis 27:25 CJB: ²⁵ He said, "Bring it here to me, and I will eat my son's game, so that I can give you my **BLESSING**." So, he brought it up to him, and he ate; he also brought him wine, and he drank.

(KJV: ²⁵ And he said, Bring it near to me, and I will eat of my son's venison, that my soul may **BLESS** thee. And he brought it near to him, and he did eat: and he brought him wine and he drank.)

In our passage today, we see the culmination of the deception perpetrated by Ya'akov and his mother, Rivkah, upon Yitz'chak. This caused Yitz'chak to give the firstborn's **BLESSING** to Ya'akov, who was not the firstborn. This **BLESSING** is spelt out in verses 28, 29. This **BLESSING** is of a father to his eldest son, not to be confused with a **BLESSING** from ADONAI, it is still some **BLESSING**! Notice that the last sentence in verse 29 re-iterates the **BLESSING** given to Avraham in **Genesis 12:3**, which still applies to Isra'el today, it has never been nullified.

9th of March 2021.

96. Genesis 27:34 CJB: ³⁴ When 'Esav heard his father's words he burst into loud, bitter sobbing. "Father, **BLESS** me too," he begged.

(*KJV*: ³⁴ And when Esau heard the words of his father, he cried with a great and exceeding bitter cry, and said unto his father, *BLESS* me, even me also, O my father.)

'Esav felt that his brother had stolen his father's **BLESSING** for the firstborn, which was true. He burst into loud, bitter sobbing, pleading with his father, Yitz'chak, to give him a **BLESSING** of some sort. Yitz'chak, in verses 39 and 40, thought up a **BLESSING** for 'Esav and gave it to him. How often have we felt robbed of something? Did you, or I, feel bitter toward the one robbing us, as did 'Esav, as we see in verse 41? As true believers, what should our reaction be? For an answer to that question, one place to look is **Romans 12:14-21**. ADONAI, Father God, please help each of us to follow Your ways in our reactions to such situations, that You may be glorified. Amen. 10^{th} of March 2021.

97. Genesis 27:38 CJB: ³⁸ 'Esav said to his father, "Have you only one **BLESSING**, my father? Father, **BLESS** me too!" 'Esav wept aloud,

(KJV: ³⁸ And Esau said unto his father, Hast thou but one **BLESSING**, my father? **BLESS** me, even me also, O my father. And Esau lifted up his voice and wept.)

I imagine that in those days, there really was only one **BLESSING** by a father for the firstborn son, so when that **BLESSING** had been given, that was it. However, Yitz'chak had further thought on the subject and found a further **BLESSING**, which had not been given to Ya'akov and said to 'Esav, "here!" Expressing surprise that he found more with which to **BLESS**, he found other items by which he could **BLESS** his eldest and pronounced it upon 'Esav. I have discovered over the years, that another name or attribute to those on my web site, of our wonderful God is "more." Just as Yitz'chak found more with which to **BLESS** 'Esav so, the more we find out about Him, there is always more. Our God is infinite! Hallelujah! *11th of March 2021*.

98. Genesis 48:9 CJB: ⁹ Yosef answered his father, "They are my sons, whom God has given me here." Ya'akov replied, "I want you to bring them here to me, so that I can **BLESS** them."

(KJV: ⁹And Joseph said unto his father, They are my sons, whom God hath given me in this place. And he said, Bring them, I pray thee, unto me, and I will BLESS them.)

Isra'el (*Ya'akov had been renamed by the Angel of the Lord*) had a **BLESSING** for the 2 sons of Yosef and called for them. As we know from later in the chapter, Isra'el **BLESSED** the younger over the elder boy. Please read the whole chapter to understand what was going on here. The **BLESSING** itself is in verses 19 and 20. Isra'el knew what ADONAI wanted him to do with the boys. The lesson for us today is that when we know from Him to do something, we must do it the Lord's way in spite of any opposition against doing it the Lord's way. *12th of March 2021*.

99. Genesis 48:20 CJB: ²⁰ Then he added this BLESSING on them that day: "Isra'el will speak of you in their own BLESSINGS by saying, 'May God make you like Efrayim and M'nasheh." Thus, he put Efrayim ahead of M'nasheh. (KJV: ²⁰ And he BLESSED them that day, saying, In thee shall Isra'el BLESS, saying, God make thee as Ephraim and as Manasseh: and he set Ephraim before Manasseh.)

Ya'akov **BLESSED** the 2 boys by saying that this **BLESSING** is such that Isra'el will desire to be like Efrayim and M'nasheh, for Efrayim and M'nasheh will be great but, Efrayim will be greater. The previous verse says that his descendants will grow into many nations. From my memory of the Bible (*Tanakh*) I cannot recall this happening, no doubt, the Lord will point it out to me one day, or when I reach Heaven. 13th of March 2021.

100. Exodus 12:32 CJB: ³² Take both your flocks and your herds, as you said; and get out of here! But BLESS me, too."
(KJV: ³² Also take your flocks and your herds, as ye have said, and be gone; and BLESS me also.)

As ADONAI had killed all the firstborn in Egypt, Pharoah got up in the night, called for Moshe and told him to get Isra'el out of Egypt with all they had. Do it NOW! And to BLESS Pharoah. We are not given any idea whether Moshe did BLESS Pharoah or not, nor the form of BLESSING. 14th of March 2021. 101. **Numbers 6:23 CJB:** ²² *ADONAI* said to Moshe, ²³ "Speak to Aharon and his sons, and tell them that this is how you are to **BLESS** the people of Isra'el: you are to say to them,

(KJV: ²³ Speak unto Aaron and unto his sons, saying, On this wise ye shall **BLESS** the children of Israel, saying unto them,)

This chapter up to verse 21, is all about a Nazir (*or Nazarite*) and is separate from our verse today. In our verse, ADONAI is telling Moshe to speak to Aharon to **BLESS** the people with what is known as the Aaronic **BLESSING**, as in verses 24 to 26. In the CJB, which is my main Bible, it gives the words in both Hebrew and English and I want to be able to memorise it in Hebrew. The form of **BLESSING** itself in the Aaronic **BLESSING** are pretty well self-explanatory as one reads those verses:

CJB

²⁴ 'Y'varekh'kha ADONAI v'yishmerekha.
[May ADONAI BLESS you and keep you.]
²⁵ Ya'er ADONAI panav eleikha vichunekka.
[May ADONAI make his face shine on you and show you his favour.]
²⁶ Yissa ADONAI panav eleikha v'yasem l'kha shalom.
[May ADONAI lift up his face toward you and give you peace.]'

Thank You Father God that You **BLESS** your people so much and I thank you again, that we true believers are grafted into them. 15th of March 2021.

102. Numbers 23:20 CJB: ²⁰ Look, I am ordered to BLESS; when he BLESSES, I can't reverse it.

(KJV: ²⁰ Behold, I have received commandment to **BLESS**: and he hath **BLESSED**; and I cannot reverse it.)

Bil'am, a money grabbing prophet, had just, contrary to what Balak had wanted, **BLESSED** Isra'el, when Balak was desperate for them to be cursed! In our verse today, Bil'am explained to Balak, that (*now that he had become an "honest" prophet*) that he had to do (*say*) what ADONAI had ordered him to say or do. What ADONAI told him to BLESS cannot be reversed. Those who ADONAI wants to be **BLESSED**, are **BLESSED** indeed and that is irreversible! FULL STOP! Since ADONAI never changes, Malachi 3:6, that **BLESSING** stands today. 16th of March 2021. 103. Numbers 23:25 CJB: ²⁵ Balak said to Bil'am, "Obviously, you won't curse them. But at least don't BLESS them!

(KJV: ²⁵ And Balak said unto Balaam, Neither curse them at all, nor **BLESS** them at all.)

Balak, desperate now, having seen that Bil'am had pronounced a **BLESSING** upon Isra'el, from ADONAI, tells Bil'am that if he will not curse them at least don't **BLESS** them anymore. The story continues into the next chapter..... As we saw in the previous study, when ADONAI **BLESSES**, it cannot be changed! All glory, honour and praises belong to You, Father God. 17th of March 2021.

104. **Deuteronomy 10:8 CJB:** ⁸ At that time *ADONAI* set apart the tribe of Levi to carry the ark for the covenant of *ADONAI* and to stand before *ADONAI* to serve him and to **BLESS** in his name, as they still do today.

(**KJV**: ⁸ At that time the LORD separated the tribe of Levi, to bear the ark of the covenant of the LORD, to stand before the LORD to minister unto him, and to **BLESS** in his name, unto this day.)

In our verse today, we see that ADONAI set apart the tribe of Levi for the duties of carrying the Ark (*of the Covenant*) and to stand before Him, ADONAI, and to **BLESS** in His name. What an onerous privilege, to serve the Lord God of Isra'el for the rest of time, standing before Him. To also **BLESS** others in the name of ADONAI, as He directs. What a wonderful GOD! *18th of March 2021*.

105. **Deuteronomy 21:5 CJB:** ⁵ Then the *cohanim*, who are *L'vi'im*, are to approach; for *ADONAI* your God has chosen them to serve him and to pronounce **BLESSINGS** in the name of *ADONAI*; they will decide the outcome of every dispute and matter involving violence.

(*KJV*: ⁵ And the priests the sons of Levi shall come near; for them the LORD thy God hath chosen to minister unto him, and to **BLESS** in the name of the LORD; and by their word shall every controversy and every stroke be tried:)

In our verse today, we see that the cohanim, who are L'vi'im, are to be the ones who give **BLESSINGS** in the name of ADONAI and to serve Him. They are also given the authority to decide the outcome of all disputes and matters which involving violence, among the people of Isra'el. I have come to realise that, in Judaism, there are very many occasions and situations where a **BLESSING** may be given and here it is shown to be the Li'vi'im who are to give those **BLESSINGS**. In the film "Fiddler on the roof," it was the Rabbi who gave out the **BLESSINGS** for every occasion.

19th of March 2021.

106. **Deuteronomy 24:13 CJB:** ¹³ rather, you must restore the pledged item at sunset; then he will go to sleep wearing his garment and **BLESS** you. This will be an upright deed of yours before *ADONAI* your God.

(*KJV*: ¹³ In any case thou shalt deliver him the pledge again when the sun goeth down, that he may sleep in his own raiment, and *BLESS* thee: and it shall be righteousness unto thee before the LORD thy God.)

In the days when this book was written, it was normal for people to loan something to a neighbour and usually expect something as collateral, which would often be his coat or cloak. Since this is normally also the neighbour's blanket for sleeping, hence the lender must return the coat by sunset. Now it would be easy to say that such things do not apply today and ignore it. However, we cannot dismiss the principle here: If we, as lender, take something as security today which might be, say, the tools of his trade, we must return it when it is needed. The borrower would then **BLESS** the lender for his generosity and who would want the curses of the borrower if we do not return the pledged item. Do unto others as you would like them to do to you comes to mind here as a principle to follow. Thank you, Father God for your guidance here. 20^{th} of March 2021.

107. Deuteronomy 27:12 CJB: ¹² "These are the ones who are to stand on Mount G'rizim and BLESS the people after you have crossed the Yarden: Shim'on, Levi, Y'hudah, Yissakhar, Yosef and Binyamin

(KJV: ¹² These shall stand upon mount Gerizim to **BLESS** the people, when ye are come over Jordan; Simeon, and Levi, and Judah, and Issachar, and Joseph, and Benjamin:)

These 2 mountains are, G'rizim to **BLESS** and 'Eival for the curse. There were 6 tribes listed who were to stand on the one Mount and 6 to stand on the other. Those on Mount G'rizim were to **BLESS** the people after they had crossed the River Jordan. There is no indication of the form of **BLESSING** to be given but, in verse 10, the people were told to listen to ADONAI and obey all His mitzvot and laws. Doing so would result in **BLESSINGS**. 21st of March 2021.

108. **Deuteronomy 29:19 CJB:** ¹⁹ If there is such a person, when he hears the words of this curse, he will **BLESS** himself secretly, saying to himself, 'I will be all right, even though I will stubbornly keep doing whatever I feel like doing; so that I, although "dry," [*sinful*,] will be added to the "watered" [*righteous*].'

(*KJV*: ¹⁹ And it come to pass, when he heareth the words of this curse, that he *BLESS* himself in his heart, saying, I shall have peace, though I walk in the imagination of mine heart, to add drunkenness to thirst:)

This verse begs the question of how one **BLESSES** oneself? It is running one's own life, doing what I think is right, grabbing all the good things in life to myself, the best food, the best clothes, the best holidays and so on. That person has heard the words of the curse from ADONAI, but thinks, I'll be OK. This is to totally ignore the plans and purposes of ADONAI our God which He has for each one of us. We shall pay the price, even only when we die and find ourself in the Lake of Fire! 22nd of March 2021.

109. **Joshua 8:33 CJB:** ³³ Then all Isra'el, including their leaders, officials and judges, stood on either side of the ark in front of the *cohanim*, who were *L'vi'im* and who carried the ark for the covenant of *ADONAI*. The foreigners were there along with the citizens. Half of the people were in front of Mount G'rizim and half of them in front of Mount 'Eival, as Moshe the servant of *ADONAI* had ordered them earlier in connection with **BLESSING** the people of Isra'el.

(*KJV*: ³³ And all Israel, and their elders, and officers, and their judges, stood on this side the ark and on that side before the priests the Levites, which bare the ark of the covenant of the LORD, as well the stranger, as he that was born among them; half of them over against mount Gerizim, and half of them over against mount Ebal; as Moses the servant of the LORD had commanded before, that they should *BLESS* the people of Israel.)

This verse refers to obeying the words of Moshe, whereby the whole of Isra'el was to stand by the Ark, half of them on one side, and the other half on the other side. This corresponded to half of them being in front of Mount G'rizim and the other half being in front of Mount 'Eival, as they had been when Moshe gave the **BLESSING** to the people. As they were standing here, Y'hoshua read to them all the words written in the Torah (*the 1st 5 books of the Bible*) as written by Moshe, including the **BLESSING** and the curse, leaving out not a single word of the Torah. Those assembled there included all the women, little one and the foreigners living with them.

23rd of March 2021.

110. **1 Samuel 9:13 CJB:** ¹³ Find him as soon as you enter the city, before he goes up to the high place to eat; because the people won't eat until he comes and **BLESSES** the sacrifice. Afterwards, the ones invited will eat. So, go on up, because this is when you will find him."

(KJV: ¹³ As soon as ye be come into the city, ye shall straightway find him, before he go up to the high place to eat: for the people will not eat until he come, because he doth BLESS the sacrifice; and afterwards they eat that be bidden. Now therefore get you up; for about this time ye shall find him.)

Rather a long story that doesn't end with the end of the chapter even. Sha'ul and a servant had been looking for the donkeys of his father's and went up into the city to speak to Sh'mu'el for him to say where to find the donkeys, they thought. The girls of the city told Sha'ul where to find the seer, Sh'mu'el. We know the story, I'm sure. The people were waiting for Sh'mu'el to go to the feast and to **BLESS** the sacrifice, presumably before they ate it. This **BLESSING** would be that the sacrifice would be acceptable to the Lord and also wholesome to eat. So, the story goes on.

24th of March 2021.

111. **2 Samuel 6:20 CJB:** ²⁰ When David returned to **BLESS** his household, Mikhal the daughter of Sha'ul came out to meet him and said, "Such honour the king of Isra'el earned for himself today, exposing himself before his servants' slave-girls like some vulgar exhibitionist!"

(KJV: ²⁰ Then David returned to **BLESS** his household. And Michal the daughter of Saul came out to meet David, and said, How glorious was the king of Israel to day, who uncovered himself to day in the eyes of the handmaids of his servants, as one of the vain fellows shamelessly uncovereth himself!)

"When David returned to BLESS his household," after he had been celebrating the return of the Ark to Isra'el with exceedingly energetic dancing, he was greeted by his wife, Mikhal, with derision and we see the reward she had in verse 23. He had returned to his own house to BLESS all there, with more celebration, one assumes. Those celebrations must have been soured by Mikhal! David's retort to her was verbally vicious and between them, would not have helped the celebration of BLESSING. 25th of March 2021.

112. **1 Chronicles 16:43 CJB:** ⁴³ Then the people all left for their homes, and David returned to **BLESS** his household.

(*KJV*: ⁴³ And all the people departed every man to his house: and David returned to **BLESS** his house.)

In this chapter, we see from verse 1 that the Ark had been brought to the Tent, set up by David. After all the celebrations and allocating work to the Levites etc. we see in our verse today that all the people went home, then David returned to **BLESS** his own household. We are not told the form of **BLESSING** that David gave to his household, presumably to his family and the servants. One may imagine that it would have been food and wine for all. 26^{th} of March 2021.

113. **2 Samuel 8:10 CJB:** ¹⁰ To'i sent Yoram his son to King David to greet and congratulate him on fighting and defeating Hadad'ezer, for Hadad'ezer had been at war with To'i. Yoram brought with him articles of silver, articles of gold and articles of bronze,

(*KJV*: ¹⁰ Then Toi sent Joram his son unto king David, to salute him, and to *BLESS* him, because he had fought against Hadadezer, and smitten him: for Hadadezer had wars with Toi. And Joram brought with him vessels of silver, and vessels of gold, and vessels of brass:)

The CJB doesn't use the word **BLESS**, it uses congratulate instead. One can see that to congratulate someone would be to **BLESS**, king David in this case. To'i has sent his son, Yoram, to congratulate king David for beating Hadad'ezer, since Hada'ezer had been at war with To'i and king David's victory had removed this threat to To'i. What a good way to **BLESS** someone. 27th of March 2021.

114. **2 Samuel 21:3 CJB:** ³ David said to the Giv'onim, "What should I do for you? With what should I make atonement, so that you will be able to **BLESS** *ADONAI*'s heritage?

(**KJV**: ³ Wherefore David said unto the Gibeonites, What shall I do for you? and wherewith shall I make the atonement, that ye may **BLESS** the inheritance of the LORD?)

Such a sad story, where David sought to appease the Gibeonites, who had been slaughtered by Sha'ul. David handed over 7 of Sha'ul's sons to the Gibeonites who hanged them. This was in order that the Gibeonites would then be able to **BLESS** the people of Isra'el and no longer hold bad feelings toward them. There is no record of David consulting ADONAI beforehand. *28th of March 2021*.
115. **1 Kings 1:47 CJB:** ⁴⁷ More than that, the king's servants came and **BLESSED** our lord King David with these words: 'May God make the name of Shlomo better than your name and his throne greater than your throne,' after which the king bowed down on the bed.

(KJV: ⁴⁷ And moreover the king's servants came to **BLESS** our lord king David, saying, God make the name of Solomon better than thy name, and make his throne greater than thy throne. And the king bowed himself upon the bed.)

David had said long before that Shlomo was to be king after him, but Adoniyah was seeking to pre-empt that kingship and set up himself as king. When David heard about this, he set up Shlomo as king, even whilst he was still alive. Then we come to our verse, where all the king's servants came and **BLESSED** David, by saying "May God make the name of Shlomo better than your name and his throne greater than your throne," which is some request! As we know, Shlomo was king after David and he was worthy of that kingship at first. *29th of March 2021.*

116. **1** Chronicles 23:13 CJB: ¹³ The sons of 'Amram: Aharon and Moshe. Aharon was set apart to be consecrated as especially holy, he and his sons forever; so that they might bring offerings before *ADONAI*, perform the service for him and **BLESS** in his name forever

(*KJV*: ¹³ The sons of Amram; Aaron and Moses: and Aaron was separated, that he should sanctify the most holy things, he and his sons for ever, to burn incense before the LORD, to minister unto him, and to **BLESS** in his name for ever.)

The sons of Aharon were set aside, being set apart as especially holy along with the sons of Amram and Moshe but the sons of Aharon were given the special tasks of bringing the offerings before ADONAI and to **BLESS** His name forever. So, the sons of Aharon were given these 2 special tasks of bringing the offerings and **BLESSING** the name of ADONAI forever. Wow, some honour and some responsibility, to be given. *30th of March 2021*.

117. Psalm 62:4 CJB: ⁴ They only want to shake him from his height, they take delight in lying, with their mouths they BLESS, but inwardly they curse. (Selah) (KJV: ⁴ They only consult to cast him down from his excellency: they delight in lies: they BLESS with their mouth, but they curse inwardly. Selah.)

This Psalm starts with "My soul waits in silence for God alone." Isn't this how we should be? Then our verse today relates how there are those who would take delight in lying, wanting only to shake us from our certainties that we have in our God, by **BLESSING** us whilst inwardly they curse us. With God's help we must be able to discern such people and beware of their **BLESSING**, for it is false, as our verse today warns. Thank you, Father. *31st of March 2021*.

118. Psalm 109:28 CJB: ²⁸ Let them go on cursing; but you, BLESS! When they attack, let them be put to shame; but let your servant rejoice.
(KJV: ²⁸ Let them curse, but BLESS thou: when they arise, let them be ashamed; but let thy servant rejoice.)

The 1st 19 verses of this Psalm are the curses of unjust men again David. The remainder of the Psalm relates David's plea to ADONAI, God. In our verse today, David is asking ADONAI to let the enemy go on with their cursing but, may He **BLESS** him. When they attack, may they be put to shame whilst David rejoices. Amen. 1st of April 2021.

119. Psalm 129:8 CJB: ⁸ so that no passer-by says, "ADONAI'S BLESSING on you! We BLESS you in the name of ADONAI!" (KJV: ⁸ Neither do they which go by say, The BLESSING of the LORD be upon you: we BLESS you in the name of the LORD.)

This Psalm is one of lament although it is one of the songs of ascent. The treatment ofthose who hate Tzion is for them to become as nothing, with the result that no-oneoffers any BLESSING from ADONAI. So here we have a complete lack ofBLESSINGS to anyone.2nd of April 2021.

120. **Proverbs 30:11 CJB:** ¹¹ There is a type of people who curse their fathers and don't **BLESS** their mothers.

(*KJV*: ¹¹ There is a generation that curseth their father, and doth not **BLESS** their mother.)

Oh dear, cursing father and failing to **BLESS** mother! To a certain extent, this hit home here, not that I did either of these myself, of course, I was an ideal son – NOT! My parents are long gone now, so all I can do is pray to You, ADONAI, to please forgive me and even at this late stage, put me onto Your path and keep me there, please. Looking further down this Psalm brings us to verse 17 and the results for doing what it says. Father God, at this stage in my life, I can only thank You for my salvation and the forgiveness that this brings to me. **BLESS** You and thank You Father God for all that You are to me. 3^{rd} of April 2021. 121. Isaiah 65:16 CJB: ¹⁶ Thus someone on earth who BLESSES himself will BLESS himself by the God of truth, and someone on earth who swears an oath will swear by the God of truth; for past troubles will be forgotten, hidden from my eyes. (KJV: ¹⁶ That he who BLESSETH himself in the earth shall BLESS himself in the God of truth; and he that sweareth in the earth shall swear by the God of truth; because the former troubles are forgotten, and because they are hid from mine eyes.)

The 1st dozen verses of this chapter relates to those who do not follow ADONAI and His ways. From verse 13 is for those who follow Him. Of these latter ones, anyone who **BLESES** himself will **BLESS** himself by the God of truth and he will be truly **BLESSED**. This is a part of the good news for those who follow in His footsteps and walk in His ways. 4th of April 2021.

122. Jeremiah 4:2 CJB: ² and if you will swear, 'As *ADONAI* lives,' in truth, justice and righteousness; then the nations will **BLESS** themselves by him, and in him will they glory."

(KJV: ² And thou shalt swear, The LORD liveth, in truth, in judgment, and in righteousness; and the nations shall **BLESS** themselves in him, and in him shall they glory.)

It is important to read and "swallow" verse 1, since that sets the scene for our verse today. "If you will swear, 'As *ADONAI* lives,' in truth, justice and righteousness; then the nations will **BLESS** themselves by him, and in him will they glory." This verse is self-explanatory really, what more can I add? 5th of April 2021.

123. Matthew 5:44 CJB: ⁴⁴ But I tell you, love your enemies! Pray for those who persecute you!

(*KJV*: ⁴⁴ But I say unto you, Love your enemies, *BLESS* them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you;)

Well now, that exposes something. Because there is such a huge difference between the 2 translations above, I looked at a few other translations in Bible Gateway and found that in the:

 $21^{\rm st}$ Century KJV; CJB; NASB; NASB Revised; NIV; NKJV and the OJB (Orthodox Jewish Bible)

None of them have the extra bit "and pray for them which despitefully use you and persecute you." So, this is another error (of addition this time, to the word of God) by the original translators of the KJV. This is one of quite a few that I am finding! Hence, I can do no Study on the word **BLESS** here, as it does not exist in the original!!! 6th of April 2021.

124. Luke 6:28 CJB: ²⁸ BLESS those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you.

(KJV: ²⁸ BLESS them that curse you and pray for them which despitefully use you.)

Here in our verse today we have the part that was inserted into the KJV, as in the previous study. Please read the whole chapter, at least down to verse 36 for the whole context of **BLESS** here. It is very hard to actually **BLESS** those who curse us or mistreat us but, that is our Christian witness to unbelievers. To **BLESS** them, shows the strength of the love of God in our lives. Oh, to be so filled with the Love of God that we can **BLESS** those who hate us. 7th of April 2021.

125. Romans 12:14 CJB: ¹⁴ BLESS those who persecute you, BLESS them, don't curse them! (KJV: ¹⁴ Bless them which persecute you: BLESS, and curse not.)

We have in our verse, the part that was inserted into Matthew 5:34 in the KJV. In our verse today we have a double **BLESSING**. We see an example of how we are to live our lives as part of our witness to Yeshua Ha'Mashiach before we even open our mouths. This is a lifestyle thing for all true believers to follow in our everyday lives. Our witness. Help me, Father God, to live and walk in this manner, that those around us will realise that we are Yours. Amen. 8th of April 2021.

126. **1 Corinthians 4:12 CJB:** ¹² we exhaust ourselves working with our own hands for our living. When we are cursed, we keep on **BLESSING**; when we are persecuted, we go on putting up with it;

(*KJV*: ¹² And labour, working with our own hands: being reviled, we **BLESS**; being persecuted, we suffer it:)

Our verse today is a sort of continuation of the previous study. We must return **BLESSINGS** to those who curse us, and when we are persecuted, continue by putting up with it. These are to be a part of our lifestyle as a witness to our Lord Yeshua. If we don't live our lives in this way, how would we be any different to the unbelievers all around us. This is a lesson for every true believer on how we should stand out from the crowd, so to speak. Tony Pearce of Bridge Lane Christian Fellowship once said, becoming a Christian only brings us to the start line of our Christian walk, from this point we should continue to change as a person. The more we are reviled and cursed, the more we must **BLESS** and **BLESS**. 10th of April 2021. 127. **1** Corinthians 14:16 CJB: ¹⁶ Otherwise, if you are giving thanks with your spirit, how will someone who has not yet received much instruction be able to say, "*Amen*," when you have finished giving thanks, since he doesn't know what you are saying?

(*KJV*: ¹⁶ Else when thou shalt <u>BLESS</u> with the spirit, how shall he that occupieth the room of the unlearned say Amen at thy giving of thanks, seeing he understandeth not what thou sayest?)

It is difficult to understand what "**BLESS** with the spirit" means in this context. Reading this chapter from verse 6 to verse 19 doesn't clarify this. Many translations of the Bible do not use the word **BLESS**, although many do. The conclusion reached, from the CJB and many other translations in <u>www.biblegateway.com</u>, is that this passage is about giving thanks to God when praying or speaking in tongues, the context is about how, when praying in tongues, others will not understand unless someone interprets the tongue. No-one will be **BLESSED** when tongues are used unless some-one is able to interpret, hence, some Churches and Fellowships will not allow speaking or praying in tongues as they do not believe there is anyone present able to interpret. **BLESS**? This would seem to be giving thanks to God in Prayer and maybe that in tongues. 10th of April 2021.

BLESS

128. 1 Corinthians 10:16 CJB: ¹⁶ The "cup of BLESSING" over which we make the b'rakhah, isn't it a sharing in the bloody sacrificial death of the Messiah? The bread we break, isn't it a sharing in the body of the Messiah?
(KJV: ¹⁶ The cup of BLESSING which we BLESS, is it not the communion of the blood of Christ? The bread which we break, is it not the communion of the body of Christ?)

"The cup of BLESSING?" This is when we partake in the Passover or Communion and drink the wine. We give thanks, make the b'rakhah, before that partaking. As we do so, we remember all that Yeshua did for us and especially His self-sacrificial death, a most painful and drawn-out death, to take away my sins and the punishment for them! What a **BLESSING** to each of us, our salvation! What a God! What a Saviour! 13th of June 2021.

BLESSED man agent and object

129. Genesis 14:19 CJB: ¹⁹ so he BLESSED him with these words: "BLESSED be Avram by El 'Elyon, maker of heaven of earth.
(KJV: ¹⁹ And he BLESSED him, and said, BLESSED be Abram of the most high God, possessor of heaven and earth:)

This is a **BLESSING** from El 'Elyon (*God most high*) Himself by the words of Malki-Tzedek, king of Shalem. Interesting that in our verse, that God is both "Maker" and "Possessor" of Heaven and earth by the 2 translations, it is this fact that allows Him to **BLESS** (*in any way in which He pleases*). We are not told the form of **BLESSING** here, but we know from the rest of Scripture that it is for "health, wealth and happiness" in today's language. *12th of April 2021*.

130. **Genesis 24:60 CJB:** ⁶⁰ They **BLESSED** Rivkah with these words: "Our sister, may you be the mother of millions, and may your descendants possess the cities of those who hate them.

(*KJV*: ⁶⁰ And they **BLESSED** Rebekah, and said unto her, Thou art our sister, be thou the mother of thousands of millions, and let thy seed possess the gate of those which hate them.)

Some **BLESSING**! Rivkah's Mother and Brother asked that she be **BLESSED**: as the mother of a whole nation, mother of millions. As we now know from the Tanakh, she did indeed become the mother of a nation, the Hebrews, Isra'el. She produced Ya'akov, who then had 12 sons, who became the leaders of the 12 tribes of Isra'el, the nation. This **BLESSING** of Rivkah most certainly came to pass. Thank you, Father God for your nation of Isra'el, your chosen people then and today and for ever, through whom you have **BLESSED** the whole world, yet the world reviles them.

13th of April 2021.

131. **Genesis 27:23 CJB:** ²³ However, he didn't detect him; because his hands were hairy like his brother 'Esav's hands; so he gave him his **BLESSING**.

(*KJV*: ²³ And he discerned him not, because his hands were hairy, as his brother Esau's hands: so he **BLESSED** him.)

Ya'akov and his mother, Rivkah's deception worked, in fooling Yitz'chak, his father, with the result that Ya'akov received the father's **BLESSING** of the first born. The **BLESSING** itself is shown in verses 27 to 29. It is some **BLESSING** too, especially verse 29! The 1st two verses of the **BLESSING** are of material things but, in verse 29, Ya'akov is given dominion over his kinfolk and the nations and protection from being cursed, as well as a source of **BLESSING** to the rest of the world. Rather obviously, this dominion is not yet manifest to the world but, since it is here in the Word of God, it will happen. 14^{th} of April 2021.

132. **Genesis 27:27 CJB:** ²⁷ He approached and kissed him. Yitz'chak smelled his clothes and **BLESSED** Ya'akov with these words: "See, my son smells like a field which *ADONAI* has **BLESSED**.

(KJV: ²⁷ And he came near, and kissed him: and he smelled the smell of his raiment, and **BLESSED** him, and said, See, the smell of my son is as the smell of a field which the LORD hath **BLESSED**:)

In our verse today, Yitz'chak smelled 'Esav's clothing, which Ya'akov was wearing and Yitz'chak commented that the smell was as if ADONAI had **BLESSED** the field where the clothes had been. This was the final part of the deception to obtain the first born's **BLESSING** from Yitz'chak for Ya'akov. Although this was cheating, it was known by ADONAI before it happened. Knowing how all things are and how things will pan out, whereby in the fullness of time, Yeshua would come from the line of Ya'akov through Ya'akov, Y'hudah and David et al. It is wonderful how our God knows all things before they happen and plans for them, having already told Rivkah in Genesis 25:23. *15th of April 2021*.

133. **Genesis 27:29 CJB:** ⁴ Make it tasty, the way I like it; and bring it to me to eat. Then I will **BLESS** you [*as firstborn*], before I die."

(*KJV*: ⁴ And make me savoury meat, such as I love, and bring it to me, that I may eat; that my soul may **BLESS** thee before I die.)

Ya'akov, meaning "he supplants," took his brother's **BLESSING** as the oldest son, having already taken his birth-right, as we are reminded in verse 36 (*see chapter 25:9 to the end*). It was already told Rivkah, Yitzchak's wife, back in chapter 25:21-23, that the older would serve the younger son. No doubt she would have told Yitz'chak at the time and, he would remember this when Ya'akov stole the **BLESSING** from his older brother. Hence, what ADONAI told Rivkah came to pass. So, what do we see about **BLESS** here? One thing is that it can be stolen, when it is a **BLESSING** of a person to another. A **BLESSING** from ADONAI, however, is permanent and cannot be moved or stolen. Amen. Done out of order. 7th of March 2021.

134. Genesis 27:33 CJB: ³³ Yitz'chak began trembling uncontrollably and said,
"Then who was it that took game and brought it to me? I ate it all just before you came, and I gave my BLESSING to him. That's the truth, and the BLESSING must stand."

(KJV: ³³ And Isaac trembled very exceedingly, and said, Who? where is he that hath taken venison, and brought it me, and I have eaten of all before thou camest, and have **BLESSED** him? yea, and he shall be **BLESSED**.)

In our verse today, we see that the deception by Ya'akov and his mother is revealed to 'Esav and his father. However, we have seen in Scripture, Genesis 25:23, this was all foretold to be. Yitz'chak must have remembered this, which would be why he said that the **BLESSING** had to stand. We know from reading the later Scriptures, that our verse stood and the message in Genesis 25:23 all came to pass. *16th of April 2021*.

135. **Genesis 27:41 CJB:** ⁴¹ 'Esav hated his brother because of the **BLESSING** his father had given him. 'Esav said to himself, "The time for mourning my father will soon come, and then I will kill my brother Ya'akov."

(KJV: ⁴¹ And Esau hated Jacob because of the **BLESSING** wherewith his father **BLESSED** him: and Esau said in his heart, the days of mourning for my father are at hand; then will I slay my brother Jacob.)

One might have sympathy with 'Esav here, but it was his own doing, way back in Genesis 29-34. 'Esav gave away his rights as firstborn then, so it was right that Ya'akov had that **BLESSING** from Yitz'chak. However, as we see in verses 43-46, that Rivkah organised with his father, for Ya'akov to leave and go back to her father, away from 'Esav's murderous plans and to find a wife. God's way was accomplished in this respect, when Ya'akov and 'Esav were reconciled as we read in Genesis 33. Our Father God knows all things, nothing is hidden from Him, including everything in the future. What a wonderful God we have. AMEN! Hallelujah, amen. *17th of April 2021*.

136. Genesis 28:1 CJB: ¹ So Yitz'chak called Ya'akov, and, after BLESSING him, charged him: "You are not to choose a wife from the Hitti women.
(KJV: ¹And Isaac called Jacob, and BLESSED him, and charged him, and said unto him, Thou shalt not take a wife of the daughters of Canaan.)

In the first 4 verses of this chapter, we see Rivkah's (*God's*) plans for her son, coming to fruition. Yitz'chak again **BLESSED** Ya'akov, sending him on his way to B'tu'el, Rivkah's father and Lavan, her brother, to find a wife from among them. We are not told what form this **BLESSING** might take but, we see in verses 3 and 4 other parts of those **BLESSINGs**, which included the land covenanted to Avraham. The **BLESSING** of El Shaddai were certainly fulfilled, for, as we know in later Scriptures, he had 12 sons as well as daughters, the sons becoming the leaders of the 12 tribes of Isra'el. *18th of April 2021*.

137. Genesis 28:6 CJB: ⁶ Now 'Esav saw that Yitz'chak had BLESSED Ya'akov and sent him away to Paddan-Aram to choose a wife from there, and that as he BLESSED him he charged him, "You are not to choose a Kena'ani woman as your wife," (KJV: ⁶ When Esau saw that Isaac had BLESSED Jacob, and sent him away to Padanaram, to take him a wife from thence; and that as he BLESSED him he gave him a charge, saying, Thou shalt not take a wife of the daughters of Canaan;)

When 'Esav realised that Ya'akov had been sent away to Padan'aram to get a wife, thus not marrying a Kena'ani (or Hitti) woman, and that Yitz'chak had **BLESSED** Ya'akov on his way. 'Esav "got the message," and went (verse 9) to find a wife of Ishma'el's family having already married Y'hudit and Basmat, both Hitti women (see *Genesis 26:34*). 'Esav obviously wanted to get back into his parents "good books," although still holding his murderous thoughts towards his brother. The **BLESSINGs** of Ya'akov, in this case, are outlined in verses 3 and 4 above our verse. 19th of April 2021.

Hebrews 11:20 CJB: ²⁰ By trusting, Yitz'chak in his BLESSINGS over Ya'akov and Esav made reference to events yet to come.
 (KJV: ²⁰ By faith Isaac BLESSED Jacob and Esau concerning things to come.)

This passage recalls the **BLESSINGS** over the 2 sons of Yitz'chak, **BLESSINGS** of what was to happen in the future. Referring back to **Genesis 28:18ff** and verses 28 and 29 in particular, we see what those **BLESSINGS** were to be, in the future. Interestingly, it doesn't mention the land at that point, which are mentioned to Avraham, Yitz'chak and Ya'akov in other parts of the Tanakh. However, Hebrews 11 is not so much about the **BLESSINGS** but, about how all those mentioned, trusted the Lord, or as most old translations have it, had faith in the Lord. Trusted seems to convey the meaning better.

139. Genesis 30:13 CJB: ¹³ and Le'ah said, "How happy I am! Women will say I am happy!" and called him Asher [happy].
(K W: 13 And Lash agaid, Happy am L for the daughtang will call me BLESSED; and

(KJV: ¹³ And Leah said, Happy am I, for the daughters will call me **BLESSED**: and she called his name Asher.)

In our verse today, we see an equivalence between **BLESSING** and happiness, which is certainly new in these studies. We see too, that the name of the tribe of Asher means happy. Thinking about this, makes the equivalence seem to be reasonable one. If one is **BLESSED**, it would make one happy. Thank You Lord for such a revelation. 21st of April 2021.

140. Genesis 31:55 CJB: ⁵⁵ Early in the morning Lavan got up, kissed his sons and daughters, and BLESSED them. Then Lavan left and returned to his own place.
(KJV: ⁵⁵ And early in the morning Laban rose up, and kissed his sons and his daughters, and BLESSED them: and Laban departed, and returned unto his place.)
(OJB: ⁵⁵ And early in the boker (morning) Lavan rose up, and kissed his banim and his banot, and made on them a Brocha; and Lavan departed and returned unto his makom.)

I've included the OJB translation for interest, triggered, because back in 1987, we celebrated our 30th Wedding Anniversary in Isra'el, on the Hotel reception door every morning was a sign board saying "Boker Tov," "good morning" in Hebrew. Lavan, Ya'akov's uncle, made a **BLESSING** on his sons and daughters before returning to his home. The sons here, are Ya'akov's sons. grandsons of Lavan. We are not told what form the **BLESSING** took here but, from the context, it would have been wishing them all the very best for their future. *22nd of April 2021*.

141. Genesis 47:7 CJB: ⁷ Yosef then brought in Ya'akov his father and presented him to Pharaoh, and Ya'akov BLESSED Pharaoh.
(KJV: ⁷ And Joseph brought in Jacob his father and set him before Pharaoh: and Jacob BLESSED Pharaoh.)

Yosef brought his father, Ya'akov in to present him, proudly, to Pharoah. Ya'akov and everything he had, having just arrived from Kena'an. Bearing in mind that this was a time of famine, one can only imagine that the form of **BLESSING** would have been, that Pharoah would have all his needs met and for his prosperity and long life. 23^{rd} of April 2021.

142. **Genesis 47:10 CJB:** ¹⁰ Then Ya'akov **BLESSED** Pharaoh and left his presence. (*KJV:* ¹⁰ And Jacob **BLESSED** Pharaoh and went out from before Pharaoh.)

Pharoah asked for Ya'akov's age whereupon he said 130 difficult years and that was less than his ancestors. So Ya'akov **BLESSED** Pharoah a second time and left his presence. Again, we have no indication of the form of the **BLESSING**, hence we can only guess, as in the previous study (140). Also, since Ya'akov died at age 147 in the year 2255 from the creation of Adam, we can work out that the year of his moving to Egypt was 2238 - 115 years after Avraham died. I have added that to my Biblical Chronology. 24^{th} of April 2021.

143. **Genesis 48:15 CJB:** ¹⁵ Then he **BLESSED** Yosef: "The God in whose presence my fathers, Avraham and Yitz'chak lived, the God who has been my own shepherd all my life long to this day,

(KJV: ¹⁵ And he **BLESSED** Joseph, and said, God, before whom my fathers Abraham and Isaac did walk, the God which fed me all my life long unto this day,)

In our verse today, we see that Ya'akov **BLESSED** his youngest son, Yosef, reminding Yosef that the God of his forebears had kept him (*Ya'akov*) and them safe all these years. He was asking Yosef to teach his 2 boys all about these forebears and the God they worshipped. He **BLESSED** the boys wishing that they would grow into teeming multitudes, which would seem to be a part of the blessing. They were to become the 2 half tribes of the 12 tribes of Isra'el. *25th of April 2021*.

144. Genesis 48:20 CJB: ²⁰ Then he added this BLESSING on them that day:
"Isra'el will speak of you in their own BLESSINGS by saying, 'May God make you like Efrayim and M'nasheh." Thus he put Efrayim ahead of M'nasheh.
(KJV: ²⁰ And he BLESSED them that day, saying, In thee shall Israel BLESS, saying, God make thee as Ephraim and as Manasseh: and he set Ephraim before Manasseh.)

What a **BLESSING** (honour) to be told that one would be greater than one's eldersibling! In our verse today, we see that Isra'el (Ya'akov) **BLESSED** both sons. Theywere to be exalted, in times to come. by the people of Isra'el, even in their own**BLESSING**, to be made by God, like Efrayim and M'nasheh.That is some**BLESSING**!26th of April 2021.

145. Hebrews 11:21 CJB: ²¹ By trusting, Ya'akov, when he was dying, BLESSED each of Yosef's sons, leaning on his walking-stick as he bowed in prayer.^[g] (*KJV*: ²¹ By faith Jacob, when he was a dying, BLESSED both the sons of Joseph; and worshipped, leaning upon the top of his staff.)

[g] <u>Hebrews 11:21</u> Genesis 47:31 (Septuagint)

Our verse today, refers back to Genesis 47:31, recalling this event where Ya'akov, knowing that he didn't have long to live (*at age 147*) called for Yosef to swear that he would not bury him in Egypt, but would take his body to be buried with his fathers. Naturally, Yosef agreed to do this, whereupon Ya'akov **BLESSED** Yosef's 2 sons. Once again, we don't know the form of the **BLESSING**. 27th of April 2021.

146. **Genesis 49:28 CJB:** ²⁸ All these are the twelve tribes of Isra'el, and this is how their father spoke to them and **BLESSED** them, giving each his own individual **BLESSING**.

(KJV: ²⁸ All these are the twelve tribes of Israel: and this is it that their father spake unto them and **BLESSED** them; every one according to his **BLESSING** he **BLESSED** them.)

The first 27 verses of this chapter lists out the **BLESSINGS** of Ya'akov's 12 sons and they were not all complementary! Five verses each for Y'hudah and Yosef, mostly good things, whilst for the other 10 sons, they were, at best, somewhat indifferent. Our verse today, summarises those **BLESSINGs** given to each of Ya'akov's sons. So, each **BLESSING** was a different **BLESSING**, for each son was different in his ways, as listed in this chapter. After giving instructions for his burial, Ya'akov died (*verse 28th of April 2021*.

147. Exodus 39:43 CJB: ⁴³ Moshe saw all the work and, there it was! they had done it! Exactly as *ADONAI* had ordered, they had done it. And Moshe BLESSED them.
(KJV: ⁴³ And Moses did look upon all the work and, behold, they had done it as the LORD had commanded, even so had they done it: and Moses BLESSED them.)

The people had done exactly what Moshe had told them to do, as ADONAI had told him "and Moshe **BLESSED** them." The Scriptures do not reveal the form of the **BLESSING**, as so often in Scripture, we can only surmise, in this case, that Moshe thanked and praised the people for the exactness and quality of their workmanship. What we see here, is that ADONAI will praise us (*maybe through others*) when we do precisely what He wants done. 29th of April 2021.

148. Deuteronomy 33:1 CJB: ¹This is the BLESSING that Moshe, the man of God, spoke over the people of Isra'el before his death:
(KJV: ¹And this is the BLESSING, wherewith Moses the man of God BLESSED the children of Isra'el before his death.)

At the end of chapter 32, we read that Moshe will not enter the land promised to Isra'el and would see it from a distance and then die. Our verse today is the introduction to the **BLESSING** he spoke over the people of Isra'el immediately prior to his death. The **BLESSING** itself follows in the rest of our chapter, giving each tribe its own **BLESSING**. *30th of April 2021*.

149. Leviticus 9:22 CJB: ²² Aharon raised his hands toward the people, BLESSED them and came down from offering the sin offering, the burnt offering and the peace offerings.

(**KJV**: ²² And Aaron lifted up his hand toward the people, and **BLESSED** them, and came down from offering of the sin offering, and the burnt offering, and peace offerings.)

Aharon did all that Moshe had told him to do, then Aharon **BLESSED** the people, as we read in our verse today. Once again, we are not told what form that **BLESSING** took, but it would appear to be a verbal **BLESSING** to the people of Isra'el.

1st of May 2021.

150. Leviticus 9:23 CJB: ²³ Moshe and Aharon entered the tent of meeting, came out and BLESSED the people. Then the glory of ADONAI appeared to all the people! (KJV: ²³ And Moses and Aaron went into the tabernacle of the congregation and came out and BLESSED the people: and the glory of the LORD appeared unto all the people.)

Moshe and Aharon entered the tent of meeting. When they came out again, they **BLESSED** the people, whereupon the glory of ADONAI appeared to all the people. In the next verse, fire came out from ADONAI and the people saw it, they shouted and fell on their faces in worship of ADONAI. We are not told the form of the **BLESSING** by Moshe and Aharon, but it would have been words of, maybe comfort or reassurance of God being with the people, or even that their sacrifices had been accepted.

2nd of May 2021.

151. Numbers 22:6 CJB: ⁶ Therefore, please come, and curse this people for me, because they are stronger than I am. Maybe I will be able to strike them down and drive them out of the land, for I know that whomever you BLESS is in fact BLESSED, and whomever you curse is in fact cursed."

(KJV: ⁶ Come now therefore, I pray thee, curse me this people; for they are too mighty for me: peradventure I shall prevail, that we may smite them, and that I may drive them out of the land: for I wot that he whom thou BLESSEST is BLESSED, and he whom thou cursest is cursed.)

Reading the whole chapter, Balak was obviously in a bit of a panic that the Isra'elis would attack him and sent for Bil'am. Now Bil'am was obviously some sort of prophet, well known. Balak sent for him to curse the Isra'elis, as he was afraid of them. As we know from our Bible, Bil'am didn't do that but **BLESSED** them, much to the annoyance of Balak! We know, from reading the next 2 chapters, the rest of the story, where Isra'el is **BLESSED** again! We don't know precisely what form was the **BLESSING** but it was the **BLESSING** of God Himself. *3rd of May 2021*.

152. Numbers 23:11 CJB: ¹¹ Balak said to Bil'am, "What have you done to me?! To curse my enemies is why I brought you; and, here, you have totally BLESSED them!" (KJV: ¹¹ And Balak said unto Balaam, What hast thou done unto me? I took thee to curse mine enemies and, behold, thou hast BLESSED them altogether.)

This quite well known situation in the Bible, took place as Isra'el was on their 40 year journey from Egypt to the promised land. As they passed Moav, Balak, their king sought to destroy Isra'el before, he thought, Isra'el would destroy him. Balak had sent for Bil'am from Aram (*near the river Euphrates*) to curse Isra'el but that didn't fit God's plan! Bil'am **BLESSED** Isra'el in accordance with ADONAI's instructions to him. This rather upset Balak, to put it nicely, who, in our verse was remonstrating with Bil'am for not cursing Isra'el as requested. The **BLESSING** in our passage was not to be cursed. 4^{th} of May 2021.

153. Numbers 24:10 CJB: ¹⁰ Balak blazed with fury against Bil'am. He struck his hands together and said to Bil'am, "I summoned you to curse my enemies. But here, you have done nothing but BLESS them, three times already!

(**KJV**: ¹⁰ And Balak's anger was kindled against Balaam, and he smote his hands together: and Balak said unto Balaam, I called thee to curse mine enemies and behold, thou hast altogether **BLESSED** them these three times.)

This is a continuation of the happenings in our previous 2 studies. Balak was exceedingly angry with Bil'am because he had again **BLESSED** Isra'el instead of cursing them, for which purpose he had called for Bil'am. Bil'am had **BLESSED** them rather dramatically, as we read in verses 3 to 9 of this chapter. Some **BLESSING**! Bil'am did what ADONAI told him to do or say, in spite of Balak's reactions each time. 5^{th} of May 2021.

154. Deuteronomy 33:20 CJB: Of Gad he said: "BLESSED is he who makes Gad so large; he lies there like a lion, tearing arm and scalp.
(KJV: ²⁰ And of Gad he said, BLESSED be he that enlargeth Gad: he dwelleth as a lion, and teareth the arm with the crown of the head.)

This harks back to Study 147 where Moshe starts the **BLESSING** of each of the tribes of Isra'el. In our verse today, we read the 1st of 2 verses **BLESSING** Gad. This invokes a **BLESSING** on he who enlarges Gad. Once again, we are not told the form of the **BLESSING**. 6^{th} of May 2021.

 155. Deuteronomy 33:24 CJB: ²⁴ Of Asher he said: "May Asher be most BLESSED of sons, may he be the favourite among his brothers and bathe his feet in oil.

(KJV: ²⁴ And of Asher he said, Let Asher be **BLESSED** with children; let him be acceptable to his brethren, and let him dip his foot in oil.)

In this chapter, the pronouncements of Moshe, of **BLESSINGs** on each of the tribes of Isra'el. Asher is the last and seems to have only a few **BLESSINGs**, but what **BLESSINGs** they are! Most **BLESSED** of sons and favourite among his brothers. Wow! Who could want for more? Then the **BLESSING** continues in the next verse! Last, but not least, as the saying goes. 7th of May 2021. 156. **Joshua 14:13 CJB:** ¹³ Y'hoshua **BLESSED** him and gave Hevron to Kalev the son of Y'funeh as his inheritance.

(KJV: ¹³ And Joshua **BLESSED** him and gave unto Caleb the son of Jephunneh Hebron for an inheritance.)

Y'hoshua **BLESSED** Kalev and gave the city and area of Hevron to him. One must assume that a part of this **BLESSING** was the land that Kalev requested in the previous verses. Another part of the **BLESSING** would have been to wish Kalev a good future and many goods and other material things pertaining to life in the future but, we don't actually know. The **BLESSING** itself, could even have been the Aaronic **BLESSING** but, that is not for an individual, rather for a nation, a crowd or specific group. 8th of May 2021.

157. Joshua 22:6 CJB: ⁶ Then Y'hoshua BLESSED them and sent them away, and they went to their tents.

(KJV: ⁶ So Joshua **BLESSED** them and sent them away: and they went unto their tents.)

These 2 tribes, Re'uven and Gad plus the ½ tribe of M'nasheh had asked for the land east of the river Jordan, known today as the Golan. This had been given to them by Moshe and in our verse today, Y'hoshua **BLESSED** them and said that they had done all that Moshe had ordered and that Y'hoshua had ordered them to do. Hence, they were **BLESSED** and were sent to the Land they had been given and their tents there. They were admonished to love ADONAI, follow His ways, observe His Mitzvot, cling to Him and serve Him with their whole being. Once again, we do not know the precise nature of the **BLESSING**. We may assume that it would be similar to that in the previous study. *9th of May 2021*. 158. Joshua 22:7 CJB: ⁷ (To the one half-tribe of M'nasheh, Moshe had given an inheritance in Bashan; but to the other half, Y'hoshua gave one among their kinsmen on the west side of the Yarden.) When Y'hoshua sent them away to their tents he **BLESSED** them,

(KJV: ⁷Now to the one half of the tribe of Manasseh Moses had given possession in Bashan: but unto the other half thereof gave Joshua among their brethren on this side Jordan westward. And when Joshua sent them away also unto their tents, then he BLESSED them,)

In our verse today, it is about the other half of the tribe of M'nasheh which stayed on the west side of the River Yarden with the rest of the tribes of Isra'el, having been give their share of the land there. At the end of our verse, Y'hoshua **BLESSED** them. In this case we see what form the **BLESSING** took by reading the verse following ours, verse 8 and such a **BLESSING** it was too, as we read there. 10th of May 2021.

159. Joshua 24:10 CJB: ¹⁰ But I refused to listen to Bil'am, and he actually BLESSED you. In this way I rescued you from him.

(KJV: ¹⁰ But I would not hearken unto Balaam; therefore, he **BLESSED** you still: so, I delivered you out of his hand.)

This chapter of Joshua reflects back to studies 150-152. Reading our chapter down to verse 13 give a very brief overview of Isra'el's history to that point. In our verse today, Y'hoshua is reminding the people of Isra'el of how ADONAI protected them and turned the intended curse by Bil'am into a **BLESSING** and hence, rescuing them from Balak, king of Moav. As one studies the Bible, especially the Tanakh, ADONAI **BLESSES** Isra'el over and over again, even as they go against His purposes for them. To see a little more of the form of **BLESSING** referred to here, go back to those studies 150 – 152, where more specific information is to be found. 11^{th} of May 2021.

160. Judges 5:24 CJB: ²⁴ "Ya'el will be BLESSED more than all women. The wife of Hever the Keini (KJV: ²⁴ BLESSED above women shall Jael the wife of Heber the Kenite be, BLESSED shall she be above women in the tent.)

In order to obtain the whole context of our verse today, I would suggest reading chapter 4 as well as chapter 5. Ya'el will be **BLESSED** more than all women for what she did to Sisra in killing him. In this action, related in chapter 4, she drove a tent peg right through the skull of Sisra, who was the enemy of Isra'el and whose army had just been destroyed in chapter 4. Chapter 5 is the song of victory, sung by D'vorah and Barak after ADONAI had defeated the enemy. The **BLESSING** of Ya'el here, is honouring her above all women. *12th of May 2021*.

161. Ruth 2:19 CJB: ¹⁹ Her mother-in-law asked her, "Where did you glean today? Where were you working? BLESSED be the one who took such good care of you!" She told her mother-in-law with whom she had been working; she said, "The name of the man with whom I was working today is Bo'az."

(KJV: ¹⁹ And her mother-in-law said unto her, Where hast thou gleaned to day? and where wroughtest thou? **BLESSED** be he that did take knowledge of thee. And she shewed her mother-in-law with whom she had wrought, and said, The man's name with whom I wrought to-day is Boaz.)

What a wonderful story of compassion we have in this chapter. Ruth, a complete stranger AND non-Jew, was, in effect, taken under the arm of Boaz and such was his generosity, that Na'omi was surprised at the amount of grain brought home by Ruth. Such was Na'omi's reaction, that she **BLESSED** Boaz, not that we are told the form of the **BLESSING** but, it was words of wishing good to Boaz. Lord, that we would all be as generous to strangers as Boaz. Amen. *13th of May 2021.*

162. 1 Samuel 2:20 CJB: ²⁰ 'Eli would BLESS Elkanah and his wife and say,
"May *ADONAI* give you children from this woman because of the boy you have loaned to *ADONAI*"; then they would go home.

(KJV: ²⁰ And Eli **BLESSED** Elkanah and his wife, and said, The LORD give thee seed of this woman for the loan which is lent to the LORD. And they went unto their own home.)

Eli, the Cohen Ha'Gadol, **BLESSED** Elkanah and Hanah. This time we know what form the **BLESSING** took, it was for ADONAI give them children, since they had loaned Sh'mu'el to ADONAI. Having been **BLESSED** in this way, they would go home. We see in the next verse that ADONAI did indeed **BLESS** Elkanah and Hanah with more children. Our God, the Lord God of Isra'el, honoured the **BLESSING** that Eli gave to them. 14th of May 2021.

163. **1 Samuel 25:33 CJB:** ³³ and **BLESSED** be your tactfulness and **BLESSED** be yourself for having kept me today from the guilt of shedding blood and taking vengeance into my own hands.

(KJV: ³³ And **BLESSED** be thy advice, and **BLESSED** be thou, which hast kept me this day from coming to shed blood, and from avenging myself with mine own hand.)

Reading the whole chapter from the beginning, down to at least verse 38, to get the whole context of our verse today, we see that Naval (*meaning "boor*") had a very wise wife, Avigayil. David had been strongly rebuffed in his request to Naval for food and water for him and his men and, was on his way to seek vengeance for that. Avigayil went to meet David with much food and wine, to prevent David from attacking Naval and his men. In our verse, David **BLESSES** Avigayil twice, not just for the fact that she had brought food and wine for his men, but that she had so tactfully prevented David from following his own will, instead of seeking ADONAI's way in the situation. As we read on from our verse, we see that Naval had his comeuppance and Avigayil later became the wife of David. We could say that the story had a happy ending but, that is not the point! The point is that we should seek the will of ADONAI NOT follow our own human re-actions and will in a situation.

164. 1 Samuel 26:25 CJB: ²⁵ Sha'ul answered David, "BLESSINGS on you, my son David! No question that you will accomplish everything you set out to do!" So, David went on his way, and Sha'ul returned to his place.

(KJV: ²⁵ Then Saul said to David, **BLESSED** be thou, my son David: thou shalt both do great things, and also shalt still prevail. So David went on his way, and Saul returned to his place.)

Now, what sort of **BLESSING** was this that Sha'ul gave to David here? It certainly wasn't given willingly, but he did say that David would accomplish all that David set out to do, was that the **BLESSING**? Was that just a reluctant admission of what Sha'ul could see was going to happen in the future? Was Sha'ul genuinely feeling guilty, such that he felt that he had to realise that he was guilty? Did Sha'ul give that **BLESSING** to David out of guilt or of genuine repentance? At this point we don't know the answer. 16th of May 2021.

165. 2 Samuel 6:18 CJB: ¹⁸ When David had finished offering the burnt offering and peace offerings, he BLESSED the people in the name of ADONAI-Tzva'ot.
(KJV: ¹⁸ And as soon as David had made an end of offering burnt offerings and peace offerings, he BLESSED the people in the name of the LORD of hosts.)

When the Ark of ADONAI was installed inside the tent and after king David had finished offering the burnt and peace offerings, he **BLESSED** the people in the name of ADONAI Tzva'ot, the Lord of Hosts. This was obviously a verbal **BLESSING** and would be wishing the people all good things for their crops, their herds and themselves. As we see in the following verse, king David also fed the people, after which, they all went home. 17th of May 2021.

166. 1 Chronicles 16:2 CJB: ² When David had finished offering the burnt offering and peace offerings, he BLESSED the people in the name of ADONAI.
(KJV: ² And when David had made an end of offering the burnt offerings and the peace offerings, he BLESSED the people in the name of the LORD.)

Our verse today is an almost word for word repeat of the study yesterday. King David here **BLESSES** the people in the name of ADONAI, which would have been a verbal **BLESSING** of well being and maybe a reminder to observe the Mitzvot of ADONAI and to continue doing so. 18th of May 2021. 167. **2 Samuel 13:25 CJB:** ²⁵ The king replied to Avshalom, "No, my son, let's not all go, we don't want to be a burden to you." Avshalom pressed him, but he wouldn't go; however, he gave him his **BLESSING**.

(KJV: ²⁵ And the king said to Absalom, Nay, my son, let us not all now go, lest we be chargeable unto thee. And he pressed him: howbeit he would not go but, **BLESSED** him.)

Obviously, at this stage, king David was unaware of what had happened to Tamar. When Avshalom (notice the 'peace,' shalom, in his name. How much meaning is **missed** in the translations!) asked the king to come to the party, David refused but, I am sure, in ignorance, gave Avshalom his **BLESSING** for the party, not realising Avshalom's intention in insisting that Amnon also come along. This **BLESSING** would have been something along the lines of "have a good time, don't drink too much." O dear me, what evil intentions were in the heart of the man with the name of shalom! 19th of May 2021.

168. **2 Samuel 19:39 CJB: ³⁹** So all the people crossed the Yarden; and the king crossed too. The king kissed Barzillai and **BLESSED** him; then he returned to his home.

(KJV: ³⁹ And all the people went over Jordan. And when the king was come over, the king kissed Barzillai, and **BLESSED** him; and he returned unto his own place.)

Having read the whole chapter for the context, we see that king David ceased from mourning for his son, Avshalom, and returned to the river Yarden on his way back to Yerushalayim. In our verse today, Barzillai had come down from his home in Roglim, to conduct the king across the Yarden having sustained David in Mahanaim (*2 Samuel 19:32*) when David had fled from Avshalom. Barzillai in our chapter had declined king David's invitation to come into Yerushalayim but was going back home. In our verse, the king kissed Barzillai and **BLESSED** him. We are not given any indication of the form of **BLESSING** except that it was obviously a verbal **BLESSING**, as he was a well-off old man. *20th of May 2021*. 169. 1 Kings 2:45 CJB: ⁴⁵ But King Shlomo will be BLESSED, and the throne of David will be established before ADONAI forever."

(*KJV*: ⁴⁵ And king Solomon shall be **BLESSED**, and the throne of David shall be established before the LORD for ever.)

This is some chapter about the "sorting out the kingdom" upon the death of king David and its handing to Shlomo and its establishment in his hands. Our verse today confirms that "king Shlomo will be **BLESSED** and the throne of David will be established before ADONAI forever." Notice here, that these will, not might be. This **BLESSING** pertained to Shlomo all the days of his life, despite the ways in which he followed in his later life. You may care to note verse 7 and the care to the sons of Barzillai. 21^{st} of May 2021.

170. 1 Kings 8:14 CJB: ¹⁴ Then the king turned around and BLESSED the whole community of Isra'el. The whole community of Isra'el stood
(KJV: ¹⁴ And the king turned his face about, and BLESSED all the congregation of Israel: (and all the congregation of Israel stood;))

Reading the whole chapter down to at least verse 26 for the context of our verse today, we see that the context is the dedication of the 1st Temple of ADONAI. It is within that dedication, that Shlomo turned around and **BLESSED** the whole community of Isra'el. It would seem that the form of this **BLESSING** was verbal and hence would have been calling upon the Lord to keep His people close to Him and His ways and hence to prosper them in all aspects of life. 22^{nd} of May 2021.

171. **1 Kings 8:55 CJB:** ⁵⁵ stood up and raised his voice to **BLESS** the whole community of Isra'el. He said,

(KJV: ⁵⁵ stood up and raised his voice to **BLESS** the whole community of Isra'el. He said,)

The first part of the chapter today down to verse 53 in where Shlomo is praying for forgiveness for all the various sins of the people of Isra'el, this is all part of the dedication of the Temple. Now, in our verse, Shlomo stood up and in a loud voice **BLESSED** the whole community there, of Isra'el. Again, this is a verbal **BLESSING** and details of which are in the following verses of the chapter, which should be read to understand the **BLESSING**. 23rd of May-2021.

172. 1 Kings 8:66 CJB: ⁶⁶ On the eighth day he sent the people away. They BLESSED the king and returned to their tents full of joy and glad of heart for all the goodness ADONAI had shown to David his servant and to Isra'el his people. (KJV: ⁶⁶ On the eighth day he sent the people away. They BLESSED the king and returned to their tents full of joy and glad of heart for all the goodness ADONAI had done for David his servant and for Isra'el his people.)

We are still in the process of dedicating the Temple and we see in verse 63, that king Shlomo sacrificed, what can only be described as enormous numbers, of Oxen and sheep, which took 2 weeks to accomplish! On the 8th day (whether that was the 1st day of the 2nd week or later, is not clear) the king sent the people away, whereupon they **BLESSED** the king. This form of **BLESSING** is not revealed, but one can imagine that it would have been expressing thanks to Shlomo and to ADONAI and extoling the king and ADONAI for all his majesty and for his works. The people went home, "returned to their tents full of joy and glad of heart for all the goodness ADONAI had shown to David his servant and to Isra'el his people." What an atmosphere of celebration and joy that must have been! It brings to my mind the atmosphere on VE night in 1945, although that can have been only a shadow of the happenings related here. 24^{th} of May 2021.

173. 2 Chronicles 6:3 CJB: ³ Then the king turned around and BLESSED the whole community of Isra'el. The whole community of Isra'el stood (KJV: ³ And the king turned his face and BLESSED the whole congregation of Isra'el stood.)

This **BLESSING** here, is a wish that the whole community of Isra'el would keep all the 613 commandments of ADONAI (*not just the 10 commandments*) and to walk in His ways and only in His ways. The people had just been through the dedication of the Temple and had reached the completion of that process. We are reminded in verses 7-10, that this House (*Temple*) was built for the name of ADONAI to reside there, for ever. 25th of May 2021.

174. **2** Chronicles 30:27 CJB: ²⁷ Then the *cohanim*, who were *L'vi'im*, stood up and **BLESSED** the people; [*ADONAI*] heard their voice, and their prayer came up to the holy place where he lives, heaven.

(KJV: ²⁷ Then the priests the Levites arose and **BLESSED** the people: and their voice was heard, and their prayer came up to his holy dwelling place, even unto heaven.)

There is an awful lot of **BLESSING** in the Bible and I'm nowhere near half-way even! In our verse today, we are first reminded that the priests were from the tribe of Levi. These priests here **BLESSED** the people at the time of great rejoicing in the double celebration of the festival of Pesach. However, as we read in the context (*please do always read the context*) there were some who had not purified themselves prior to partaking in the festival, as seen in verse 18 above, and Hizkiyahu, the king, prayed for these, and ADONAI heard the prayer. In our verse today, we read that the priests, after **BLESSING** the people, also prayed, which was heard by ADONAI in Heaven. It would seem, that this prayer was a part, if not the whole of the **BLESSING** of the people. 26^{th} of May 2021.

175. **Nehemiah 11:2 CJB:** ² The people **BLESSED** all those who volunteered to live in Yerushalayim.

(*KJV*: ² And the people **BLESSED** all the men, that willingly offered themselves to dwell at Jerusalem.)

The context here starts in the last 5 verses of the previous chapter and continues to the end of our verse today. Of those returning from captivity, the leaders lived in Yerushalayim along with one tenth of the people. The others went to live in the other towns and cities in Y'hudah. These others, **BLESSED** those who volunteered to live in Yerushalayim, which makes it sound as though to do so was not the best option. The more so since in the previous verse, they had cast lots to determine who was to live in the Holy city, in modern parlance, the **BLESSING** could have been something like "good luck, you're gonna need it," but that is NOT how it was. That **BLESSING** would have been along the lines of "may God be with you and prosper you in all you do for Him." 27th of May 2021.

Job 29:11 CJB: ¹¹ Any ear that heard me BLESSED me, any eye that saw me gave witness to me,
(KJV: ¹¹ When the ear heard me, then it BLESSED me; and when the eye saw me, it gave witness to me:)

As we read this chapter, we see that it is Iyov lamenting how things were for him in the past, before the tragedies struck his life. In our verse today, he is particularly lamenting that when any ear heard him, they would **BLESS** him. One imagines that the **BLESSINGs** would be of thanks for the help or advice that Iyov had given to the person or people in the past. At this point in the life of Iyov, all this was in the past, seemingly, no more **BLESSINGs** of any sort now, in his life. *28th of May 2021*.

177. **Job 31:20 CJB:** ²⁰ who didn't **BLESS** me from his heart for being warmed with the fleece from my sheep.

(KJV: ²⁰ If his loins have not **BLESSED** me, and if he were not warmed with the fleece of my sheep;)

Our chapter today is Iyov spelling out his own self-righteousness! In our verse today, Iyov is claiming that if he saw a traveller needing clothing, that traveller would have **BLESSED** Iyov from his heart for the sheep's fleece that Iyov gave him. Iyov is here claiming a **BLESSING** he may or may not have received. If he had received a **BLESSING** for this action, then it would have been a grateful heart's thanks. 29th of May 2021.

178. **Psalm 49:18 CJB:** ¹⁸ True, while he lived, he thought himself happy, people praise you when you do well for yourself —

(KJV: ¹⁸ Though while he lived he **BLESSED** his soul: and men will praise thee, when thou doest well to thyself.)

When we do well in worldly terms people will praise you, didn't he do well, they say. The truth is here in our chapter today, I may think of myself as being happy, loving the praise of other people, but that truth is in these verses 16 to 20, we see that we all die and cannot take anything with us. No matter how rich or poor we are, we die, taking nothing! The answer? To help the poor in their need whilst we are here, as we see in study 176. We must not seek to accumulate wealth here on earth, for it will not help us at all in when we die, no matter how big a mausoleum we might have over our grave! 30^{th} of May 2021.

Psalm 72:17 CJB: ¹⁷ May his name endure forever, his name, Yinnon, as long as the sun.^[a] May people BLESS themselves in him, may all nations call him happy. (KJV: ¹⁷ His name shall endure for ever: his name shall be continued as long as the sun: and men shall be BLESSED in him: all nations shall call him BLESSED.)

[a] **Psalm 72:17** Or: "May his name flourish/propagate as long as the sun." Jewish tradition considers Yinnon a name of the Messiah.

I included the note, as it adds the meaning of the name, Yinnon. This Psalm is, as we see in verse 20, the prayers of king David. In our verse today, David is asking ADONAI that his name may endure forever, for as long as the Sun. And he is asking that the people of Isra'el will **BLESS** themselves in him, king David and, may the nations acknowledge that he is happy, or as the KJV puts it, **BLESSED**. So, we see here that the **BLESSING** is to be happy. Lord, we thank you for all the Psalms of David and others, please **BLESS** them all to each one of us. Amen. *31st of May 2021*.

180. Psalm 118:26 CJB: ²⁶ BLESSED is he who comes in the name of ADONAI.
We BLESS you from the house of ADONAI.
(KJV: ²⁶ BLESSED be he that cometh in the name of the LORD: we have BLESSED you out of the house of the LORD.)

Virtually every day, I read the Psalm of my age (recommended to everyone!) 139 out of respect to Sheila as it was her favourite and, 91 for reasons long forgotten. Today it is Psalm 118, long forgotten and, what a wonderful Psalm it is! It is all about the grace (mercy if you are a KJV only person) of God, in our verse today, it says that he who comes in the name of ADONAI is **BLESSED** and the those who come from the House of ADONAI, **BLESS** you (you and me). We are not told, as seems normal, the form of these **BLESSING** but would imagine that they are words of encouragement and of good news. 1st of June 2021.

181. **Proverbs 31:28 CJB:** ²⁸ ⁷ Her children arise; they make her happy; her husband too, as he praises her:

(KJV: ²⁸ Her children arise up, and call her **BLESSED**; her husband also, and he praiseth her.)

The context of our verse today starts at verse 10 in this chapter and is all about a capable, virtuous wife. Her children arise and call her **BLESSED**, or, as the CJB puts it, make her happy and her husband praises her. So, **BLESSED** and happy are the same. 2^{nd} of June 2021.

182. Ecclesiastes 10:17 CJB: ¹⁷ Happy are you, land, when your king is well-born, and your princes eat at the proper time, in order to stay strong, not to get drunk!
(KJV: ¹⁷ BLESSED art thou, O land, when thy king is the son of nobles, and thy princes eat in due season, for strength, and not for drunkenness!)
(OJB: ¹⁷ BLESSED art thou, O eretz, when thy melech is a nobleman, and thy sarim (princes) eat in due season, for strength, and not for drunkenness!)

As we read this whole chapter, one might think we are in the wrong book of the Bible, we might be in Proverbs! Our verse today shows the reverse of the previous verse and shows the correct way of doing things. For **BLESSED** in the KJV, the CJB translates it as happy. Interestingly, the OJB also gives **BLESSED** and not happy. However, the CJB seems to give a viable alternative translation. *3rd of June 2021*.

183. **Song of Songs 6:9 CJB:** ⁹ but my dove, my perfect one, is unique, her mother's only child, the darling of the one who bore her. The daughters see her and call her happy; the queens and concubines praise her.

(*KJV*: ⁹ *My* dove, *my* undefiled is but one; she is the only one of her mother, she is the choice one of her that bare her. The daughters saw her, and **BLESSED** her; yea, the queens and the concubines, and they praised her.)

(**OJB**: ⁹ My yonah (dove), tammati (my perfect one, my undefiled) is unique; she is the only one of her em (mother), she is the barah (choice one) of her that bore her. The banot saw her, they called her **BLESSED**; yea, the melakhot and the pilagshim [see 6:8] praise her.)

Many people think of the Song of Songs as being between a man and a woman, whilst it is actually between ADONAI and His people, Isra'el. In our verse today, ADONAI is reflecting on how Isra'el is (*and will be again*) perfect. Whilst the KJV uses the word **BLESSED**, by the daughters, as does the OJB, the CJB again uses happy. So, there seems to be an equivalence again between **BLESSED** and happy. *4th of June 2021*.

184. **Isaiah 66:3 CJB:** ³ Those others might as well kill a person as an ox, as well break a dog's neck as sacrifice a lamb, as well offer pig's blood as offer a grain offering, as well **BLESS** an idol as burn incense. Just as these have chosen their ways and enjoy their disgusting practices,

(KJV: ³ He that killeth an ox is as if he slew a man; he that sacrificeth a lamb, as if he cut off a dog's neck; he that offereth an oblation, as if he offered swine's blood; he that burneth incense, as if he **BLESSED** an idol. Yea, they have chosen their own ways, and their soul delighteth in their abominations.)

In our verse today, we have the **BLESSINGS** of the wrong things. ADONAI is ridiculing those who worship idols and **BLESS** them, burning incense to them. Our verse is showing the people of the world their wrongdoings! Verse 2b shows those for whom He seeks, in contrast to those in our verse 3. Verse 4 continues, in which ADONAI ridicules them. We see here in this chapter, both what we should and should not be **BLESSING**. 6th of June 2021.

185. Jeremiah 20:14 CJB: ¹⁴ A curse on the day I was born! The day my mother gave birth to me, let it not be BLESSED!
(KJV: ¹⁴ Cursed be the day wherein I was born: let not the day wherein my mother bare me be BLESSED.)

Jeremiah was persecuted by the Cohen (*Pash'chur*) in the 1st part of this chapter. Jeremiah then prophesied terrible things to happen to Pash'chur and his family. Then from verse 7, Jeremiah laments all that has happened to him, in verse 13 he thinks it better to praise ADONAI, but not for long as in the next, our, verse, he returns to lamenting his very birth, cursing the day on which he was born. He said that day should not be **BLESSED**. The lament continues to the end of the chapter.

7th of June 2021.

186. **Malachi 3:12 CJB:** ¹² "All nations will call you happy, for you will be a land of delights," says *ADONAI-Tzva'ot*.

(KJV: ¹² And all nations shall call you **BLESSED**: for ye shall be a delightsome land, saith the LORD of hosts.)

This is an interesting chapter to read from beginning to end, and in the Hebrew Bible (*Tanakh*) this chapter continues to chapter 4:6. One of my favourite verses, 3:6 is here too. The whole chapter is of how Isra'el had being failing to do God's will and then questioned, in what way? In verses 10 & 11, ADONAI shows them what they should be doing. Our verse shows what happens if they follow God's ways, all nations will call you happy, **BLESSED**. 8th of June 2021.

187. Mark 11:10 CJB: ¹⁰ "BLESSED is the coming Kingdom of our father David!" and "You in the highest heaven! Please! Deliver us!"^[d] [e]
(KJV: ¹⁰ BLESSED be the kingdom of our father David, that cometh in the name of the Lord: Hosanna in the highest.)

[d] Psalm 118:25 Please, ADONAI! Save us! Please, ADONAI! Rescue us!
[e] Greek Osanne (English "Hosana") translates Hebrew Hosh'ana, which means "Please! Save [us]!" It is not the same as Hallelujah!

Brought out here in this verse and the previous one is the word hosana. This much mis-interpreted word means one thing only: "Please! Deliver us!" but, is often used wrongly, also in songs, as if it meant Hallelujah. Please see the notes above. In our verse today, we have "BLESSED is the coming Kingdom..." Since we are reading the New Testament, this is the millennial reign of Yeshua. In that Kingdom, all things will be BLESSED, Ha'Satan will be locked up, we true believers will reign with Yeshua and those who come through the Tribulation, they will still have their human nature as before. Interesting! *9th of June 2021.*

188. Luke 1:48 CJB: ⁴⁸ who has taken notice of his servant-girl in her humble position.^[b] For — imagine it! — from now on, all generations will call me BLESSED! (KJV: ⁴⁸ For he hath regarded the low estate of his handmaiden: for, behold, from henceforth all generations shall call me BLESSED.)

[b] 1 Samuel 1:11; Then she took a vow; she said, "ADONAI-Tzva'ot, if you will notice how humiliated your servant is, if you will remember me and not forget your servant but will give your servant a male child, then I will give him to ADONAI for as long as he lives; and no razor will ever come on his head."
[b] 1 Samuel 2:1 Then Hannah prayed; she said: "My heart exults in ADONAI! My dignity has been restored by ADONAI! I can gloat over my enemies, because of my joy at your saving me.

Our verse today is part of what is known as the Magnificat, which is Miryam praising God. The 1st cross reference is prophesying the events which have now taken place, as related here in Luke 1. Not quite sure why the 2nd one is there, except that it shows that God honours his promises and answers prayers. Miryam felt she had been BLESSED by ADONAI, to be given the privilege to carry the Messiah. Certainly, all generations call her BLESSED, especially in the Roman Catholic Church, which, in the opinion of many, goes OTT in venerating Miryam. 10th of June 2021.

189. Luke 2:34 CJB: ³⁴ Shim'on BLESSED them and said to the child's mother, Miryam, "This child will cause many in Isra'el to fall and to rise, he will become a sign whom people will speak against;

(KJV: ³⁴ And Simeon **BLESSED** them, and said unto Mary his mother, Behold, this child is set for the fall and rising again of many in Israel; and for a sign which shall be spoken against;)

Shim'on, having been told by the Ruach HaKodesh (*the Holy Spirit*) to go to the Temple, where he saw Yosef and Miryam with the baby Yeshua. With Yeshua in his arms, Shim'on gave thanks to ADONAI, as in verses 29 to 32, for bringing about all that the Ruach HaKodesh had told him he would see before he died. Shim'on then **BLESSED** the family and prophesied to Miryam as in our verse and the next. We are not told the form of this **BLESSING**, so we can only imagine that it would have included thanks to ADONAI and all good wishes to the 3 of them. *11th of June 2021*.

190. Acts 20:35 CJB: ³⁵ In everything I have given you an example of how, by working hard like this, you must help the weak, remembering the words of the Lord Yeshua himself, 'There is more happiness in giving than in receiving.''' (KJV: ³⁵ I have shewed you all things, how that so labouring ye ought to support the weak, and to remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he said, It is more BLESSED to give than to receive.)

How often has one heard this Scripture quoted, "*It is more BLESSED to give than to receive.*" In that respect, how many Christians actually READ the New Testament? For nowhere is it found that tithing is not for Christians, it is only the starting point of our giving!!! Having started with tithing, it becomes easier to give to more and more in other directions. Then the **BLESSINGS** will start to flow BUT, those **BLESSINGS** will probably not be financial. As Christians, we are called to give of ourselves, not just money. *14th of June 2021.*

191. **Titus 2:13 CJB:** ¹³ while continuing to expect the **BLESSED** fulfilment of our certain hope, which is the appearing of the *Sh'khinah* of our great God and the appearing of our Deliverer, Yeshua the Messiah.

(KJV: ¹³ Looking for that **BLESSED** hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ;)

Our verse today is a continuation of verse 12. We are to renounce worldly pleasures (*secular TV, parties etc!!!*) and Godlessness and to continue to expect the **BLESSED** fulfilment of our hope and the appearing of Yeshua. Now the renouncing bit will not go down well with many who are only nominal Christians. The **BLESSING** we expect is the event of our being taken up in the Tribulation to be with Him for Eternity. *18th of June 2021*.

192. Hebrews 7:1 CJB: This Malki-Tzedek, king of Shalem, a *Cohen* of God *Ha'Elyon*, met Avraham on his way back from the slaughter of the kings and BLESSED him;

(*KJV*: For this Melchisedec, king of Salem, priest of the most high God, who met Abraham returning from the slaughter of the kings, and **BLESSED** him;)

We see in the last couple of verses of the previous chapter, that Malki-Tzedek, that Yeshua is compared with Malki-Tzedek as a Cohen Gadol of God Ha'Elyon (*High Priest of almighty God*) for ever. In our verse today he, Malki-Tzedek, **BLESSED** Avraham after he had slaughtered the kings. We see also that Avraham gave a tithe of all the spoils of that war, after he had been **BLESSED**. I am sure that the tithe was NOT given as thanks for the **BLESSING**! Just as our Lord **BLESSES** us, it is not as some sort of reward, but out of His love for us as His believers. 21^{st} of June 2021.

193. Hebrews 7:6 CJB: ⁶ But Malki-Tzedek, even though he was not descended from Levi, took a tenth from Avraham. Also, he BLESSED Avraham, the man who received God's promises;
(KJV: ⁶ But he whose descent is not counted from them received tithes of Abraham and BLESSED him that had the promises.)

It seems that the 1st 9 verses of this chapter are all about tithing, but these studies are about **BLESSING**. So, what do we learn in our verse today about being **BLESSED**? We do not see the form of this **BLESSING**, only that Malki-Tzedek, a form of Cohen Gadol (*High Priest*) was the one who **BLESSED** Avraham and it must have been some **BLESSING**. 22nd of June 2021.

194. Hebrews 7:7 CJB: ⁷ and it is beyond all dispute that the one who BLESSES has higher status than the one who receives the BLESSING.
(KJV: ⁷And without all contradiction the less is BLESSED of the better.)

In our verse today, it is not talking about the **BLESSINGS**, but about the status of the one who gives the **BLESSING** compared to the one who receives that **BLESSING**. It is pretty obvious who is the greater or lesser in this situation, as outlined in our verse. Point made. 23rd of June 2021.

BLESSED God the agent

195. Genesis 1:22 CJB: ²² Then God BLESSED them, saying, "Be fruitful, multiply and fill the water of the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth."
(KJV: ²² And God BLESSED them, saying, Be fruitful, and multiply, and fill the waters in the seas, and let fowl multiply in the earth.)

This verse is a part of the 5th day of the week of Creation. This **BLESSING** in our verse today is different. ADONAI, having created all living all the many types of birds and sea creatures, here **BLESSED** them with the requirement to reproduce themselves after their kind, to multiply and fill the seas and the earth. This, as we observe every day, is what has happened. The birds are flying around and fishermen catch swarms of fish in the sea and also in the rivers. What a wonderful God we have! 25th of June 2021.

196. Genesis 1:28 CJB: ²⁸ God BLESSED them: God said to them, "Be fruitful, multiply, fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish in the sea, the birds in the air and every living creature that crawls on the earth."
(KJV: 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.)

Having created humankind, God then **BLESSED** them and gave them authority over the entire earth and all living creatures thereon and gave humankind all the vegetables and fruit of the earth as food. The **BLESSING** was to be fruitful, multiply and fill the earth. Thus ended the 6th day of all creation.

26th of June 2021.

197. Genesis 5:2 CJB: ² he created them male and female; he BLESSED them and called them Adam [humankind, man] on the day they were created (KJV: ² Male and female created he them; and BLESSED them, and called their name Adam, in the day when they were created.)

In our verse today, we see that God created Adam (*meaning man*) male and female and He **BLESSED** them on the day they were created. They were created in the likeness of God Himself. God **BLESSED** them with an idyllic life with only ONE law, as we know. 27th of June 2021. 198. **Genesis 2:3 CJB:** ³ God **BLESSED** the seventh day and separated it as holy; because on that day God rested from all his work which he had created, so that it itself could produce.

(KJV: ³ And God **BLESSED** the seventh day and sanctified it: because that in it he had rested from all his work which God created and made.)

In our verse today, God **BLESSED** the 7th day and separated it (*made it holy*) since He rested on that day, which was from sunset on the Friday to sunset on the Saturday. This **BLESSING** is for us to also rest from our works, keeping it separate from the other 6 days of the week. One might ask, why don't we keep God's 7th day, but Sunday? This is because a Ceasar (*sorry, can't remember which one*) became a (*Roman Catholic*) believer, but not his wife. She worshipped the sun god!!! To accommodate his wife he changed the day of worshipping the Lord God of Isra'el to a Sunday, which is where we are today, thanks to the Roman Catholics. The Jews still hold the Sabbath (*Shabbat*) as God set it up when He created all things! There are some Christian Gentiles who hold that the Jews are correct, as I believe, and do not observe Sunday as the Shabbat. I know of only one group in North Wales who meet on Shabbat. 28th of June 2021.

199. Exodus 20:11 CJB: ¹¹ For in six days, ADONAI made heaven and earth, the sea and everything in them; but on the seventh day he rested. This is why ADONAI BLESSED the day, Shabbat, and separated it for himself.
(KJV: ¹¹ For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the LORD BLESSED the sabbath day and hallowed it.)

Our verse today is one of the 10 Commandments and is about the sacredness of Shabbat, it is **BLESSED** by ADONAI to be kept separate from the other 6 days of the week for God Himself, and no work is to be done therein. So what is this **BLESSING**? It is simply that this day, Shabbat, is to be like no other day each week, separated in every respect and kept holy for God Himself, when we are to worship God alone! *29th of June 2021.*

200. **Genesis 9:1 CJB:** ¹ God **BLESSED** Noach and his sons and said to them, "Be fruitful, multiply and fill the earth.

(*KJV*: ¹ And God *BLESSED* Noah and his sons, and said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth.)

Again, in our verse today, God **BLESSED**, in this case, Noach and his family. Again, we are not told in what form the **BLESSING** took. We do know, in our verse today, that God told Noach and his family, to be fruitful, multiply and fill the earth, obviously with their offspring. God gave them the ability and desire to obey this command of His. *30th of June 2021*.

201. **Genesis 12:3 CJB:** ³ I will **BLESS** those who **BLESS** you, but I will curse anyone who curses you; and by you all the families of the earth will be blessed."

(KJV: ³ And I will **BLESS** them that **BLESS** thee and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed.)

ADONAI here says that He will **BLESS** those who **BLESS** His people Isra'el, where the word for **BLESS**, "**brocha**," is the same in both cases, meaning that He will seek the good of those who seek the good of His people Isra'el. However, the word translated "curse" both times, is actually 2 quite different words in Hebrew! God's curse in the 1st instance is "**aw'rar**" in Hebrew, meaning: to strongly curse; to denounce; to loathe; to declare hateful or even to destroy! It is the word used when God cursed Ha'Satan for deceiving Eve in Genesis 3:14. The 2nd word translated "curse" is the Hebrew word "**kaw'lal**," meaning: despising the people of Isra'el; to ridicule; to belittle; to make insignificant; to treat with or bring contempt or dishonour. This brings a totally different meaning to the later part of our verse today, from that normally taught! 1st of July 2021.

Unfortunately, 90% of the translations in <u>www.biblegateway.com</u> mistranslate these 2 different words as being the same, even my Complete Jewish Bible. I went through all 98 translations in Bible Gateway to look at each translation of this verse and found that only 12 translation there translate the 2 different with their correct meanings: 1. Christian Standard Bible. 2. Amplified Bible. 3. English Standard Version. 4. English Standard Version Anglicised. 5. Expanded Bible. 6. Helman Christian Standard Pible.

- 6. Holman Christian Standard Bible.
- 8. New Century Version.

10. New Living Translation. 11. The Voice.

- 7. International Children's Bible.
- 9. New English Translation.

12. Young's Literal Translation.
202. Genesis 18:18 CJB: ¹⁸ inasmuch as Avraham is sure to become a great and strong nation, and all the nations of the earth will be BLESSED by him?
(KJV: ¹⁸ Seeing that Abraham shall surely become a great and mighty nation, and all the nations of the earth shall be BLESSED in him?)

Please read the whole chapter from verse 1 down to verse 19 in order to obtain the whole context of our verse, especially verses 10 to 19. ADONAI and the other 2 with Him (*Son and Holy Spirit?*) had told Avraham that his wife, Sarah, was to have a son, even though she was long past childbearing age! We have the bit about Sarah laughing and denying it. Then, in our verse today, ADONAI said, apparently to Himself, that Avraham was to become a great and strong nation. Avraham was 99 years old at this time and was childless, so if ADONAI had told him, he too would have laughed! ADONAI went on to say that all the nations of the earth will be **BLESSED** by him! When we look at the inventions **BLESSING** us today, that were invented by Isra'elis, not least of which the ubiquitous mobile 'phone, so many other technical advances and then the medical advances originating with God's chosen people that we call, the Jews. For instance, the Salk Vaccine against Poliomyelitis. So many other advances and inventions by the nation descending from Avraham. For more information on these:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List of Israeli inventions and discoveries 3rd of July 2021.

203. **Genesis 22:18 CJB:** ¹⁸ and by your descendants all the nations of the earth will be **BLESSED**, because you obeyed my order."

(KJV: ¹⁸ And in thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be **BLESSED**; because thou hast obeyed my voice.)

This **BLESSING** in our verse today is the same as in the previous study, except that here we are told that all the nations of the earth will be **BLESSED** by the **descendants** of Avraham, rather than by Avraham himself. This was because Avraham obeyed the order of ADONAI to sacrifice his son. As we know, this was a forerunner of the sacrifice of God's own Son, Yeshua. Many details of the **BLESSINGS** by the descendants of Avraham are given in that previous study. 4^{th} of July 2021. 204. **Genesis 26:4 CJB:** ⁴ I will make your descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky, I will give all these lands to your descendants, and by your descendants all the nations of the earth will **BLESS** themselves.

(*KJV*: ⁴ And I will make thy seed to multiply as the stars of heaven, and will give unto thy seed all these countries; and in thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be **BLESSED**;)

In our verse today, ADONAI re-iterates His promise of the land, made to Avraham, now here to Yitz'chak. This is followed by a **BLESSING**. However, this is not a **BLESSING** to Yitz'chak, but that all the nations of the earth will **BLESS** themselves through the descendants of Yitz'chak! Now this is very different! Genesis 12:3 comes to mind, where God will **BLESS** those who **BLESS** His people Isra'el, where He will meet the needs, and may be more, of the people of those nations. 5^{th} of July 2021.

205. **Genesis 28:14 CJB:** ¹⁴ Your descendants will be as numerous as the grains of dust on the earth. You will expand to the west and to the east, to the north and to the south. By you and your descendants all the families of the earth will be **BLESSED**.

(*KJV*: ¹⁴ And thy seed shall be as the dust of the earth, and thou shalt spread abroad to the west, and to the east, and to the north, and to the south: and in thee and in thy seed shall all the families of the earth be **BLESSED**.)

The **BLESSING** in our verse today, is that all the families of the earth will be **BLESSED** by the descendants of Ya'akov. We know that Ya'akov would have 12 sons (*as well as daughters*) who would become the heads of the 12 tribes of Isra'el. Some of those **BLESSINGS** are revealed in study 202 above. Although the nation and land of Isra'el has been reviled ever since the re-establishment of the State of Isra'el in 1948, still **BLESSINGS** come from the people of Isra'el, even today. 6th of July 2021.

206. Acts 3:25 CJB: ²⁵ "You are the sons of the prophets; and you are included in the covenant which God made with our fathers when he said to Avraham, 'By vour seed will all the families of the earth be BLESSED.'^[C]

(*KJV*: ²⁵ Ye are the children of the prophets, and of the covenant which God made with our fathers, saying unto Abraham and in thy seed shall all the kindreds of the earth be **BLESSED**.)

[<u>c</u>] Genesis 22:18: 26:4 See studies 203 & 204.

Having read the whole chapter, we come to our verse today, where the whole world is to be **BLESSED** by the seed of Avraham, Isra'el, and those true believers who are grafted into God's chosen people, the seed of Avraham, Isra'el. This is the same **BLESSING** that has been prophesied in each study here from number 201. ADONAI has spoken, in the Tanakh (*Hebrew Bible or Old Testament*) in Studies 202 to 205, now we come to the B'rit Ha'dashah (*New Testament*) where we read again, the same **BLESSINGS** are to be given to the whole earth. 7th of July 2021.

207. **Galatians 3:8** CJB: ⁸ Also the *Tanakh*, foreseeing that God would consider the Gentiles righteous when they live by trusting and being faithful, told the Good News to Avraham in advance by saying, **"In connection with you, all the** *Goyim* **will be** BLESSED."

(*KJV*: ⁸ And the scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the heathen through faith, preached before the gospel unto Abraham, saying, In thee shall all nations be **BLESSED**.)

[b] Genesis 12:3 See study 201.

Because Avraham trusted, all nations shall be **BLESSED**. This promise was/is made to Avraham and here it is re-iterated in the New Testament. We also see in our verse today, that as Avraham trusted God, so the nations are **BLESSED**. Avraham's trusting was counted to him as righteousness. In the same way, our verse today tells us, that we Gentiles are counted as righteous, if and when, we trust in and are faithful to ADONAI and His leading. 8th of July 2021.

208. **Genesis 17:20 CJB:** ²⁰ But as for Yishma'el, I have heard you. I have **BLESSED** him. I will make him fruitful and give him many descendants. He will father twelve princes, and I will make him a great nation.

(*KJV*: ²⁰ And as for Ishmael, I have heard thee: Behold, I have **BLESSED** him, and will make him fruitful, and will multiply him exceedingly; twelve princes shall he beget, and I will make him a great nation.)

Strangely, I did this study yesterday, but when I saved it, this study disappeared! Having once more read the whole chapter, we read that ADONAI was going to **BLESS** Yisham'el and from him will come a great nation (*the Arabs?*). This **BLESSING** of Yishma'el was a very big one, he was to be fruitful and have many descendants, including 12 princes. That is some **BLESSING**! One must also remember that Ya'akov also had 12 sons. 10th of July 2021.

209. Genesis 24:1 CJB: ¹ By now Avraham was old, advanced in years; and *ADONAI* had BLESSED Avraham in everything.
(K.W: 1 And Abraham was old, and well stricken in age: and the LOPD had

(KJV: ¹ And Abraham was old, and well stricken in age: and the LORD had BLESSED Abraham in all things.)

We read in the 1st verse of the previous chapter, that Sarah was 127 years old when she died, which means that at in that chapter and ours, Avraham was 137 years old, 10 years older than Sarah. In our verse today, we read that ADONAI had **BLESSED** Avraham in everything, he lacked nothing, except now, his wife. Reading our chapter down to verse 9, we see that Avraham did not want his son, Yitz'chak, to have a wife of the Kena'ani, amongst whom he was living, but sent his servant, under oath, to bring a wife for Yitz'chak from among his own people back in Aram. As we read later in our chapter, the servant brought Rivkah to be Yitz'chak's wife. Thus, the **BLESSING** of Avraham was increased.

11th of July 2021.

210. **Genesis 24:31 CJB:** ³¹ "Come on in," he said, "you whom *ADONAI* has **BLESSED**! Why are you standing outside when I have made room in the house and prepared a place for the camels?"

(KJV: ³¹And he said, Come in, thou **BLESSED** of the LORD; wherefore standest thou without? for I have prepared the house, and room for the camels.)

The servant of Avraham, we don't see his name, had let it be known to Rivkah that he had come from Avraham. It would have been known to the family, that Avraham had heard from ADONAI and, hence, had left the family to follow Him. Also having seen the jewellery which now adorned Rivkah, they would have known that it came from wealth. From that foregoing, we see why Lavan would have welcomed the servant, calling him **BLESSED**. The servant was treated as if he had been Avraham himself, as a close relative. 12th of July 2021.

211. Genesis 25:31 CJB: ³¹ Ya'akov answered, "First sell me your rights as the firstborn."
(KJV: ³¹ And Jacob said, Sell me this day thy birthright.)

One might say that the birthright of the firstborn is a form of **BLESSING**, otherwise there is nothing about **BLESSING** here on this passage.

13th of July 2021.

212. Genesis 26:12 CJB: ¹² Yitz'chak planted crops in that land and reaped that year a hundred times as much as he had sowed. *ADONAI* had **BLESSED** him.

(KJV: ¹² Then Isaac sowed in that land, and received in the same year an hundredfold: and the LORD **BLESSED** him.)

We read here in our verse today, the whole story of this **BLESSING** of Yitz'chak. ADONAI **BLESSED** Yitz'chak by making the yield of his crops 100-fold, which is exceedingly good. The Parable of the Sower comes to mind, where some seed yielded 30, some 60 and some (*even*) 100-fold. As we read in the following verses of this chapter, ADONAI continued to **BLESS** Yitz'chak in this way and we see the consequences of him becoming very wealthy indeed. Some **BLESSING** eh? 14th of July 2021. 213. Genesis 26:29 CJB: ²⁹ that you will not harm us, just as we have not caused you offense but have done you nothing but good and sent you on your way in peace. Now you are **BLESSED** by *ADONAI*."

(*KJV*: ²⁹ That thou wilt do us no hurt, as we have not touched thee, and as we have done unto thee nothing but good and have sent thee away in peace: thou art now the **BLESSED** of the LORD.)

As we read the chapter from verse 13 to the end, we see that Avimelek (Melek being Hebrew for king) sent Yitz'chak away since he had become afraid of Yitz'chak's **BLESSINGS** from ADONAI, in wealth and power. Avimelek had come to Yitz'chak to make peace between them, recognising how much Yitz'chak was being **BLESSED** by ADONAI. This we see happened in verses 30 to 33 and they feasted and celebrated this the next day, when Yitz'chak sent them away peacefully. 15th of July 2021.

214. **Genesis 27:27 CJB:** ²⁷ He approached and kissed him. Yitz'chak smelled his clothes and **BLESSED** Ya'akov with these words: "See, my son smells like a field which *ADONAI* has **BLESSED**.

(**KJV**: ²⁷ And he came near, and kissed him: and he smelled the smell of his raiment, and **BLESSED** him, and said, See, the smell of my son is as the smell of a field which the LORD hath **BLESSED**:)

Reading verses 5 to 40 of this chapter, reveals how Rivkah persuaded Ya'akov to cheat his brother, 'Esav, out of his **BLESSING** as the oldest son. Rivkah did this in fulfilment of what ADONAI had told her in Genesis 25:23. So we read in our verse today, that Ya'akov did indeed receive the **BLESSING** of the firstborn and the next 2 verses give the details of that **BLESSING** from Yitz'chak, his father. *16th of July 2021*.

215. **Genesis 30:27 CJB:** ²⁷ Lavan answered him, "If you regard me favourably, then please listen: I have observed the signs that *ADONAI* has **BLESSED** me on account of you.

(KJV: ²⁷ And Laban said unto him, I pray thee, if I have found favour in thine eyes, tarry: for I have learned by experience that the LORD hath **BLESSED** me for thy sake.)

In this passage, Lavan agreed that he had been **BLESSED** simply because Ya'akov was there looking after Lavan's livestock. The **BLESSING** of Lavan was that he had prospered due to Ya'akov being there. 17th of July 2021.

216. **Genesis 30:30 CJB:** ³⁰ The few you had before I came have increased substantially; *ADONAI* has **BLESSED** you wherever I went. But now, when will I provide for my own household?"

(KJV: ³⁰ For it was little which thou hadst before I came, and it is now increased unto a multitude; and the LORD hath **BLESSED** thee since my coming: and now when shall I provide for mine own house also?)

Ya'akov didn't want payment from Lavan, but they agreed that Ya'akov should have every sheep and goat that was speckled, spotted or brown and their offspring, which hence would be given to Ya'akov to be his own. Any perfectly white amongst these speckled would be counted as stolen. This was since Lavan recognised that both himself and Ya'akov had been **BLESSED** by ADONAI, simply because Ya'akov was there with Lavan. 18th of July 2021.

217. **Genesis 32:29 CJB:** ²⁹ Ya'akov asked him, "Please tell me your name." But he answered, "Why are you asking about my name?" and **BLESSED** him there.

(KJV: ²⁹ And Jacob asked him, and said, Tell me, I pray thee, thy name. And he said, Wherefore is it that thou dost ask after my name? And he **BLESSED** him there.)

The context of our verse today is the whole chapter, where it comes to this wrestling match with no other than the Angel of God! In our verse, Ya'akov, now renamed Isra'el, asked the Angel his name but was not told this. Isra'el was then **BLESSED** by the Angel, who was then no longer there. Once again, we do not read the form of **BLESSING** bestowed upon Isra'el. 19th of July 2021.

218. **Genesis 35:9 CJB:** ⁹ After Ya'akov arrived from Paddan-Aram, God appeared to him again and **BLESSED** him.

(KJV: ⁹ And God appeared unto Jacob again, when he came out of Padanaram, and BLESSED him.)

The first 15 verses of this chapter give the context of our verse today. Beit-El was the 1st stop on the way back to Ya'akov's father, as commanded by God in verse 1. As in our verse, when Ya'akov and all who were with him arrived there, God again **BLESSED** him and re-stated, in the next verse, that Ya'akov would no longer be his name, but Isra'el, as He said in Genesis 32:29. Once again we are not told the form of this **BLESSING**. 20th of July 2021.

219. **Genesis 48:3 CJB:** ³ Ya'akov said to Yosef, "*El Shaddai* appeared to me at Luz in the land of Kena'an and **BLESSED** me

(*KJV*: ³ And Jacob said unto Joseph, God Almighty appeared unto me at Luz in the land of Canaan, and *BLESSED* me,)

Ya'akov (*Isra'el*) recounted to Yosef, how El Shaddai had **BLESSED** him at Luz (*Beit El*) in the land of Kena'an. The **BLESSING** was to be, at that time, that Ya'akov's descendants were to have the land of Kena'an in perpetuity and he would have many, many descendants. Today, we see that many those descendants are back in most of the land promised and more are returning there almost every day. What a **BLESSING**, what a promise keeping God we have! Amen.

21st of July 2021.

220. **Genesis 39:5 CJB:** ⁵ From the time he appointed him manager of his household and all his possessions, *ADONAI* **BLESSED** the Egyptian's household for Yosef's sake; *ADONAI*'s **BLESSING** was on all he owned, whether in the house or in the field.

(KJV: ⁵ And it came to pass from the time that he had made him overseer in his house, and over all that he had, that the LORD **BLESSED** the Egyptian's house for Joseph's sake; and the **BLESSING** of the LORD was upon all that he had in the house, and in the field.)

The first 6 verses of this chapter give the whole context of our verse today. ADONAI was with Yosef in all that he did, hence, ADONAI **BLESSED** (*prospered*) Potifar in all that he had, so much so that Potifar made Yosef manager of all that he owned. As we read in our verse, ADONAI **BESSED** all that Potifar owned, in the house or in the field! So, we read that **BLESSING** in this case, is prosperity. That must have been some **BLESSING** upon Potifar, simply because Yosef was his slave. 2^{nd} of July 2021.

221. Numbers 22:12 CJB: ¹² God answered Bil'am, "You are not to go with them; you are not to curse the people, because they are BLESSED."
(KJV: ¹² And God said unto Balaam, Thou shalt not go with them; thou shalt not curse the people: for they are BLESSED.)

Bil'am was a prophet in contact with the Lord God of Isra'el. When Bil'am was asked to curse God's people, as we read in our verse today, we read that God made it clear to Bil'am that he was not to go with the leaders from Moav and not to curse God's people since they are **BLESSED** (*by God*). 23rd of July 2021.

222. Numbers 23:20 CJB: ²⁰ Look, I am ordered to bless; when he BLESSES, I can't reverse it.

(*KJV*: ²⁰ Behold, I have received commandment to **BLESS**: and he hath **BLESSED**; and I cannot reverse it.)

No matter how Balak wants Bil'am to curse Isra'el, Bil'am only does and says only the words to Balak that ADONAI puts into his mouth. Bil'am now only wants to do and say what ADONAI tells him, and **BLESSES** Isra'el. What a contrast to his early acquiescence, agreeing to go along with the princes who had come to his home! Here, in our verse today, Bil'am **BLESSES** Isra'el, much to the concern of Balak. 24th of July 2021.

223. **Deuteronomy 2:7 CJB:** ⁷ For *ADONAI* your God has **BLESSED** you in everything your hands have produced. He knows that you have been travelling through this vast desert; these forty years *ADONAI* your God has been with you; and you have lacked nothing.'

(*KJV*: ⁷ For the LORD thy God hath *BLESSED* thee in all the works of thy hand: he knoweth thy walking through this great wilderness: these forty years the LORD thy God hath been with thee; thou hast lacked nothing.)

Upon the instruction of ADONAI, the Isra'elis were to pass through the territory of Seir, which is the land of the descendants of 'Esav. They were to pay for every bit of food they ate or water they drank. This was because He had **BLESSED** them in everything they had made with their hands. For the 40 years of wandering in the desert, He had seen to it that they lacked nothing. 25th of July 2021.

224. Deuteronomy 12:7 CJB: ⁷ There you will eat in the presence of *ADONAI* your God; and you will rejoice over everything you set out to do, you and your households, in which *ADONAI* your God has **BLESSED** you.
(KJV: ⁷ And there ye shall eat before the LORD your God, and ye shall rejoice in all that ye put your hand unto, ye and your households, wherein the LORD thy God hath **BLESSED** thee.)

We read in our verse today and in the preceding verses, that the people of Isra'el, having brought all their offerings etc. to ADONAI in the one and only designated place, there they will eat in the presence of ADONAI. They will rejoice over everything they set out to do, as individuals and whole households, everything in which ADONAI has **BLESSED** them. 26th of July 2021.

225. **Deuteronomy 15:14 CJB:** ¹⁴ but supply him generously from your flock, threshing-floor and winepress; from what *ADONAI* your God has **BLESSED** you with, you are to give to him.

(*KJV*: ¹⁴ Thou shalt furnish him liberally out of thy flock, and out of thy floor, and out of thy winepress: of that wherewith the LORD thy God hath **BLESSED** thee thou shalt give unto him.)

Reading from the beginning of the chapter, we read about the sh'mittah, the 7th year. It is also about slaves and the sh'mittah. In the days of the times of which we are reading, slavery of a fellow Hebrew was much different to what we have today. A Hebrew would sell him or herself to someone in order to pay a debt, but come the sh'mittah, the slave had to be set free, in our verse today, he or she was not to be freed with nothing, but the slave owner was to give generously to the one being freed. In Matthew 6:22-23, it speaks of the "evil eye" being one who is stingy. In our verse today, the slave owner is also being told not to be stingy when releasing his slave. He has been **BLESSED** by the slave's work and give to him generously. 28^{th} of July 2021.

226. **Deuteronomy 16:10 CJB:** ¹⁰ You are to observe the festival of *Shavu'ot* [*weeks*] for *ADONAI* your God with a voluntary offering, which you are to give in accordance with the degree to which *ADONAI* your God has prospered you.

(*KJV*: ¹⁰ And thou shalt keep the feast of weeks unto the LORD thy God with a tribute of a freewill offering of thine hand, which thou shalt give unto the LORD thy God, according as the LORD thy God hath **BLESSED** thee:)

Verses 9 to 12 are the instructions to Isra'el to observe, or keep, the Festival of Shavu'ot (Weeks, or in the Church today, Pentecost). Now, I don't normally resort to looking up Matthew Henry and the like but, felt I must see what is said in (*in this* case, in the Jewish Study Bible) simply because, the Bible gives no direct reference to a date in the calendar year. I found that, Biblically, there is no set date for this Festival and that there have been many attempts to fix it by Scribes and Pharisees, from 2nd Temple times, with many different arguments. The fact remains that the Bible does NOT set a specific date, only that Isra'el shall voluntarily give for ADONAI according to how He has **BLESSED** or prospered them. We see that **BLESSING** is also translated here in the CJB, as Prospered. 29th of July 2021. 227. **Deuteronomy 7:14 CJB:** ¹⁴ You will be **BLESSED** more than all other peoples; there will not be a sterile male or female among you, and the same with your livestock.

(*KJV*: ¹⁴ Thou shalt be *BLESSED* above all people: there shall not be male or female barren among you, or among your cattle.)

ADONAI is telling Isra'el that they will be **BLESSED** more than all other peoples, having given them a warning, or a series of warnings about following Him in all their ways. Verse 12 to 19 details some of those **BLESSINGS**, and such **BLESSINGS** they are. No other people have been **BLESSED** like this! This is ADONAI's covenant with His people, Isra'el. 30th of July 2021.

228. **Deuteronomy 14:24 CJB:** ²⁴ But if the distance is too great for you, so that you are unable to transport it, because the place where *ADONAI* chooses to put his name is too far away from you; then, when *ADONAI* your God prospers you,

(*KJV*: ²⁴ And if the way be too long for thee, so that thou art not able to carry it; or if the place be too far from thee, which the LORD thy God shall choose to set his name there, when the LORD thy God hath **BLESSED** thee:)

This chapter changes the subject upon reaching verse 22. Our verse today is part of the rest of the chapter and concerns the tenth (*Tithing*) and concerns the situation where one lives too far away from the place where ADONAI says to take that tenth of all that in which He has **BLESSED** or prospered you. Interestingly, this tenth is for the consumption of all your household, which includes all those in verse 29 below, it is not the Tithe to the Temple (*or Church for us*). Praise ADONAI for all His **BLESSINGS** upon each one of us. 31st of July 2021.

229. **Deuteronomy 28:3 CJB:** ³ "A **BLESSING** on you in the city, and a **BLESSING** on you in the countryside.

(KJV: ³ BLESSED shalt thou be in the city and BLESSED shalt thou be in the field.)

In this chapter today, ADONAI gives **BLESSINGS** galore to His people but, these **BLESSING** are conditional. The conditions are shown in verse 1 and then again in verse 9. As for us today, we shall be **BLESSED** only as long as we observe and obey all His commandments. Simple. But do we follow all His commandments? This we must do to obtain those **BLESSINGS**! 1st of August 2021.

230. **Deuteronomy 28:4 CJB:** ⁴ "A **BLESSING** on the fruit of your body, the fruit of your land and the fruit of your livestock, the young of your cattle and flocks.

(*KJV*: ⁴*BLESSED* shall be the fruit of thy body, and the fruit of thy ground, and the fruit of thy cattle, the increase of thy kine, and the flocks of thy sheep.)

Our verse today follows on from the previous study and continues the "list" of **BLESSINGS** ADONAI will bestow on those of Isra'el who obey all the mitzvot of ADONAI as in the first verse. The **BLESSINGS** here are total, powerful and conditional. WOW! 2nd of August 2021.

231. Deuteronomy 28:5 CJB: ⁵ "A BLESSING on your grain-basket and kneading-bowl.
 (KJV: ⁵ BLESSED shall be thy basket and thy store.)

The form of **BLESSINGS** upon the people of Isra'el continues in our verse today. We read a difference in the 2^{nd} part between the 2 translations. The kneading bowl is where one would use the ground flour from the 1^{st} item, grain. It would seem that the one **BLESSING** follows on from the first one here, **BLESSINGS** upon **BLESSINGS** for His people. 3^{rd} of August 2021.

232. **Deuteronomy 33:13 CJB:** ¹³ Of Yosef he said: "May *ADONAI* **BLESS** his land with the best from the sky, for the dew, and for what comes from the deep beneath,

(*KJV*: ¹³ And of Joseph he said, *BLESSED* of the LORD be his land, for the precious things of heaven, for the dew, and for the deep that coucheth beneath,)

In our verse today, we read of the **BLESSINGS** given by Moshe upon Yosef and what **BLESSINGS**! Nine separate **BLESSINGS** listed in verses 13 to 17. Wow! When reading the whole chapter, it seems that Yosef is **BLESSED** more than his brothers and in so many ways. Oh, how **BLESSED** is Yosef here in this chapter, by Moshe. 4th of August 2021.

233. **Joshua 17:14 CJB:** ¹⁴ Then the descendants of Yosef spoke to Y'hoshua; they said, "Why have you given me only one lot and only one portion to inherit? After all, I am a great people, since *ADONAI* has **BLESSED** me so."

(**KJV**: ¹⁴ And the children of Joseph spake unto Joshua, saying, Why hast thou given me but one lot and one portion to inherit, seeing I am a great people, forasmuch as the LORD hath **BLESSED** me hitherto?)

Please read the whole chapter as the context is a bit complicated. In our verse today it speaks of Yosef, but this includes both M'nasheh and Efrayim. They were complaining that they didn't have enough land allocated to them and that the Kena'ani were too powerful for them to drive them out. They told Y'hoshua that ADONAI had **BLESSED** them with many people. So, here we see the **BLESSING** that Yosef had received from ADONAI, too many people for the land allocated. 5th of August 2021.

234. **Judges 13:24 CJB:** ²⁴ The woman bore a son and called him Shimshon. The child grew, and *ADONAI* **BLESSED** him.

(KJV: ²⁴ And the woman bare a son, and called his name Samson: and the child grew, and the LORD **BLESSED** him.)

Please read the whole chapter, it is so interesting to see the way in which ADONAI works. In our verse today, we read that this all came true and the child was named Shimshon (*his proper name in Hebrew*) and the Lord **BLESSED** him. In the next verse, we read that the Spirit of ADONAI began to stir him, obviously this would be as he was growing up and this is all we are told of his childhood. He was **BLESSED**! 6th of August 2021.

235. **Ruth 3:10 CJB:** ¹⁰ He said, "May *ADONAI* **BLESS** you, my daughter. Your latest kindness is even greater than your first, in that you didn't go after the young men, neither the rich ones nor the poor.

(*KJV*: ¹⁰ And he said, *BLESSED* be thou of the LORD, my daughter: for thou hast shewed more kindness in the latter end than at the beginning, inasmuch as thou followedst not young men, whether poor or rich.)

Bo'az was a "redeeming relative" and Ruth laid at his feet after he had gone to sleep. When he awoke and found Ruth there, he asked ADONAI to **BLESS** her, since she had shown herself to be kind and not selfish in any way. Such a **BLESSING** resulted in her later becoming an ancestor of Yeshua himself, as we read in other parts of the Bible. 7th of August 2021.

236. **1** Samuel 15:13 CJB: ¹³ Sh'mu'el went to Sha'ul; Sha'ul said to him,

"May ADONAI BLESS you! I have done what ADONAI ordered." (KJV: ¹³ And Samuel came to Saul: and Saul said unto him, BLESSED be thou of the LORD: I have performed the commandment of the LORD.)

In our verse today, Sha'ul said to Sh'mu'el, in all apparent innocence, and told Sh'mu'el, may ADONAI BLESS you, since he had done all that ADONAI had ordered him. Sh'mu'el then retorted, in detail, that Sha'ul had not done as ordered by ADONAI! This **BLESSING** of Sh'mu'el was hollow, since Sha'ul had been afraid of the people, had not killed the king AND kept the best cattle and sheep. Verse 26 tells us the final result, of Sha'ul's disobedience. In between are those famous words in verses 22 and 23. 8^{th} of August 2021.

237. **Ruth 2:20 CJB: ²⁰** Na'omi said to her daughter-in-law, "May he be **BLESSED** by *ADONAI*, who has never stopped showing grace, neither to the living nor to the dead." Na'omi also told her, "The man is closely related to us; he's one of our redeeming kinsmen."

(*KJV*: ²⁰ And Naomi said unto her daughter in law, *BLESSED* be he of the LORD, who hath not left off his kindness to the living and to the dead. And Naomi said unto her, the man is near of kin unto us, one of our next kinsmen.)

When Na'omi learned that Ruth had been gleaning in the field of Bo'az, she called upon ADONAI to **BLESS** him and told Ruth that he was a near, redeeming kinsman. So, what was this **BLESSING**? Na'omi had asked ADONAI to **BLESS** Bo'az, but there is no precise indication of the form of **BLESSING**, we must assume that it would be for all things to go well in his life and for his prosperity.

238. **Ruth 3:10 CJB:** ¹⁰ He said, "May *ADONAI* **BLESS** you, my daughter. Your latest kindness is even greater than your first, in that you didn't go after the young men, neither the rich ones nor the poor.

(*KJV*: ¹⁰ And he said, *BLESSED* be thou of the LORD, my daughter: for thou hast shewed more kindness in the latter end than at the beginning, inasmuch as thou followedst not young men, whether poor or rich.)

In our verse today, we read the reason for Bo'az calling upon ADONAI to **BLESS** Ruth. She was to be **BLESSED** since she didn't pursue her own interests but, did as Na'omi told her. Once again, we are not told the form of **BLESSING** upon Ruth. 10th of August 2021. 239. **1 Samuel 23:21 CJB:** ²¹ Sha'ul said, "May *ADONAI* **BLESS** you for showing me compassion!

(**KJV**: ²¹ And Saul said, **BLESSED** be ye of the LORD; for ye have compassion on me.)

What a story of hunting David is this chapter! In our verse today, the men of Zif came to Sha'ul to inform him of David's whereabouts, hence Sha'ul asked ADONAI to **BLESS** them for their compassion on him. What sort of **BLESSING** ADONAI would have given in this case, is very hard to discern, if any, since ADONAI was protecting David! One imagines that ADONAI would have rejected this request to **BLESS**. *11th of August 2021*.

240. **2 Samuel 2:5 CJB:** ⁵ So David sent messengers to the men of Yavesh-Gil'ad with this message: "May you be **BLESSED** by *ADONAI*, because you showed this kindness to your lord, Sha'ul, and buried him.

(KJV: ⁵ And David sent messengers unto the men of Jabesh Gilead and said unto them, **BLESSED** be ye of the LORD, that ye have shewed this kindness unto your lord, even unto Saul, and have buried him.)

In our verse today, we have David wishing the **BLESSINGS** of ADONAI to be upon the men of Yavesh-Gil'ad, for their kindness and consideration shown to the body of Sha'ul, by giving it a proper burial. The next verse gives more detail of that **BLESSING**, and verse 7 is exhorting them to be strong and brave.

14th of August 2021.

241. **2 Samuel 6:11 CJB:** ¹¹ The ark of *ADONAI* stayed in the house of 'Oved-'Edom the Gitti for three months; and *ADONAI* **BLESSED** 'Oved-Edom and all his household.

(*KJV*: ¹¹ And the ark of the LORD continued in the house of Obededom the Gittite three months: and the LORD **BLESSED** Obededom, and all his household.)

Reading this chapter down to our verse, for the context, we read the reason for the Ark being in the household of 'Oved-'Edom. Since the Ark was there for 3 months, it carried with it, a **BLESSING**. So, we read that ADONAI **BLESSED** 'Oved-'Edom and all his household. We are not told the form of this **BLESSING** here but, it would be prosperity and that may well have been Spiritual as well as material **BLESSINGS**. What a privilege, to house the Ark of God! 15th of August 2021.

242. **2 Samuel 6:12 CJB:** ¹² King David was told, "*ADONAI* has **BLESSED** the house of 'Oved-'Edom and everyone who belongs to him, thanks to the ark of God." So, David went and joyously brought the ark of God up from the house of 'Oved-Edom into the City of David.

(KJV: ¹² And it was told king David, saying, The LORD hath **BLESSED** the house of Obededom, and all that pertaineth unto him, because of the ark of God. So, David went and brought up the ark of God from the house of Obededom into the city of David with gladness.)

King David, saw the **BLESSINGS** upon the whole house of 'Oved-'Edom and realised that ADONAI wanted him to bring the Ark of God into the city of God, Yerushalayim, into the Tent (*verse 17*) prepared for it. Such was the joy of bringing up the Ark of God to its place, that they stopped on the journey to offer sacrifice to ADONAI. "Then David danced and spun around with abandon" before ADONAI, such was the joy and **BLESSINGS** of ADONAI at the bringing of the Ark of God to Yerushalayim. *16th of August 2021*.

243. **1 Chronicles 13:14 CJB:** ¹⁴ The ark of God stayed with the family of 'Oved-'Edom the Gitti in his house for three months; and *ADONAI* **BLESSED** the household of 'Oved-'Edom and all he had.

(KJV: ¹⁴ And the ark of God remained with the family of Obededom in his house three months. And the LORD **BLESSED** the house of Obededom, and all that he had.)

(**OJB**: ¹⁴ And the Aron HaElohim remained with the Bais Oved-Edom in his bais three months. And Hashem made a brocha upon the Bais Oved-Edom, and all that he had. [**T.N. When translating the OJB our team of proof-readers discovered the truth of this verse**,)

Although this story is a repeat of Study 241, it is worth thinking about why ADONAI struck out at Uza. It was simply because God had been demeaned by putting the Ark of God on a cart, instead of it being carried by the Cohanim/Levites, by the poles through the rings on the Ark, as prescribed to Moshe when the Ark was constructed. Uza was killed because he touched the sacred Ark! This is something no-one should ever do. However, we see in our verse today, that the presence of the Ark brought **BLESSINGS**, in this case to the whole house of 'Oved-'Edom. I quote the OJB here only because this revelation was seen by their translators. 17th of August 2021. 244. **1 Chronicles 26:5 CJB:** ⁵ 'Ammi'el the sixth, Yissakhar the seventh, and Pe'ultai the eighth; for God **BLESSED** him.

(KJV: ⁵ Ammiel the sixth, Issachar the seventh, Peulthai the eighth: for God BLESSED him.)

This chapter is about the divisions of the Gatekeepers. Our verse today is part of the list of the sons of 'Oved-'Edom, listing the 6th, 7th and 8th of his sons. Our verse confirms that God had **BLESSED** 'Oved-'Edon with 8 sons, a goodly **BLESSING**. 18th of August 2021.

245. **2 Samuel 7:29 CJB: ²⁹** So may it please you to **BLESS** the family of your servant and thereby cause it to continue forever in your presence. For you, *Adonai ELOHIM*, have said it. May your servant's family be **BLESSED** forever by your **BLESSING**."

(KJV: ²⁹ therefore now let it please thee to **BLESS** the house of thy servant, that it may continue for ever before thee: for thou, O Lord GOD, hast spoken it: and with thy **BLESSING** let the house of thy servant be **BLESSED** for ever.)

A very interesting chapter to read, ending in our verse today. King David had received a number of promises from ADONAI by Natan's word and here David is asking ADONAI for that promised **BLESSING**, as given in this chapter, to be for ever. The last sentence is for the family to be **BLESSED** forever by those **BLESSINGS**. As we know, the family line continued right up to the birth of our Lord Yeshua. 19th of August 2021.

246. 1 Chronicles 17:27 CJB: ²⁷ and now it has pleased you to BLESS the family of your servant and thereby cause it to continue forever in your presence. For you, ADONAI, have BLESSED, and it is BLESSED forever."
(KJV: ²⁷ now therefore let it please thee to bless the house of thy servant, that it may be before thee for ever: for thou BLESSEST, O LORD, and it shall be BLESSED for ever.)

Reading this whole chapter shows that this is a repeat of what was written in 2 Samuel 7. Not only that, our verse today, is almost word for word the same as in 2 Samuel 7:29. As in that verse, we read that ADONAI has **BLESSED** David and his descendants forever, a permanent **BLESSING** upon the house of David. 20^{th} of August 2021. 247. **2** Chronicles 31:10 CJB: ¹⁰ 'Azaryahu, the chief *Cohen*, from the house of Tzadok, answered him, "Ever since the people began bringing offerings into the house of *ADONAI*, we have had enough to eat and plenty left over; for

ADONAI has **BLESSED** his people, and what is left over is this massive supply." (*KJV*: ¹⁰ And Azariah the chief priest of the house of Zadok answered him, and said, Since the people began to bring the offerings into the house of the LORD, we have had enough to eat, and have left plenty: for the LORD hath **BLESSED** his people; and that which is left is this great store.)

Reading the chapter down to our verse today, we read that the people, having been taught what the Torah (*Teachings*) prescribed about Tithing and giving, brought an abundance to the Cohanim and L'vi'im. So much so that there was an abundance, in heaps, much more than was needed, such was the way in which ADONAI had **BLESSED** the people! The chapter continues with the orders on what was to be done with these heaps. 21st of August 2021.

248. **Job 1:10 CJB:** ¹⁰ You've put a protective hedge around him, his house and everything he has. You've prospered his work, and his livestock are spread out all over the land.

(KJV: ¹⁰ Hast not thou made an hedge about him, and about his house, and about all that he hath on every side? thou hast **BLESSED** the work of his hands, and his substance is increased in the land.)

Iyov was mightily **BLESSED** by ADONAI in all that he was and did, of which is what our verse today is telling us. Reading the whole chapter down to the end, we read here that ADONAI removed the hedge around Iyov, allowing the Adversary to attack all that Iyov had, to provoke him the curse God, to prove the Adversary correct in his assertion in verse 11. However, as we read in verses 20 and 21, Iyov did no such thing. 22nd of August 2021.

249. **Job 42:12 CJB:** ¹² *ADONAI* **BLESSED** Iyov's later situation even more than his earlier one, he had 14,000 sheep, 6,000 camels, 1,000 pairs of oxen and 1,000 female donkeys.

(*KJV*: ¹² So the LORD *BLESSED* the latter end of Job more than his beginning: for he had fourteen thousand sheep, and six thousand camels, and a thousand yoke of oxen, and a thousand she asses.)

Because Iyov did as ADONAI expected and repented in dust and ashes, did what ADONAI wanted for his friends and prayed for them, ADONAI **BLESSED** Iyov even more than he had been **BLESSED** before all those problems came upon him. We read in our verse today that he was **BLESSED** with double that which he had before (**Job 1:3**). So we read in verse 16, Iyov was also **BLESSED** with long life and saw 4 generations of his family. What an ending to his life story.

 23^{rd} of August 2021.

250. **Psalm 21:6 CJB: 6** For you bestow on him everlasting **BLESSINGS**, you make him glad, with the joy of your presence.

(KJV: ⁶ For thou hast made him most **BLESSED** for ever: thou hast made him exceeding glad, with thy countenance.)

This Psalm starts with king David telling ADONAI how he feels about knowing Him. The Psalm continues with some of the reasons for his feeling joy and in our verse today, we read that ADONAI has bestowed upon David everlasting **BLESSINGS**. David has been made glad, with the joy of His presence with him. Such **BLESSINGS** too. 24th of August 2021.

251. **Psalm 33:12 CJB:** ¹² How **BLESSED** is the nation whose God is *ADONAI*, the people he chose as his heritage!

(KJV: ¹² BLESSED is the nation whose God is the LORD; and the people whom he hath chosen for his own inheritance.)

This whole Psalm is exalting ADONAI, praising Him, declaring all His mighty works and wonders. In our verse today, we read that the nation whose God is ADONAI is **BLESSED**, the next part of the verse tells us that nation, whom He chose as His heritage (*obviously Isra'el*) is so **BLESSED**. Thank you, almighty God, that we, as true believers, are grafted into your people, **Romans 11:17**. 25th of August 2021.

252. **Psalm 37:22 CJB:** ²² For those **BLESSED** by [*ADONAI*] will inherit the land, but those cursed by him will be cut off.

(*KJV*: ²² For such as be *BLESSED* of him shall inherit the earth; and they that be cursed of him shall be cut off.)

Our verse today is the turning point of this Psalm, up to verse 21, we read all about what ADONAI will do to the wicked. The 1st part of our verse tells of how those **BLESSED** (*by ADONAI*) will inherit the land. The rest of the chapter relates how the **BLESSED** will be kept safe by ADONAI. Thank You Almighty God, that You have grafted in amongst Your **BLESSED** people, the true believers.

26th of August 2021.

253. Psalm 37:26 CJB: ²⁶ All day long he is generous and lends, and his descendants are BLESSED.
(KJV: ²⁶ He is ever merciful, and lendeth; and his seed is BLESSED.)

(Wow! This is the 1st after the halfway point of these 504 Studies.) The context for our verse today is the previous verse, 25, where it sets out those to be **BLESSED**, in our verse. Those **BLESSED** are the old because he is and has been generous and lends to those in need. Hence both he and his descendants will be **BLESSED**. 27th of August 2021.

254. **Psalm 41:2 CJB:** ²*ADONAI* will preserve them, keep them alive, and make them happy in the land. You will not hand them over to the whims of their enemies.

(*KJV*: ² *The LORD will preserve him and keep him alive; and he shall be* **BLESSED** *upon the earth: and thou wilt not deliver him unto the will of his enemies.*)

Between these translations of our verse today, we read that **BLESSED** and happy are the same, or at least closely related. Happiness is a part of being **BLESSED**, or at least a result of being **BLESSED**. Who is being **BLESSED** here? Those who care for the poor. The Lord sees all that we are and do, He rewards those who do His will, in this case caring for the poor. 28th of August 2021.

255. **Psalm 45:2 CJB:** ² You are the most handsome of men; gracious speech flows from your lips. For God has **BLESSED** you forever.

(*KJV*: ² Thou art fairer than the children of men: grace is poured into thy lips: therefore, God hath **BLESSED** thee for ever.)

One imagines that the one referred to in our verse today could be king David or king Solomon. However, my Jewish Study Bible suggests that it is a unique **Psalm** commemorating a royal wedding of, maybe, king Ahab. King Solomon had asked ADONAI for the skills etc. needed to rule righteously over His people, Isra'el. Whoever it is, the person, king or otherwise, has been **BLESSED** forever, which would suggest the line of king David and king Solomon. *29th of August 2021*.

256. Psalm 89:15 CJB: ¹⁵ How happy are the people who know the joyful shout! They walk in the light of your presence, ADONAI.
(KJV: ¹⁵ BLESSED is the people that know the joyful sound: they shall walk, O LORD, in the light of thy countenance.)

In the 1st verse of this Psalm, the writer proclaims that he will sing forever, about ADONAI's acts of grace and His faithfulness. In our verse today, in the KJV, the people know the joyful sound, which is why they are **BLESSED** (*or happy*) and part of that **BLESSING** is that they will walk in the light of Your presence or countenance. This is some **BLESSING** to know that I walk in Your presence, ADONAI. *31st of August 2021*.

257. **Psalm 112:2 CJB:** ² His descendants will be powerful on earth, a **BLESSED** generation of upright people.

(*KJV*: ² His seed shall be mighty upon earth: the generation of the upright shall be **BLESSED**.)

Verse 1 leads into our verse today, it brings to mind **Proverbs 9:10**. The result of this fear is, as in our verse, his descendants will be powerful on earth, a **BLESSED** generation of upright people, the Psalm continues telling of other things that will happen to this person or people, all forms of **BLESSINGS**. 1st of September 2021.

258. **Psalm 115:15 CJB:** ¹⁵ May you be **BLESSED** by *ADONAI*, the maker of heaven and earth.

(KJV: ¹⁵ Ye are **BLESSED** of the LORD which made heaven and earth.)

The 1st 8 verses of this Psalm is ridiculing those who mock the God of Isra'el. The next 5 verses, instruct Isra'el, the house of Aharon and those who fear ADONAI, to trust in ADONAI, who will then be **BLESSED** by ADONAI Himself, culminating in our verse today, where "May you be **BLESSED** by *ADONAI*, the maker of heaven and earth." This **BLESSING** is dependent upon trusting in ADONAI, of course. 2nd of September 2021.

259. Psalm 119:1 CJB: ¹ How happy are those whose way of life is blameless, who live by the *Torah* of *ADONAI*!
(KJV: ¹BLESSED are the undefiled in the way, who walk in the law of the LORD.)

(**NOV**. * **DLESSED** are the undefiled in the way, who wark in the law of the LORD.)

Once again, between the translations, we read an equivalence between **BLESSED** and being happy. This **BLESSING** comes as a result of living a blameless life, living by the Torah (meaning *teachings*, <u>not</u> law) of ADONAI. The following verses, 2 to 8, expand on this way of living and show how to obtain this **BLESSING** from ADONAI. 3rd of September 2021.

260. **Psalm 128:1 CJB:** ¹ How happy is everyone who fears *ADONAI*, who lives by his ways.

(AKJV: ¹BLESSED is everyone that feareth the LORD; that walketh in his ways.)

Happy and **BLESSED** are once again the same in our verse today. However, it is important to realise that this **BLESSING**, or happiness, is here ONLY for those who walk in the ways of ADONAI and in the (*Holy*) fear of Him! Hence this does NOT include those who, having been saved, relax thinking that "*I'm saved*, *everything is OK now, I can get on with the rest of my life now.*" As Tony Pearce once said, "salvation only gets one to the starting line of the Christian life!" Reading the rest of the Psalm reveals some of those **BLESSINGS**. 4th of September 2021.

261. **Psalm 128:4 CJB:** ⁴ This is the kind of **BLESSING** that will fall on him who fears *ADONAI*.

(KJV: ⁴ Behold, that thus shall the man be **BLESSED** that feareth the LORD.)

In the previous study (*on verse 1*) we read of the **BLESSING** for those who fear ADONAI and here in verse 4 we read of more **BLESSINGS** for those that fear ADONAI. Now that Isra'el is (*partially*) back in the land, I, personally, may see Yerushalayim prosper and be **BLESSED** from Tziyon. Certainly, I have seen my children's children and also their children too, having 3 great grandchildren! Finally, may there be Shalom upon Isra'el today, another **BLESSING**.

5th of September 2021.

262. **Psalm 147:13 CJB:** ¹³ For He strengthens the bars of your gates, He **BLESSES** your children within you,

(AKJV: ¹³ For he hath strengthened the bars of thy gates; he hath BLESSED thy children within thee.)

This Psalm is a Psalm of good things for those, as in verse 11, who fear Him. In our verse today, we read that "*He strengthens the bars of your gates*," protects us and "*He BLESSES your children within you*." Even the children of those who fear ADONAI are BLESSED, as we read here. Such a God we have, the LORD God of Isra'el. Amen. 6th of September 2021.

263. **Proverbs 5:18 CJB:** ¹⁸ Let thy fountain be **BLESSED**: and rejoice with the wife of thy youth.

(AKJV: 18 Let thy fountain be **BLESSED**: and rejoice with the wife of thy youth.)

Having, in verses15 to 17, written about water, in our verse today, the subject is turned to **BLESSING** the wife of my youth and the next verse, continues that theme. My wife is (*was, she died 27th of December 2013*) my fountain, the source of much joy for me and she was **BLESSED**, especially in the latter half of her life. Even now, I cannot look at any other woman and have any serious feelings for them, I am still very much in love with Sheila. She is still the fountain of my joy every time I look at the photograph of her on the door to the lounge.

7th of September 2021.

264. **Proverbs 10:7 CJB:** ⁷ The memory of the righteous will be for a **BLESSING**, but the reputation of the wicked will rot.

(AKJV: ⁷ The memory of the just is **BLESSED**: but the name of the wicked shall rot.)

As so often in the book of Proverbs, each verse tends to be a stand-alone message. In our verse today, we have a sort of "cover-all" message. When the righteous are dead and gone, the memory of them lives on as a **BLESSING**, whilst the memory (*reputation*) of the wicked rots, or is not remembered for very long, the remembrance fades away (*or rots*). So be one of the righteous ones as we live. 8th of September 2021.

265. **Proverbs 20:7 CJB:** ⁷ The righteous live a life of integrity; happy are their children after them.

(AKJV: ⁷ The just man walketh in his integrity: his children are **BLESSED** after him.)

Once again, our verse today seems to be a "stand-alone" verse. Also, again, the CJB put happy where the AKJV has **BLESSED**. We read that the children of the righteous are **BLESSED** (*happy*) which is a form of reward for one being righteous in this life. Certainly, an incentive for parents to live a righteous life today. 9th of September 2021.

266. **Proverbs 20:21 CJB:** ²¹ Possessions acquired quickly at first will not be **BLESSED** in the end.

(*AKJV*: ²¹ An inheritance may be gotten hastily at the beginning; but the end thereof shall not be **BLESSED**.)

How many people want to get rich quick by gambling? For myself, I have to admit that I hold Premium Bonds, hoping for a big prize one day, to pay off my mortgage, however, they do provide a steady income of somewhat better than the money would bring in from a savings A/c at the bank. Hence, it is not really gambling in the sense of losing money, one can always regain the money by selling the Premium Bonds. Our verse today reads that, possessions or an inheritance suddenly gained will not be **BLESSED** at the end. Dreaming of a big win is a waste of our time and efforts in gambling, as shown in our verse today. 10^{th} of September 2021. 267. **Proverbs 22:9 CJB:** ⁹ He who is generous is **BLESSED**, because he shares his food with the poor.

(AKJV: ⁹ He that hath a bountiful eye shall be **BLESSED**; for he giveth of his bread to the poor.)

On this 20th anniversary of the 11th of September 2001, we remember not only those who lost their lives in the towers, but those rescuers too, who lost their lives helping and, of course, all those who miss them all. The rescuers were generous with their lives whilst trying to help. Does this equate with sharing their food with the poor and thus are **BLESSED** too? Our verse today is showing that he is **BLESSED** who shares his food with the poor. He does this out of his generous nature. 11th of September 2021.

268. Isaiah 19:25 CJB: ²⁵ for *ADONAI-Tzva'ot* has **BLESSED** him:

"**BLESSED** be Egypt my people, Ashur the work of my hands and Isra'el my heritage."

(AKJV: : ²⁵ whom the LORD of hosts shall **BLESS**, saying, BLESSED be Egypt my people, and Assyria the work of my hands, and Israel mine inheritance.)

Having read the whole chapter, we see all that ADONAI will do to Egypt and in the last 7 verses, we see what will eventually happen to the Egyptians. In verses 23 to 25, this end is revealed. Isaiah, in our verse today, is telling that Egypt and Ashur will be **BLESSED**, along with Isra'el, His heritage. We read also in our verse, that Egypt are called His people. This prophesy, in this chapter, obviously has yet to happen. *12th of September 2021*.

269. Isaiah 51:2 CJB: ² consider Avraham your father and Sarah, who gave birth to you; in that I called him when he was only one person, then **BLESSED** him and made him many.

(AKJV: ² Look unto Abraham your father, and unto Sarah that bare you: for I called him alone, and **BLESSED** him, and increased him.)

Reading the 1st 5 verses of this chapter for the context, we read that this context is for those who seek ADONAI and pursue justice. We read that Avraham was called by ADONAI and was then **BLESSED** with many descendants according to the promise given him by ADONAI. The lesson here is that if we seek ADONAI and pursue justice, as in verse 1, all God's promises to us will be kept for us. Hallelujah! Amen. 14th of September 2021. 270. **Isaiah 61:9 CJB:** ⁹ And their seed shall be known among the Gentiles, and their offspring among the people: all that see them shall acknowledge them, that they *are* the seed *which* the LORD hath **BLESSED**.

(**AKJV**: ⁹ And their seed shall be known among the Gentiles, and their offspring among the people: all that see them shall acknowledge them, that they are the seed which the LORD hath **BLESSED**.)

Yeshua quoted the 1st couple of verses of this chapter when He went to the Synagogue in Natzeret (*Nazareth*) in **Luke 4:17-19**. In our verse today, it is referring to Isra'el and is a prophesy yet to be brought to pass. Isra'el are the seed of Avraham and are the ones that ADONAI has **BLESSED**. We see these **BLESSINGS** all through the Tanakh (*Old Testament*) - where they are not being punished for their disobedience. 15th of September 2021.

271. **Isaiah 65:23 CJB:** ²³ They will not toil in vain or raise children to be destroyed, for they are the seed **BLESSED** by *ADONAI*; and their offspring with them.

(*AKJV*: ²³ They shall not labour in vain, nor bring forth for trouble; for they are the seed of the **BLESSED** of the LORD, and their offspring with them.)

The first 16 verses of this chapter are about those who have abandoned ADONAI and what happens to them, whilst the rest of the chapter is about those who enter the new heavens and earth with Yeshua in the Millenium and at the end of time. These people are the seed, people, **BLESSED** by ADONAI and all their offspring with them. What a **BLESSING** that will be for them all. Hallelujah! Amen. 16th of September 2021.

272. Matthew 5:3 CJB: ³ "How BLESSED are the poor in spirit! for the Kingdom of Heaven is theirs.

(AKJV: ³ BLESSED are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.)

"The poor in spirit," those who struggle to understand the meaning of the Scriptures, they are **BLESSED**. Our verse today is a part of the "Sermon on the mount" and is one of 9 **BLESSINGS** Yeshua gave in that message. In our verse today, we read of the 3rd **BLESSING**, in which, those who are the poor in spirit will inherit the Kingdom of Heaven, when the time comes.

17th of September 2021.

273. Matthew 5:5 CJB: ⁵ "How BLESSED are the meek! for they will inherit the Land! {a}

(NKJV: ⁵ BLESSED are the meek, For they shall inherit the earth.) (a) Psalm 37 ¹¹ But the meek will inherit the land and delight themselves in abundant peace.

Meek? What is "meek?" It is said in **Numbers 12:3**, "Now the man Moses was very meek, above all the men which were upon the face of the earth." (*KJV*). My Young's Concordance defines "Meek" as: "*Gentle, kind, not easily provoked, ready to yield rather than cause trouble; but not used in the Bible in the bad sense of tamely submissive and servile.*" Meekness is being so strong in one's belief, that no opposition will shake that belief. In our verse today, we see that the **BLESSING** or reward for that meekness, is to inherit the land, the land of Isra'el, since Yeshua was speaking here to the disciples and the crowd who had gathered.

18th of September 2021.

274. Matthew 5:7 CJB: ⁷ "How BLESSED are those who show mercy! For they will be shown mercy.

(NKJV: ⁷ BLESSED are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy.)

In our verse today, we look at a 3rd of the **BLESSINGS** in this Sermon on the Mount, the 5th of all these **BLESSINGS**. We read that to be merciful is to be **BLESSED** with mercy oneself. The implication here is that showing mercy is part of one's nature, not a "one off" action. Please help me ADONAI, that I should have a merciful nature. 19th of September 2021.

275. Matthew 5:8 CJB: ⁸ "How BLESSED are the pure in heart! For they will see God.

(NKJV: ⁸ BLESSED are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.)

Reading our verse today, begs the question, who are the pure in heart? Or, how does one know if one qualifies? Obviously not all saved sinners or they wouldn't be mentioned as a particular type or group of people. Only this is sure, and that is that we read here they will be **BLESSED**, by the assurance here in the Word of God, that they will see God. 20th of September 2021.

276. **Matthew 5:9 CJB:** ⁹ "How **BLESSED** are those who make peace! For they will be called sons of God.

(NKJV: ⁹ BLESSED are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.)

Those **BLESSED** in our verse today are those who make peace. The **BLESSING** is in the form of being called "sons of God." That would seem to put them almost on a par with Yeshua, in God's sight. WOW! Making peace means not so much calming down arguments and wars but the whole attitude and conduct of the lives of those **BLESSED**. This means that we, every single one of us true believers, must look to the way in which we conduct our way of living day by day, even 21st of September 2021.

277. Matthew 5:10 CJB: ¹⁰ "How BLESSED are those who are persecuted because they pursue righteousness! For the Kingdom of Heaven is theirs.
(NKJV: ¹⁰ BLESSED are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.)

The **BLESSING** in our verse today is for those who pursue righteousness and, as a result are persecuted for doing so. This is especially hard to continue in righteousness in the face of persecution! That is why there is an exclamation mark after the word righteousness in the CJB. But the reward, the Kingdom of Heaven itself! The following verse amplifies the form of persecution in our verse. Thank you, Almighty God, that the persecution we have in this Western country is, so far so little, yet You give us the same **BLESSING**. Please, Almighty God, help us to cope when the persecution becomes so severe that we "fear for our lives." Amen. 22^{nd} of September 2021.

278. Matthew 13:16 CJB: ¹⁶ But you, how BLESSED are your eyes, because they see, and your ears, because they hear!

(NKJV: ¹⁶ But **BLESSED** are your eyes for they see, and your ears for they hear;)

The **BLESSED** in this context today, are those who fall into the 4th category in the first 23 verses of this chapter. In our verse today, we read that **BLESSED** are the eyes and ears of these people. This begs the question, do those in the 3rd category have a choice? Could they choose to turn their attention to the message and away from those cares? I don't know the answer here but, I trust that I belong to the 4th category. 23^{rd} of September 2021.

279. Luke 10:23 CJB: ²³ Then, turning to the *talmidim*, he said, privately, "How **BLESSED** are the eyes that see what you are seeing!

(NKJV: ²³ Then He turned to His disciples and said privately, "BLESSED are the eyes which see the things you see;)

Please read the whole chapter from the beginning down to verse 24 to know the full context of our verse today. These of Yeshua's talmidim, including the 70, had just seen and done wonderful things in the name of Yeshua. In our verse today, we see how and why they were **BLESSED** and how they <u>were</u> **BLESSED**. In verse 21, we read how Yeshua was filled with joy after hearing all that the 70 had seen and done, I'm sure that He was **BLESSED** too, by the news. *24th of September 2021*.

280. **Matthew 14:19 CJB:** ¹⁹ After instructing the crowds to sit down on the grass, he took the five loaves and the two fish and, looking up toward heaven, made a *b'rakhah*. Then he broke the loaves and gave them to the *talmidim*, who gave them to the crowds.

(NKJV: ¹⁹ Then He commanded the multitudes to sit down on the grass. And He took the five loaves and the two fish, and looking up to heaven, He BLESSED and broke and gave the loaves to the disciples; and the disciples gave to the multitudes.) (OJB: ¹⁹ And having commanded the multitudes to recline on the grass [as at tish] and having taken the five loaves and the two **dagim**, and having looked up to Shomayim, Rebbe, Melech HaMoshiach said a bracha over the okhel, and having offered the betziat halechem (the breaking of the bread), Rebbe, Melech HaMoshiach gave the lechem to the talmidim, and Moshiach's talmidim served the lechem to the multitudes)

Reading here verses 11 to 21 for the context of our verse today, we read that Yeshua made a b'rakhah to Father in Heaven. This means that He said a **BLESSING** over the loaves and fishes (*interesting that the Hebrew word for Fishes is Dagim – similar to the pagan fish god Dagon in 1 Samuel 5:3*) prior to having the disciples hand them out to the crowd. The **BLESSING** here is that the 5 loaves and 2 fish were multiplied many times over and became enough to feed the 5,000 men plus women and children and had much left over!

25th of September 2021.

281. **Matthew 26:26 CJB:** ²⁶ While they were eating, Yeshua took a piece of *matzah*, made the *b'rakhah*, broke it, gave it to the *talmidim* and said, "Take! Eat! This is my body!

(NKJV: ²⁶ And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, ^[C]**BLESSED** and broke *it*, and gave *it* to the disciples and said, "Take, eat; this is My body.") (c) See Daniel 7:13 & Psalm 110:1

Reading at least from verse 17 to 29 for the context of our verse, we read that this is Yeshua's final Passover Seder, where He instituted what we now call, communion. In our verse today, Yeshua made the b'rakhah, saying a **BLESSING** over the matzah and gave the matzah to His Disciples, telling them to eat it in remembrance of His body. He then, in the next 2 verses, did the same with the cup of wine. When we take communion today, we should remember these verses and what they led up to, the death and resurrection of our Lord and saviour. Amen. 26^{th} of September 2021.

282. **Mark 6:41 CJB:** ⁴¹ Then he took the five loaves and the two fish, and, looking up toward heaven, made a *b'rakhah*. Next, he broke up the loaves and began giving them to the *talmidim* to distribute. He also divided up the two fish among them all.

(*NKJV*: ⁴¹ And when He had taken the five loaves and the two fish, He looked up to heaven, **BLESSED** and broke the loaves, and gave them to His disciples to set before them; and the two fish He divided among them all.)

The context here begins, more or less, at verse 30 and goes down verse 44. We read again, as in the previous 2 studies, that Yeshua made a b'rakhah, which means "to say a **BLESSING**," thanking ADONAI for, in this case, what was about to happen – the multiplication of the bread and fishes. These 5 loaves and 2 fish became enough to feed a huge number of people, the men alone being 5,000, plus the women and children!!! 27^{th} of September 2021.

283. Mark 14:22 CJB: ²² While they were eating, Yeshua took a piece of *matzah*, made the *b'rakhah*, broke it, gave it to them and said, "Take it! This is my body."

(NKJV: ²² And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, BLESSED and broke it, and gave it to them and said, "Take, ^[f]eat; this is My body.) [f] the word "eat" is not in the original Hebrew

Once more we have Yeshua's final Pesach, Passover Festival, where He instituted what we now call communion, where we remember what Yeshua has done for each one of us. He did it for all, not just believers! In our verse today, Yeshua said a **BLESSING** over the matzah (*b'rakhah*) before breaking it and passing the pieces to the disciples, telling them that it was His body (*symbolically*) by which to remember Him and all that He had done and was about to do, die on the cross and be resurrected. *28th of September 2021*.

284. Luke 9:16 CJB: ¹⁶ Then he took the five loaves and the two fish and, looking up toward heaven, made a b'rakhah, broke the loaves and began giving them to the talmidim to distribute to the crowd.
(NKJV: ¹⁶ Then He took the five loaves and the two fish, and looking up to heaven, He BLESSED and broke them, and gave them to the disciples to set before the multitude.)

Please read verses 12 to 17. We read here the well-known story of the feeding of the 5,000. Once again, we read that Yeshua made a b'rakhah, **BLESSED** the loaves, before breaking them and giving out the pieces. It is from the b'rakhah, that the miracle of **BLESSING** happened and everyone was **BLESSED** by being fed and so much was left over. Thank You Father God for all your miracles. 29th of September 2021.

285. Luke 24:30 CJB: ³⁰ As he was reclining with them at the table, he took the matzah, made the b'rakhah, broke it and handed it to them.
(NKJV: ³⁰ Now it came to pass, as He sat at the table with them, that He took bread, BLESSED and broke it, and gave it to them.)

Our verse today is in the story of what happened on the road to Amma'us, probably well-known to most who read this. Please read verses 13 to 34 for the whole context. Verse 21 reveals what many people, including the disciples, thought about Yeshua prior to His death. Yeshua enlightened them in verses 25 to 27. In our verse today, we read once again of how He made a b'rakhah, said a **BLESSING** over the bread and handed the broken pieces to them, at which point, they realised who He was! David Pawson said that they would, at that point would have seen the nail marks on His wrists. *30th of September 2021*.

286. Matthew 16:17 CJB: ¹⁷ "Shim'on Bar-Yochanan," Yeshua said to him, "how BLESSED you are! For no human being revealed this to you, no, it was my Father in heaven.

(NKJV: ¹⁷ Jesus answered and said to him, "BLESSED are you, Simon Bar-Jonah, for flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but My Father who is in heaven.)

In our verse today, what a privilege granted to Kefa by God the Father! He was **BLESSED** to know who Yeshua really is, then and now. Kefa didn't guess, he hadn't heard elsewhere, he was informed by the Father in Heaven. Yeshua Himself told Kefa that he was so **BLESSED** to be told by the Father Himself. Some **BLESSING**! 1st of October 2021.

287. Matthew 24:46 CJB: ⁴⁶ It will go well with that servant if he is found doing his job when his master comes

(NKJV: ⁴⁶ BLESSED is that servant whom his master, when he comes, will find so doing.)

The 1st thing to read here is in the different translations, the NKJV puts **BLESSED** whereas the CJB puts it that "It will go well." So, what we read here is that to be **BLESSED** means that it will go well with the one(s) who receive that **BLESSING**. Thank you, Father. 2nd of October 2021.

288. Luke 12:43 CJB: ⁴³ It will go well with that servant if he is found doing his job when his master comes.

(NKJV: ⁴³ BLESSED is that servant whom his master will find so doing when he comes.)

What our verse today says, is that our Lord asks nothing more of each of us (believers) than to be found doing His will when He comes again. We shall be **BLESSED** (it will go well with us. CJB) if that is how we are found upon His return. We do not know when that will be, which is why we must be ready, doing His will when that time comes. 3^{rd} of October 2021.

289. **Matthew 25:34 CJB:** ³⁴ "Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you whom my Father has **BLESSED**, take your inheritance, the Kingdom prepared for you from the founding of the world.

(NKJV: ³⁴ Then the King will say to those on His right hand, 'Come, you **BLESSED** of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world:)

For the whole context here, please read from verse 31 to the end of the chapter. Have I, have you, helped others in need of food, drink, accommodation, clothing, care in sickness or visited those in prison? For those last, it isn't necessarily a physical prison, it could be to visit those sick or disabled at home. Those believers who have done these things, the Father has **BLESSED**. They shall take their inheritance in the Kingdom of God. Please Lord, keep us all from any form of pride as we do your will. Amen. *4th of October 2021*.

290. Mark 10:16 CJB: ¹⁶ And he took them in his arms, laid his hands on them, and made a b'rakhah over them.
(NKJV: ¹⁶ And He took them up in His arms, laid His hands on them, and BLESSED them.)

Once again, in our verse today, we see that there is a similarity between the Hebrew word b'rakhah and **BLESSING**. We read too, in the context, that Yeshua made the point, that we are to receive the Gospel as a child, in all innocence, in order to qualify to enter the Kingdom of God. We must not make it complicated for ourselves or for anyone else. Yeshua **BLESSED** the children, having laid His hands upon them. 5th of October 2021.

291. Mark 14:61 CJB: ⁶¹ But he remained silent and made no reply. Again, the Cohen hagadol questioned him: "Are you the Mashiach, Ben-HaM'vorakh?"
(NKJV: ⁶¹ But He kept silent and answered nothing. Again, the high priest asked Him, saying to Him, "Are You the Christ, the Son of the BLESSED?")

The context of our verse today starts at verse 43 and continues down to verse 15. Oh what our Lord and Messiah went through, for each one of us, to bring that salvation, but this chapter doesn't go so far to bring the whole story. HaM'vorakh is a Jewish euphemism for Yud-Heh-Vav-Hah, the name of God, given to Moshe in **Exodus 3:13-15**. The NKJV gives "Son of the **BLESSED**," which may be alluded to, but is not an accurate translation. 6th of October 2021.

292. Luke 1:28 CJB: ²⁸ Approaching her, the angel said, "*Shalom*, favoured lady! *ADONAI* is with you!"

(NKJV: ²⁸ And having come in, the angel said to her, "Rejoice, highly favoured one, the Lord is with you; [e]BLESSED are you among women!") [e] These last words are not in the original

The context here, please read it, is verses 23 to 38. It relates to the miraculous impregnation of Miryam by the Holy Spirit. The Angel told her that she was highly favoured, meaning that she had been chosen, by ADONAI, to give birth to our Lord and Saviour. 8th of October 2021.

293. Luke 1:42 CJB: ⁴² and spoke up in a loud voice, "How BLESSED are you among women! And how BLESSED is the child in your womb!
 (NKJV: ⁴² Then she spoke out with a loud voice and said, "BLESSED are you among women, and BLESSED is the fruit of your womb!)

So, what form does the **BLESSING** take in our context today? It is that Miryam is carrying the Son of God in her womb! Elisheva knew this as soon as she heard Miryam's greeting and the babe (*John the Baptiser*) also knew, even though he still had 3 months to go before being born!!! (*What does this say to the abortionists of today?*) Miryam, after being told of how **BLESSED** she is by Elisheva, immediately started to say what is now known as the Magnificat. It is well worth reading that, verses 46 to 55, as doing so will **BLESS** the reader. *9th of October 2021*.

294. Luke 1:45 CJB: ⁴⁵ Indeed you are BLESSED, because you have trusted that the promise ADONAI has made to you will be fulfilled."
(NKJV: ⁴⁵ BLESSED is she who ^[h]believed, for there will be a fulfilment of those things which were told her from the Lord.")
[h] or believed that there

This **BLESSING** upon Miryam is since she trusted that which ADONAI said, promised, to her by the Angel, Gavri'el, will be fulfilled. The words of our verse today are those of Elisheva, whereupon hearing them, Miryam uttered the Magnificat, which is well worth reading, even again. The **BLESSING** upon Miryam is that she is to bear and give birth to the Saviour of the world, Yeshua. The very word Yeshua means "salvation." Interesting that the name of the Angel ends with 'el, GOD. 10th of October 2021. 295. Luke 6:20 CJB: ²⁰ He looked at his *talmidim* and said: "How **BLESSED** are you poor! For the Kingdom of God is yours.

(NKJV: ²⁰ Then He lifted up His eyes toward His disciples, and said: 'BLESSED are you poor, for yours is the kingdom of God.)

Having just appointed His apostles, emissaries, in verses 13 to 16, we come to the sermon on the mount and our verse is the 1st of His pronouncements. Yeshua says that the poor are **BLESSED**, since the Kingdom of Heaven is theirs. This does not mean that because you are poor, the Kingdom is theirs, remember that in verse 17, He is speaking to a large crown of disciples, some of whom had come long distances just to see and hear Him. No, it is only those who follow Yeshua who are **BLESSED** in this way. *11th of October 2021*.

296. Luke 11:27 CJB: ²⁷ As Yeshua was saying these things, a woman in the crowd raised her voice to call out, "How **BLESSED** is the mother that gave birth to you and nursed you from her breast!"

(NKJV: ²⁷ And it happened, as He spoke these things, that a certain woman from the crowd raised her voice and said to Him, "BLESSED is the womb that bore You, and the breasts which nursed You!")

Our verse today and the next one, stand alone, not really part of the context. It is, of course, true and is at least part of the Roman Catholic teaching to worship Maryam. However, the RC ignores the next verse, where Yeshua tells how those who hear and obey the word of God are far more **BLESSED** than His own mother. We are not told here the form of **BLESSING** in these 2 verses.

12th of October 2021.

297. Luke 12:37 CJB: ³⁷ Happy the slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes! Yes! I tell you he will put on his work clothes, seat them at the table, and come serve them himself!

(NKJV: ³⁷ BLESSED are those servants whom the master, when he comes, will find watching. Assuredly, I say to you that he will gird himself and have them sit down to eat and will come and serve them.)

In our verse today, we read that being **BLESSED** makes one happy, doing what Yeshua, our master, wants us to be doing when He returns. The condition for that happiness is that we shall be found doing all that He expects of each of us, in His will. *13th of October 2021*. 298. Luke 12:38 CJB: ³⁸ Whether it is late at night or early in the morning, if this is how he finds them, those slaves are happy.

(NKJV: ³⁸ And if he should come in the second watch, or come in the third watch, and find them so, **BLESSED** are those servants.)

Now, what can be said, typed, that wasn't typed yesterday? We must be ready to meet Yeshua in the sky, at all times, day and night. If we are ready when He comes, we shall be **BLESSED**, happy, as in the CJB. See the condition for that **BLESSING**, in the previous study. 14th of October 2021.

299. Luke 14:14 CJB: ¹⁴ How BLESSED you will be that they have nothing with which to repay you! For you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous."

(*NKJV*: ¹⁴ And you will be **BLESSED**, because they cannot repay you; for you shall be repaid at the resurrection of the just.")

Verses 13 and 14 show us the path for all true believers to walk. What an example for us to follow. Verse 12 shows the path we should NOT walk along. We will receive a **BLESSING** from ADONAI Himself, if we look after those who can never repay us. I suggest that we each read verses 12 to 14 over and over again and let the lesson sink deep. 15th of October 2021.

300. Luke 19:38 CJB: ³⁸ "BLESSED is the King who is coming in the name of ADONAI!"^[a] "Shalom in heaven!" And "Glory in the highest places!" (NKJV: ³⁸ saying: "BLESSED is the King who comes in the name of the LORD!" Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!")
[a] Psalm 118:26

In our verse today, the crowds along the road from the Mount of Olives to Yerushalayim, were singing praises to God at the top of their voices. Our verse tells what songs they were singing. They recognised that Yeshua, coming past them, is the King and they were **BLESSING** Him, since they knew He was coming in the name of ADONAI. What joy there must have been in that crowd to sing these things like "Glory in the highest Heaven" and "Shalom in Heaven." As we read in the following verse, the P'rushim (*Pharisees*) were not at all happy with what the crowd were singing. 16^{th} of October 2021.
301. Luke 23:29 CJB: ²⁹ For the time is coming when people will say, 'The childless women are the lucky ones, those whose wombs have never borne a child, whose breasts have never nursed a baby!

(NKJV: ²⁹ For indeed the days are coming in which they will say, BLESSED are the barren, wombs that never bore, and breasts which never nursed!')

In our verse today, Yeshua is telling the women who were crying for Him, don't cry for me, but know that a time is coming when childless women are the **BLESSED** ones. For Yeshua knew what was coming (*in* 70 AD) when times would be so bad that they would cry out, as in verse 30. When that time would come, they would realise the truth of what Yeshua told them in our verse, they would not have children to mourn over, killed by the roman soldiers. 17^{th} of October 2021.

302. Luke 24:50 CJB: ⁵⁰ He led them out toward Beit-Anyah; then, raising his hands, he said a *b'rakhah* over them;

(NKJV: ⁵⁰ And He led them out as far as Bethany, and He lifted up His hands and BLESSED them.)

In our verse today, the CJB uses the Hebrew word "b'rakhah" but this word means **BLESSING**. This is confirmed in verse 51. The form of **BLESSING** in this context, is shown in verse 49, where we read that the Talmidim (*disciples*) will be equipped or **BLESSED** with power from above. Hallelujah! What a God we serve! Amen. Amen. 18th of October 2021.

303. Luke 24:51 CJB: ⁵¹ and as he was **BLESSING** them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven.

(NKJV: ⁵¹ Now it came to pass, while He **BLESSED** them, that He was parted from them and carried up into heaven.)

In verses 50 and 51, we glean, that a "b'rakhah" and **BLESSING** are very similar, if not the same. We read in our verse (51) that as Yeshua **BLESSED** the talmidim, disciples, He withdrew from them and was carried up into Heaven. What was the form of this **BLESSING**? This we read in the previous verses, 44 to 49, they were to be equipped with understanding and power from above. 19th of October 2021.

304. Galatians 3:9 CJB: ⁹So then, those who rely on trusting and being faithful are BLESSED along with Avraham, who trusted and was faithful.
 (NKJV: ⁹So then those who are of faith are BLESSED with believing Abraham.)

What we read in our verse today, is that only by trusting and being faithful can we be **BLESSED** (*by ADONAI*). Following any sort of rule(*s*) including the Torah, will NOT allow us to gain entry to Heaven. In *our verse*, we are reminded that Avraham was accounted as righteous only because he trusted and was faithful. We shall only be **BLESSED** if we trust in and, are faithful to our Lord and saviour, Yeshua. 20th of October 2021.

305. **Ephesians 1:3 CJB:** ³ Praised be *ADONAI*, Father of our Lord Yeshua the Messiah, who in the Messiah has **BLESSED** us with every spiritual **BLESSING** in heaven.

(NKJV: ³ **BLESSED** *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has **BLESSED** us with every spiritual **BLESSING** in the heavenly *places* in Christ,)

All glory honour and praises are due to our God! We, true believers, have, as in our verse today, been **BLESSED** with every spiritual **BLESSING**. These **BLESSINGS** are listed in the following verses down to verse 14. Such **BLESSINGS** bestowed upon us. Thank you, Father God. Hallelujah! Amen. Amen. 21st of October 2021.

306. **James 1:25 CJB:** ²⁵ But if a person looks closely into the perfect *Torah*, which gives freedom, and continues, becoming not a forgetful hearer but a doer of the work it requires, then he will be **BLESSED** in what he does.

(NKJV: ²⁵ But he who looks into the perfect law of liberty and continues in it and is not a forgetful hearer but a doer of the work, this one will be **BLESSED** in what he does.)

The essential thing to obtain this **BLESSING** in our verse, is to be doer of the work given in the Torah. Now many people think that the Torah is irrelevant today but our verse today, gives the lie to that error! Verses 26 and 27 give the truth of that situation! We are called to do the work outlined in the Torah some of which are referred to in verse 27, not religiously following the observances and sacrificial ordinances in the Torah. If we do the work, then we shall be **BLESSED**, as in our verse today. 22^{nd} of October 2021.

307. **Revelation 14:13 CJB:** ¹³ Next I heard a voice from heaven saying, "Write: 'How **BLESSED** are the dead who die united with the Lord, from now on!' 'Yes,' says the Spirit, 'now they may rest from their efforts, for the things they have accomplished follow along with them.""

(NKJV: ¹³ Then I heard a voice from heaven saying ^[1]to me, write: **BLESSED** are the dead who die in the Lord from now on.'" "Yes," says the Spirit, "that they may rest from their labours, and their works follow them.")

The dead in our verse today are those who have died doing the Will of ADONAI, dying in the Lord, they are the ones **BLESSED**. This is during the Tribulation, for they will have been killed by the anti-Christ because they were doing the Will of ADONAI, which the anti-Christ was doing his best to stop. *24th of October 2021*.

BLESSED God the object

308. Genesis 9:26 CJB: ²⁶ Then he said, "BLESSED be ADONAI, the God of Shem; Kena'an will be their servant.
(NKJV: ²⁶ And he said: "BLESSED be the LORD, The God of Shem, And may Canaan be his servant.)

Having read verses 20 to 27, we read that Noach (*Noah*) had planted a vineyard and drunk some of the proceeds, wine. Probably not realising how much, he became drunk. His youngest son, Ham, went into the tent and found his father, naked, went out and told his brothers. When Noah awoke and realised what had happened, he **BLESSED** ADONAI, the God Shem followed and cursed Kena'an the son of Ham, who would be the servant to Yefet and Shem. *26th of October 2021*.

309. Genesis 24:27 CJB: ²⁷ Then he said, "BLESSED be ADONAI, God of my master Avraham, who has not abandoned his faithful love for my master; because ADONAI has guided me to the house of my master's kinsmen."
(NKJV: ²⁷ And he said, "BLESSED be the LORD God of my master Abraham, who has not forsaken His mercy and His truth toward my master. As for me, being on the way, the LORD led me to the house of my master's brethren.")

This, the longest serving of Avraham's servants (and probably the most reliable) was seemingly overcome by the mercy of ADONAI in guiding him straight to the house of his master's kinsmen. Hence, he **BLESSED** ADONAI for that miracle of His guidance. He must have been so surprised at realising what ADONAI had done for him. 28th of October 2021.

310. **Exodus 18:10 CJB:** ¹⁰ Yitro said, "**BLESSED** be *ADONAI*, who has rescued you from the Egyptians and from Pharaoh, who has rescued the people from the harsh hand of the Egyptians.

(**NKJV**: ¹⁰ And Jethro said, "**BLESSED** be the LORD, who has delivered you out of the hand of the Egyptians and out of the hand of Pharaoh, and who has delivered the people from under the hand of the Egyptians.)

In verse 1 of this chapter, we read that Yitro, Moshe's father-in-law, was a priest in Midyan, who had brought back Moshe's wife and children. After hearing all about what ADONAI had done in bringing the children of Isra'el out of Egypt, we read in our verse today, how Yitro **BLESSED** ADONAI for rescuing all Isra'el out of Egypt. We are not told of the form of **BLESSING** that Yitro offered, but it would have been much praise and adoration of ADONAI. 29th of October 2021.

Ruth 4:14 CJB: ¹⁴ Then the women said to Na'omi, "BLESSED
 be ADONAI, who today has provided you a redeemer! May his name be renowned in Isra'el.

(NKJV: ¹⁴ Then the women said to Naomi, "BLESSED be the LORD, who has not left you this day without a ^[f]close relative; and may his name be famous in Israel!)

What a story in this whole Book of Ruth! Do read the whole chapter to have most of the context of our verse today. Here we have Rut, who clung to Na'omi when she returned to Beit Lechem, her origins. Rut here becomes the Grandmother of David. The local women called out to ADONAI, **BLESSING** Him, since He had now given Na'omi a redeemer, she who had, in Moav, lost her husband and both her sons, was now to be the Great Grandmother of David. Some **BLESSING**! *30th of October 2021*.

(Today would have been Sheila's 86th birthday.)

312. **1 Samuel 25:32 CJB:** ³² David said to Avigayil, "**BLESSED**

be ADONAI the God of Isra'el, who sent you today to meet me; (NKJV: ³² Then David said to Abigail: "BLESSED is the LORD God of Israel, who sent you this day to meet me!)

David, said to Avigayil, "**BLESSED** be ADONAI the God of Isra'el, who sent you today to meet me." David realised that it was God who had sent Avigayil to him to prevent him from committing murder. What some today might call a Godincidence. What a God we have! All **BLESSINGS**, glory, honour and praises to Him! Amen. 31st of October 2021.

313. **1 Samuel 25:39 CJB**: ³⁹ When David heard that Naval was dead, he said, "**BLESSED** be *ADONAI* for having taken my side in the matter of Naval's insult and for having prevented his servant from doing anything bad. On the contrary, *ADONAI* has caused Naval's bad deeds to return on his own head." Then David sent a message that he wanted to make Avigayil his own wife.

(NKJV: ³⁹ So when David heard that Nabal was dead, he said, **BLESSED** be the LORD, who has pleaded the cause of my reproach from the hand of Nabal and has kept His servant from evil! For the LORD has returned the wickedness of Nabal on his own head." And David sent and proposed to Abigail, to take her as his wife.)

Again, as in the previous study, David **BLESSED** ADONAI for preventing him from wrongdoing and returning Naval's bad deeds upon his own head. We can realise here, that David's **BLESSING** ADONAI would likely be giving thanks to Him for what He had just done. Also, David was so impressed by Avigayil that he called for her to be his wife, since she was now a widow. *1st of November 2021*.

314. 2 Samuel 18:28 CJB: ²⁸ Achima'atz called to the king, "Shalom," prostrated himself before the king with his face to the ground and said,
"BLESSED be ADONAI your God, who has handed over the men who rebelled against my lord the king."

(NKJV: ²⁸ So Ahimaaz called out and said to the king, ^[g]"All is well!" Then he bowed down with his face to the earth before the king, and said BLESSED be the LORD your God, who has delivered up the men who raised their hand against my lord the king!")
[g] Peace be to you

Achima'atz wanted to be the one to tell king David what had happened to his son, Avshalom, but Yoav said not and sent an Ethiopian. Achima'atz out-ran the Ethiopian and told king David, "**BLESSED** be *ADONAI* your God, who has handed over the men who rebelled against my lord the king." The Ethiopian ran and also told the king, in a roundabout way, that his son was dead. Achima'atz had thought that the king would be pleased to hear the news but, as we read in the next chapter, it was not what king David wanted to hear at all.

> 2nd of November 2021. (Today would have been our 64th Wedding Anniversary)

315. **1 Kings 1:48 CJB:** ⁴⁸ Finally, the king said, **'BLESSED** be *ADONAI* the God of Isra'el, who has given someone to sit on my throne today, when my own eyes can see it."

(*NKJV*: ⁴⁸ Also the king said thus, '**BLESSED** be the LORD God of Israel, who has given one to sit on my throne this day, while my eyes see it!'")

In our verse today, king David **BLESSED** ADONAI, the God of Isra'el because Shlomo had been made king over Isra'el in place of David. This was David's desire, since he was now old and knew that he could no longer effectively rule God's people. David **BLESSED** ADONAI as a form of thanks for doing what David had wanted. *3rd of November 2021.* 316. **1 Kings 5:7 CJB:** ⁷ When Hiram heard Shlomo's message, he was very happy and said, "**BLESSED** be *ADONAI* today, who has given David a wise son to rule this great people."

(**NKJV**: ⁷ So it was, when Hiram heard the words of Solomon, that he rejoiced greatly and said, **BLESSED** be the LORD this day, for He has given David a wise son over this great people!)

For the context of our verse today, please read verses 1 to 10 of this chapter (*in the CJB, this is verses 15 to 24*). Shlomo had sent a message to Hiram asking for Cedar trees and our verse today is the reply of Hiram. He **BLESSED** ADONAI for giving his friend, David, such a wise son to rule over this great people, Isra'el. The **BLESSING** in this context would be to give ADONAI praise.

4th of November 2021.

317. 1 Kings 8:15 CJB: ¹⁵ as he said: "BLESSED be ADONAI, the God of Isra'el, who spoke to my father David with his mouth and fulfilled his promise with his hand. He said,

(NKJV: ¹⁵ And he said: "BLESSED be the LORD God of Israel, who spoke with His mouth to my father David, and with His hand has fulfilled it, saying,)

In our verse today, Shlomo **BLESSED** ADONAI for all the He had done in fulfilling His promise to David. This **BLESSING** of ADONAI would be giving praise and glory and honour to the Lord God of His people, Isra'el. This would have been done by Shlomo with heartfelt thanks to ADONAI for all that He had done.

5th of November 2021.

318. 1 Kings 8:56 CJB: ⁵⁶ "BLESSED be ADONAI, who has given rest to his people Isra'el, in accordance with everything he promised. Not one word has failed of his good promise, which he made through Moshe his servant.
(NKJV: ⁵⁶ "BLESSED be the LORD, who has given rest^[k] to His people Israel, according to all that He promised. There has not failed one word of all His good promise, which He promised through His servant Moses.)

[k] Peace

Shlomo had been praying extensive prayers to ADONAI whilst kneeling before the Altar, with his hands extended toward Heaven. In our verse today, he had stood up to **BLESS** ADONAI for all He had done for His people, keeping every one of His promises. He **BLESSED** ADONAI for all these things. *6th of November 2021*.

319. **1 Kings 10:9 CJB: 9 BLESSED** be *ADONAI* your God, who took pleasure in you to put you on the throne of Isra'el. Because of *ADONAI*'s eternal love for Isra'el, he has made you king, to administer judgment and justice fairly."

(*NKJV*: ⁹ *BLESSED* be the LORD your God, who delighted in you, setting you on the throne of Israel! Because the LORD has loved Israel forever, therefore He made you king, to do justice and righteousness.")

The queen of Sh'va, after she had tested Shlomo to the fullest extent of her ability, in our verse today, **BLESSED** ADONAI, the God of Isra'el, for having made Shlomo king over Isra'el and for His eternal love for Isra'el. The queen of Sh'va **BLESSED** ADONAI for the wisdom and prosperity He gave to Shlomo. As we see in the following verse, she then gave Shlomo FOUR <u>TONS</u> OF <u>GOLD</u>! Now to give 4 pounds of gold would be of enormous value, but FOUR TONS!? Such an admiration for the God of Isra'el and for what He had done!?!

7th of November 2021.

320. **1 Chronicles 16:36 CJB: ³⁶ BLESSED** be *ADONAI*, the God of Isra'el, from eternity past to eternity future!" All the people said, "*Amen*!" and praised *ADONAI*.

(NKJV: ³⁶ BLESSED be the LORD God of Israel from everlasting to everlasting! And all the people said, "Amen!" and praised the LORD.)

Having just read verses 8 to 36 of this chapter, I feel exalted for all the praise and honour and glory accorded to ADONAI here in this passage! It finishes by **BLESSING** ADONAI, the God of Isra'el for all eternity, to which all the people said Amen. Having read the whole passage, how can anyone not **BLESS** ADONAI with so much praise? *9th of November 2021.* 321. **2** Chronicles 2:12 CJB: ¹² Huram continued, "BLESSED be *ADONAI*, the God of Isra'el, who made heaven and earth, who has given David, the king, a wise, knowledgeable son with common sense to build a house for *ADONAI* and a royal palace for himself.

(NKJV: ¹²[Hiram also said: BLESSED be the LORD God of Israel, who made heaven and earth, for He has given King David a wise son, endowed with prudence and understanding, who will build a temple for the LORD and a royal house for himself!)

Huram, the king of Tzor, praised ADONAI and in our verse today, wrote: **BLESSED** be ADONAI, the God of Isra'el for giving his friend, king David, such a wise and knowledgeable with common sense, to build a house for ADONAI. This praise is the form of **BLESSING** to ADONAI. Huram, in our verse today, was acknowledging that ADONAI made the Heaven and earth. 10th of November 2021.

322. **2** Chronicles 6:4 CJB: ⁴ as he said, "BLESSED be *ADONAI*, the God of Isra'el, who spoke to my father David with his mouth and fulfilled his promise with his hand. He said,

(NKJV: ⁴ And he said: "BLESSED be the LORD God of Israel, who has fulfilled with His hands what He spoke with His mouth to my father David, saying,)

In our verse today, Shlomo, having built the Temple and dedicated it to ADONAI, the God of Isra'el, he said, **BLESSED** be the God of Isra'el. He said this because ADONAI had fulfilled His promise to David, Shlomo's father. That particular promise by ADONAI, was that David's son, Shlomo, would build the house for the name of ADONAI. Hence, Shlomo said to the whole community of Isra'el, **BLESSED** be ADONAI as in our verse. *11th of November 2021*.

323. 2 Chronicles 9:8 CJB: ⁸ BLESSED be ADONAI your God, who took pleasure in you to put you on his throne, so that you could be king for ADONAI your God. Because of your God's love for Isra'el, to establish them forever, he has made you king over them, to administer law and judgment."
(NKJV: ⁸ BLESSED be the LORD your God, who delighted in you, setting you on His throne to be king for the LORD your God! Because your God has loved Israel, to establish them forever, therefore He made you king over them, to do justice and righteousness.")

As it says in verse 4 of this Chapter, the wisdom of Shlomo left her <u>breathless</u>! Please read the 1st 9 verses of this chapter for the full context of our verse today. The queen of Sh'va **BLESSED** ADONAI for putting such a man of wisdom on the throne of Isra'el. She also **BLESSED** ADONAI for His love for His people, Isra'el and to establish them as a people forever. 12th of November 2021.

324. **Ezra 7:27 CJB:** ²⁷ **BLESSED** be *ADONAI*, the God of our ancestors, who has put such a thing as this in the heart of the king, to restore the beauty of the house of *ADONAI* in Yerushalayim,

(*NKJV*: ²⁷ *BLESSED* be the LORD God of our fathers, who has put such a thing as this in the king's heart, to beautify the house of the LORD which is in Jerusalem,)

Please read verses 21 to 28 of this chapter, to find the full context of our verse today. In our verse we read that Ezra **BLESSED** the Lord God of their fathers. As we read on in the verse, we see why he did so. He **BLESSED** the Lord God of Isra'el for what He had put into the heart of Artach'shashta (*Artaxerxes*) the king to restore the beauty of the house of ADONAI in Yerushalayim. The **BLESSING** here was of thanks. *13th of November 2021*.

325. Psalm 28:6 CJB: ⁶ BLESSED be ADONAI, for he heard my voice as I prayed for mercy.
(NKJV: ⁶ BLESSED be the LORD, Because He has heard the voice of my supplications!)

In our verse today, David says "**BLESSED** be ADONAI" for He heard his voice as he prayed for mercy. In verses 1 and 2, David is pleading to be heard, in verses 3 to 6, he is asking ADONAI that he not be dragged off with the wicked. In our verse today, he **BLESSES** ADONAI, for He has heard him. In the last 2 verses, he extols ADONAI for what He is to David. **BLESSING** in our context is giving thanks. 14th of November 2021.

326. **Psalm 31:21 CJB:** ²¹ **BLESSED** be *ADONAI*! For he has shown me his amazing grace when I was in a city under siege.

(NKJV: ²¹ BLESSED be the LORD, For He has shown me His marvellous kindness in a ^[]strong city!)

[j] fortified

In our verse today, we read that David **BLESSED** ADONAI for showing him His amazing grace when he was besieged. In the next verse, we read that ADONAI heard his pleas when he cried out to Him. In our verse we realise that the **BLESSING** here is of thanks, not just words but David was giving his heartfelt thanks, he was truly grateful. *15th of November 2021.*

327. Psalm 41:13 CJB: ¹³ BLESSED be ADONAI the God of Isra'el from eternity past to eternity future. Amen. Amen.
 (NKJV: ¹³ BLESSED be the LORD God of Israel from everlasting to everlasting! Amen and Amen.)

Reading this whole short Psalm reveals why David is **BLESSING** ADONAI in our verse today. David is **BLESSING** ADONAI for all eternity. David is thanking Him for all that He has done for him, upholding him in the face of his enemies, hearing and answering David's requests and prayers. Verse 4 brought tears to my eyes when I realised that it is talking about me. *16th of November 2021*.

328. **Psalm 68:19 CJB:** ¹⁹**Blessed** be *Adonai*! Every day he bears our burden, does God, our salvation. *(Selah)*

(NKJV: ¹⁹ BLESSED be the Lord, who daily loads us with benefits, the God of our salvation! Selah)

The context of this passage, including our verse today, in the CJB, is from verse 19 to verse 23. In our verse itself, we read that David is saying: "Blessed be Adonai! Every day he bears our burden, does God, our salvation." This means that he is calling for ADONAI to be BLESSED, since He is carrying our burden, our sins and the consequences of them. BLESS in this context is to praise and worship Him (*please see the Bible study on the word WORSHIP*) for He alone is worthy for what He has done for us. At the end of this verse (and many others) is the word Selah, which means, roughly, think about what you have just read and what it means for you and I.

329. **Psalm 72:18 CJB:** ¹⁸ **BLESSED** be *ADONAI*, God, the God of Isra'el, who alone works wonders.

(NKJV: ¹⁸ BLESSED be the LORD God, the God of Israel, who only does wondrous things!)

Somewhat confusingly, this Psalm is headed, "A Psalm of Solomon - Shlomo" and the last verse reads, "The Prayers of David..." So, it is not certain which one said to **BLESS** ADONAI, probably both. However, the important thing is "**BLESSED** be ADONAI, God, The God of Isra'el, who alone works wonders," for He alone is worthy of all praise and **BLESSINGS**. **BLESSINGS** in this context is praise.

18th of November 2021.

330. **Psalm 89:52 CJB:** ⁵² **BLESSED** be ADONAI forever. Amen. Amen. (NKJV: ⁵² BLESSED be the LORD forevermore! Amen and Amen.)

Having read from verse 46 to our verse today, the passage cries out to ADONAI for help but, apparently, sees none. In spite of all this, in our verse, the writer calls out: "**BLESSED** be *ADONAI* forever. *Amen. Amen.*" The truth is that no matter what happens, however bad things get, ADONAI is still to be **BLESSED** for ever, since He is always on our side and uses bad things for our ultimate good, even when it doesn't seem so to our eyes. The double Amen is typical Hebrew.

19th of November 2021.

331. Psalm 106:48 CJB: ⁴⁸ BLESSED be ADONAI, the God of Isra'el, from eternity past to eternity future. Now let all the people say, "Amen! Halleluyah!"

(NKJV: ⁴⁸ Blessed be the LORD God of Israel from everlasting to everlasting! And let all the people say, "Amen!" ^[I]Praise the LORD!)

[l] Heb. Hallelujah

As one reads through this rather long Psalm, where one reads about all the sins of Isra'el and how ADONAI destroyed those who spat in His face, yet continually forgave the majority and rescued them time and time again. Little wonder that in our verse today, the Psalmist cries out "BLESSED be *ADONAI*, the God of Isra'el, from eternity past to eternity future," for all that He has done, then and now. As one looks back at one's own past and realise all the ADONAI has done for us, so we too must BLESS Him and as in the previous verse, thank Him and glory in His name. <u>HALLELUJAH!</u> Amen. Amen. 20th of November 2021.

332. Psalm 124:6 CJB: ⁶ BLESSED be ADONAI, who did not leave us to be a prey for their teeth! (NKJV: ⁶ BLESSED be the LORD, who has not given us as prey to their teeth.)

David starts this Psalm by recounting how ADONAI had saved the people of Isra'el from their enemy. Hence, in our verse today, he calls out "BLESSED be ADONAI" since He did not leave them to their enemies. BLESS in our context, the whole Psalm, is a form of giving thanks. 21st of November 2021.

333. Psalm 135:21 CJB: ²¹ BLESSED be ADONAI out of Tziyon, he who dwells in Yerushalayim! Halleluyah!
 (NKJV: ²¹ BLESSED be the LORD out of Zion, who dwells in Jerusalem! Praise the LORD!)

Our psalm today starts and ends with Hallelujah and then goes on to list some of the wonders ADONAI has done to His people, Isra'el, verses 19 and 20 are for 4 parts of Isra'el told to **BLESS** ADONAI. In our verse today ADONAI is to be **BLESSED** "out of Tziyon" as He dwells in Yerushalayim. **BLESS** in our context today is to praise and honour and glorify Him in the eyes of all. Hallelujah! Amen. Amen.

 22^{nd} of November 2021.

334. **Psalm 144:1 CJB:** ^{1.} **BLESSED** be *ADONAI*, my rock, who trains my hands for war and my fingers for battle.

(*NKJV*: ^{1.} *BLESSED* be the LORD my Rock, who trains my hands for war, and my fingers for battle—)

King David is, in our verse today, **BLESSING** and hence praising ADONAI, his Rock since He trains David's Hands and even fingers for war. David goes on, in this Psalm, to extol ADONAI for what He does for him, including saving him from the sword (verse 10) and other mercies. 23rd of November 2021. 335. Zechariah 11:5 CJB: ⁵ Their buyers kill them and go unpunished; while those who sell them say, '*Barukh ADONAI*! Now I'm rich!' Even their own shepherds show them no pity.

(NKJV: ⁵ whose owners slaughter them and feel no guilt; those who sell them say, 'BLESSED be the LORD, for I am rich'; and their shepherds do not pity them.)

In our verse today, the buyers of sheep say, "Barukh ADONAI" or "**BLESS** the Lord" in the KJV. They are saying this because they are making money in the buying and slaughter of the sheep, the sheep being the people. This is a false praise, just the "done thing" in Isra'el. The next verse shows what ADONAI will do with Isra'el as a result of the way they are conducting their way of life.

24th of November 2021.

336. Luke 1:68 CJB: ⁶⁸ "Praised be *ADONAI*, the God of Isra'el,^[d] because he has visited and made a ransom to liberate his people....

(NKJV: ⁶⁸ "BLESSED is the Lord God of Israel, For He has visited and redeemed His people,)

[d]Psalms 41:14(13); 72:18; 106:48

Read verses 57 to 79 for the full context of our verse. Our verse today, is the start of the prophesy Z'kharyah gave as soon as his speech was returned to him. The prophesy starts by praising ADONAI, **BLESSING** Him in the NKJV, acknowledging Him as the God of Isra'el, going on in the prophesy to give some of the reasons why ADONAI should be praised, which is the form of the **BLESSING** in this context. 25th of November 2021.

337. Genesis 14:20 CJB: ²⁰ and BLESSED be *El 'Elyon*, who handed your enemies over to you." Avram gave him a tenth of everything.
(*NKJV: ²⁰ And BLESSED be God Most High, who has delivered your enemies into your hand." And he gave him ^[f]a tithe of all.)
^{[f] One tenth}*

For the context of our verse today, please read from verse 10 to the end of the chapter, please read carefully, verse 21 to the end. Now upon Avram's return, he was met by Malki-Tzedek (*Melchizedek*) the king of Shalem and a Cohen of El Elyon (*God Most High*) who **BLESSED** Avram by El Elyon and, in our verse today, **BLESSED** El Elyon. We then read that Avram gave Malki-Tzedek a tenth of everything. Now this is so commonly thought that Avram tithed of all he had, but this is not so, which is why understanding the context here is so important, Avram gave Malki-Tzedek a tenth (*tithe*) of all the spoil he had brought from the battle!"

26th of November 2021.

338. **Joshua 22:33 CJB:** ³³ What they said satisfied the people of Isra'el. The people of Isra'el **BLESSED** God and said no more about going to wage war against the descendants of Re'uven and Gad and destroying the land where they lived.

(NKJV: ³³ So the thing pleased the children of Israel, and the children of Israel **BLESSED** God; they spoke no more of going against them in battle, to destroy the land where the children of Reuben and Gad dwelt.)

What a kerfuffle between the tribes of Isra'el over an altar built by the tribes of Reuven, Gad and the half tribe of M'nasheh. Reading the whole chapter to find what it was all about, we read in our verse today that the explanation given, for the altar, satisfied them and they **BLESSED** God and forgot any thoughts of going to war against the 2 ½ tribes. In the next verse, we read that the altar was called "Ed," meaning "a witness." The form of **BLESSING** of God here by the main part of Isra'el, was obviously to offer praise and glory to Him.

27th of November 2021.

339. **2 Samuel 22:47 CJB:** ⁴⁷ "ADONAI is alive! **BLESSED** is my Rock! Exalted be God, the Rock of my salvation,

(NKJV: 47 "The LORD lives! BLESSED be my Rock! Let God be exalted, the Rock of my salvation!)

ADONAI is alive! What a start to a Bible Study on a word is this verse! **BLESSED** is my rock it reads! Such is our God that He is to be **BLESSED**, given all the glory, honour and praises due to His name! Next it reads that ADONAI is to be exalted for He is the rock of my, your and all believers, of our salvation. There is no other God who is so high and exalted and is the rock of our salvation. Hallelujah. Amen. *28th of November 2021*.

340. **Psalm 18:46 CJB:** ⁴⁶) "ADONAI is alive! **BLESSED** is my Rock! Exalted be the God of my salvation,

(NKJV: ⁴⁶ The LORD lives! **BLESSED** be my Rock! Let the God of my salvation be exalted.)

Having read through the whole Psalm, we now read our verse today, where David is **BLESSING** ADONAI, exalting Him that He is alive, his rock and his salvation. What a wonderful God! **BLESSING** in our context today is to praise and exalt his God, for there is no other, was not and never will be any other God but our Lord God of Isra'el. ADONAI alone is worthy of all glory, honour, **BLESSINGS** and praise. Hallelujah! Amen. *30th of November 2021*. 341. **1 Chronicles 29:10 CJB:** ¹⁰ as he **BLESSED** *ADONAI* before the entire community: "**BLESSED** be you, *ADONAI*, the God of Isra'el our father, forever and ever.

(NKJV: ¹⁰ Therefore David **BLESSED** the LORD before all the assembly; and David said: "**BLESSED** are You, LORD God of Israel, our Father, forever and ever.)

In our chapter today from verse 1, we read that the items for the preparations for the Temple, were gathered together, from king David and from the people of Isra'el, almost mind-boggling quantities of gold, silver, bronze and iron etc. Little wonder that David, in our verse today **BLESSED** ADONAI before the people, saying, "**BLESSED** be you, *ADONAI*, the God of Isra'el our father, forever and ever." Having read the chapter down to verse 13 at least, we read that David's form of **BLESSING** ADONAI was to give thanks and praise, to the name of God into eternity. 1st of December 2021.

342. **1 Chronicles 29:20 CJB:** ²⁰ Then David said to all the community, "Now **BLESS** *ADONAI* your God." All the community **BLESSED** *ADONAI*, the God of their ancestors, bowing their heads and prostrating themselves before *ADONAI* and before the king.

(NKJV: ²⁰ Then David said to all the assembly, "Now **BLESS** the LORD your God." So all the assembly **BLESSED** the LORD God of their fathers, and bowed their heads and prostrated themselves before the LORD and the king.)

In our verse today, having read in the previous verses of the chapter all that had been given to ADONAI for His house, king David told all Isra'el to **BLESS** ADONAI, which the whole community did, worshipping Him by prostrating themselves and bowing their heads (*which are true worship, not singing*). Thus, we read today, that here, a form of **BLESSING** is to give true worship to God and, in this case, to king David also. 2nd of December 2021. 343. **2** Chronicles 20:26 CJB: ²⁶ On the fourth day, they assembled in the Valley of B'rakhah [BLESSING], where they BLESSED *ADONAI*; hence that place is called the Valley of B'rakhah to this day.

(NKJV: ²⁶ And on the fourth day they assembled in the Valley of ^[g]Berachah, for there they **BLESSED** the LORD; therefore the name of that place was called The Valley of Berachah until this day.) ^[g] Lit. **BLESSING**

For the context of our verse today, one needs to read the whole chapter. ADONAI, their God, had given them victory over their enemies and all they had done was to look at the results of what the Lord had done to those enemies! Hence, the people of ADONAI gathered in the Valley of B'rakhah (*meaning BLESSING*) and they **BLESSED** ADONAI for what He had done for them. Valley of B'rakhah was the name of that valley from there on forward. *4th of December 2021*.

344. 2 Chronicles 31:8 CJB: ⁸ When Hizkiyahu and the leaders came and saw the heaps, they BLESSED ADONAI and his people Isra'el.
(NKJV: ⁸ And when Hezekiah and the leaders came and saw the heaps, they BLESSED the LORD and His people Israel.)

Having read this chapter from the beginning down to verse 10, it became obvious what these heaps were. Hizkiyahu and the leaders **BLESSED** ADONAI when they saw them and realised what they were. One might imagine that this **BLESSING** would have been an almighty **HALLELUYAH**!!! Giving praise to Him. Amen. 5th of December 2021.

345. Nehemiah 8:6 CJB: ⁶ 'Ezra BLESSED ADONAI, the great God; and all the people answered, "Amen! Amen!" as they lifted up their hands, bowed their heads and fell prostrate before ADONAI with their faces to the ground.
(NKJV: ⁶ And Ezra BLESSED the LORD, the great God. Then all the people answered, "Amen, Amen!" while lifting up their hands. And they bowed their heads and worshiped the LORD with their faces to the ground.)

Ezra BLESSED ADONAI ... and all the people said Amen! Amen! The people had gathered together at the Water Gate for Ezra to read to them, the Torah (*teaching*, *not Law*) of Moshe. The people then fell, prostrate, before ADONAI, for the reading. This BLESSING by Ezra was to give glory, honour and praises to the great God (*of Isra'el*) whose teaching he was about to read to the people. 6th of December 2021.

346. Nehemiah 9:5 CJB: ⁵ Then the *L'vi'im* Yeshua, Kadmi'el, Bani, Hashavn'yah, Sherevyah, Hodiyah, Sh'vanyah and P'tachyah said, "Stand up, and BLESS *ADONAI* your God from everlasting to everlasting; let them say: "BLESSED be Your glorious name, exalted above all blessing and praise!

(NKJV: ⁵ And the Levites, Jeshua, Kadmiel, Bani, Hashabniah, Sherebiah, Hodijah, Shebaniah, and Pethahiah, said: "Stand up and **BLESS** the LORD your God Forever and ever! "**BLESSED** be Your glorious name, which is exalted above all blessing and praise!)

Upon the L'vi'im instructing them, in our verse today, the people stood up to **BLESS** their eternal God, ADONAI. Their **BLESSING** of ADONAI is as recorded in the last sentence of our verse today and down to verse 8. Thus, the people did according to the instructions of the L'vi'im and **BLESSED**, honoured and praised ADONAI, their God. *7th of December 2021*.

347. Psalm 72:19 CJB: ¹⁹ BLESSED be his glorious name forever, and may the whole earth be filled with his glory. Amen. Amen.
(NKJV: ¹⁹ And BLESSED be His glorious name forever! And let the whole earth be filled with His glory. Amen and Amen.)

Confusingly, this Psalm starts by saying "By Shlomo," yet the last verse tells us "This completes the prayers of David the son of Yishai." The Complete Jewish Study Bible suggests that whilst it was written by David, the Psalms were edited by Shlomo. However, that is nothing to do with our study on **BLESSED**. In our verse today, David is saying that the **BLESSING** of the name of ADONAI is that the name (*Ha Shem in Hebrew*) is to be glorified, magnified and proclaimed widely, with the result that the whole earth be filled with his glory, to which, we echo the Amen. Amen. 8th of December 2021.

348. Job 1:21 CJB: ²¹ he said, "Naked I came from my mother's womb, and naked I will return there. *ADONAI* gave; *ADONAI* took; **BLESSED** be the name of *ADONAI*." (*NKJV*: ²¹ And he said: "Naked I came from my mother's womb, and naked shall I return there. The LORD gave, and the LORD has taken away; **BLESSED** be the name of the LORD.")

You may think that you remember this whole story, but please read the whole chapter anyway. In our verse today, we read the reaction of Iyov to so much bad news, where he went from being the wealthiest man to the poorest, he lost everything! Even so, he would not blame, much less curse ADONAI, as Ha'Satan had predicted, Iyov's reaction was to **BLESS** ADONAI, relating that he had nothing when he was born and that he would have nothing when he dies. Iyov's **BLESSING** here is to thank God for his very life. *9th of December 2021*.

349. **Psalm 113:2 CJB:** ² **BLESSED** be the name of *ADONAI* from this moment on and forever!

(**NKJV**: ² **BLESSED** be the name of the LORD From this time forth and forevermore!)

This Psalm is of praise to our God, ADONAI. The Psalm begins and ends with HALLELUJAH – praise to God! Our verse today recalls that ADONAI is to be **BLESSED** for ever and ever, for all eternity. We are to continually **BLESS** ADONAI in our Christian lives, by praising, honouring, glorifying and worshipping Him. Amen. 10th of December 2021.

350. **Psalm 66:20 CJB:** ²⁰**BLESSED** be God, who did not reject my prayer or turn his grace away from me.

(**NKJV**: ²⁰ **BLESSED** be God, who has not turned away my prayer, nor His mercy from me!)

A Psalm of praise is our Psalm today and it finishes up with our verse, thanking and rejoicing in Him. **BLESSED** be God, thanking God, that He didn't reject the prayer of the Psalm writer and He continued with His grace toward that writer. **BLESSING** here is the giving of thanks to the Lord God of Isra'el for the way He treats us. 11th of December 2021.

351. Psalm 68:35 CJB: ³⁵ How awe-inspiring you are, God, from your holy places, the God of Isra'el, who gives strength and power to the people.
 BLESSED be God!

(NKJV: ³⁵ O God, You are more awesome than Your holy places. The God of Israel is He who gives strength and power to His people. **BLESSED** be God!)

The last 3 words of our verse today, "**BLESSED** be God!" This sums up the whole Psalm really, one that exalts ADONAI for all He has and is doing, for His own people, Isra'el. A Psalm calling them (*and us*) to sing His praises to Him. **BLESSING** in our verse is to sing His praises, to tell of all He has done for them and to their enemies, simple as that. 12th of December 2021. 352. 2 Corinthians 1:3 CJB: ³ Praised be God, Father of our Lord Yeshua the Messiah, compassionate Father, God of all encouragement and comfort;
(NKJV: ³ BLESSED be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, Christ.)

Firstly, notice that whereas the NKJV has **BLESSED** be the God, the CJB uses praised be God. Thus, we read that the **BLESSING** here is to praise the Lord God. We also read in our verse today that He is a compassionate Father and God of all encouragement and comfort. What a God we have! HALLELUJAH! Amen. HALLELUJAH! Amen. 13th of December 2021.

353. **Psalm 119:12 CJB:** ¹² **BLESSED** are you, *ADONAI*! Teach me your laws. (*NKJV*: ¹² *BLESSED* are You, *O LORD*! *Teach me Your statutes*.)

Almighty God, how **BLESSED** You are in these verses under Bet (*verses 9 to 18*) of this Psalm. Verses 9-11 give the reason for this **BLESSING**, the form of which, is in our seeking and following in His ways with all our heart, never straying from the instructions of ADONAI. 15th of December 2021.

354. Ezekiel 3:12 CJB: ¹² A spirit lifted me up, and I heard behind me a very loud sound, BLESSED be the glory of ADONAI from his place!
(NKJV: ¹² Then the Spirit lifted me up, and I heard behind me a great thunderous voice: "BLESSED is the glory of the LORD from His place!")

Not at all sure what this **BLESSING** might be, apart from the obvious that the glory of ADONAI is to be **BLESSED**. In my Jewish Study Bible, it tells me that this 2nd part of our verse today is: "Appears as part of the Kedushah in the Amidah prayer." The Amidah is the central prayer used in Synagogue worship services, prayed whilst standing facing Jerusalem. Unfortunately, Matthew Henry doesn't add any more information either. I can't do any better than that.

16th of December 2021.

355. Dani'el 2:19 CJB: ¹⁹ Then the secret was revealed to Dani'el in a vision at night, and Dani'el BLESSED the God of heaven
(NKJV: ¹⁹ Then the secret was revealed to Daniel in a night vision. So Daniel BLESSED the God of heaven.)

What a situation revealed when one reads the whole chapter from verse 1 to verse 23. Under threat of death, Dani'el and his companions, sought the Lord, who, as we read in our verse today, revealed the secret to Dani'el. Thus, Dani'el **BLESSED** the God of Heaven with the words that follow our verse. This form of **BLESSING** here is to give (*heartfelt*) thanks to God, then Dani'el went, in the rest of the chapter, to the king and all was well, so to speak. *17th of December 2021*.

356. Daniel 2:20 CJB: ²⁰ in these words: "BLESSED be the name of God from eternity past to eternity future! For wisdom and power are his alone;
(NKJV: ²⁰ Daniel answered and said: "BLESSED be the name of God forever and ever, for wisdom and might are His.)

Our verse today is really a continuation of the last verse and study. In our verse today are the words Dani'el used to **BLESS** God, that the name of God is to be **BLESSED** for all eternity. The form of **BLESSING** here is to exalt, to lift up the very name (*Shem in Hebrew*) of ADONAI, his and our God and may that be for all eternity, past present and future. **AMEN!** 18th of December 2021.

357. Daniel 4:34 CJB: ³⁴ "When this period was over, I, N'vukhadnetzar, lifted my eyes toward heaven, and my understanding came back to me. I BLESSED the Most High, I praised and gave honour to him who lives forever. "For his rulership is everlasting, his kingdom endures through all generations. (*NKJV:* ³⁴ And at the end of the ^[k]time I, Nebuchadnezzar, lifted my eyes to heaven, and my understanding returned to me; and I BLESSED the Most High and praised and honoured Him who lives forever: for His dominion is an everlasting dominion and His kingdom is from generation to generation.)
[k] Literally days

King N'vukhadnetzar had boasted of all he had created back in verses 29 & 30, when, in verses 31 and 32, a voice spoke from Heaven. This voice told him that for 7 years he would be like an animal in the fields eating only grass! In our verse today, at the end of the 7 years, he returned to normality, realising that there is only one God and he **BLESSED** and gave Him all praise and honour, to Him whose Kingdom is everlasting. This **BLESSING** would be thanks, having realised that ADONAI alone is God 19th of December 2021. 358. Luke 2:28 CJB: ²⁸ Shim'on took him in his arms, made a b'rakhah to God, and said,
(NKJV: ²⁸ he took Him up in his arms and BLESSED God and said:)

Shim'on **BLESSED** ADONAI, gave thanks, because the Lord had done what he had promised him, he had now seen the Messiah of ADONAI and even taken Him in his arms! Shim'on was a Tzaddik, a spiritual leader or guide, and the Holy Spirit had revealed to him that he would not die until he had seen this Messiah of ADONAI, hence the verse following our verse, where he said that he would depart (*this life*) in peace. Hence the b'rakkah or **BLESSING** to God for the fulfilment of that promise.

21st of December 2021.

359. John 12:13 CJB: ¹³ They took palm branches and went out to meet him, shouting, "Deliver us!"^[a] "BLESSED is he who comes in the name of *ADONAI*,^[b] the King of Isra'el!"

(NKJV: ¹³ took branches of palm trees and went out to meet Him and cried out: "Hosanna! 'BLESSED is He who comes in the name of the LORD!' The King of Israel!") [a] Psalm 118:25

[b] Psalm 118:26

Spreading Palm branches was a sign of honour (*or victory*) and for a king to ride into a city on a donkey is a sign of peace, as against when on a horse, a sign of war. Hence the crowd was shouting Hoshana (*meaning please deliver us*) and **BLESSED** is He who comes in the name of ADONAI, for they knew, or had heard, that Yeshua was the King coming in the name of ADONAI, hence the BLESSING here is praising.

 22^{nd} of December 2021.

360. **Romans 1:25 CJB:** ²⁵ They have exchanged the truth of God for falsehood, by worshipping and serving created things, rather than the Creator, praised be he for ever. *Amen*.

(*NKJV*: ²⁵ who exchanged the truth of God for the lie and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is **BLESSED** forever. Amen.)

Our verse today in in the middle of a passage condemning those who ignore or despise ADONAI, pointing out that He is to be **BLESSED** for ever, AMEN. This form of **BLESSING** can be seen to be praising, by comparing the two translations of our verse above. 23^{rd} of December 2021.

361. **Romans 9:5 CJB:** ⁵ the Patriarchs are theirs; and from them, as far as his physical descent is concerned, came the Messiah, who is over all. Praised be *ADONAI* for ever! *Amen*.

(NKJV: ⁵ of whom are the fathers and from whom, according to the flesh, Christ came, who is over all, the eternally **BLESSED** God. Amen.)

In these first 5 or 6 verses of this chapter, Sha'ul is reflecting upon the state of his own people, Isra'el. In our verse today, he is remembering, for all their situation today, all the promises made to their ancestors and how from those promises came the Messiah. Then Sha'ul says He is to be **BLESSED** (*praised*) for ever, for all eternity. 24th of December 2021.

362. **2** Corinthians 11:31 CJB: ³¹ God the Father of the Lord Yeshua,

BLESSED be he forever, knows that I am not lying! (*NKJV*: ³¹ The God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who is **BLESSED** forever, knows that I am not lying.)

In this whole chapter down to our verse today, is of Sha'ul boasting of how he had suffered for the Gospel. In our verse today, he tells how God, the Father of Yeshua, who is to be **BLESSED** forever by each and every one of us, since He knows that he had told the truth. **BLESSED** in this context, is to praise and glorify ADONAI at all times. We are, as does Sha'ul, allowed to boast about our Lord and Saviour and all that He has done, especially for us. 25th of December 2021.

363. **Ephesians 1:3** CJB: ³ Praised be *ADONAI*, Father of our Lord Yeshua the Messiah, who in the Messiah has blessed us with every spiritual **BLESSING** in heaven.

(NKJV: ³ BLESSED be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual BLESSING in the heavenly places in Christ,)

In our verse today, Sha'ul is praising ADONAI, proclaiming how, in Yeshua the Messiah, He has **BLESSED** us true believers, with every Spiritual **BLESSING** there is in Heaven. Oh wow! So, what are those Spiritual **BLESSINGS** in Heaven? Well, far more than can be enumerated here, but one **BLESSING** is to know Yeshua as our Lord and saviour. Another is to be able to pray and know that He hears. There are more **BLESSINGS** in Heaven than we could even dream. 26th of December 2021. 364. **1 Peter 1:3 CJB:** ³ Praised be God, Father of our Lord Yeshua the Messiah, who, in keeping with his great mercy, has caused us, through the resurrection of Yeshua the Messiah from the dead, to be born again to a living hope,

(NKJV: ³ BLESSED be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,)

Peter is, in our verse today, giving praise (*the form of BLESSING here*) for our being born again through the resurrection of Yeshua the Messiah (*the anointed one*). As we read, between the 2 translations, that **BLESSED** in this context, is to give praise to God, the Father of our Lord Yeshua, for His great mercy, giving us the living hope of being born again. 27th of December 2021.

365. 1 Timothy 1:11 CJB: ¹¹ that accords with the Good News of the glorious and BLESSED God. This Good News was entrusted to me;
 (NKJV: ¹¹ according to the glorious gospel of the BLESSED God which was committed to my trust. Glory to God for His Grace)

What Sha'ul is telling Timothy in this chapter, is that Torah (*teaching*) is to guide those who have no guidance and walk in their own desires and paths. These are teaching and are acting contrary to the good news of our glorious and **BLESSED** God. Timothy was to continue in Ephesus in order to stop these people leading believers astray. So, what of **BLESS** in this context? In our verse today, **BLESSING** God is associated with His glory. *28th of December 2021*.

366. **1 Timothy 6:15 CJB:** ¹⁵ His appearing will be brought about in its own time by the **BLESSED** and sole Sovereign, who is King of kings and Lord of lords,

(NKJV: ¹⁵ which He will manifest in His own time, He who is the **BLESSED** and only ^[e]Potentate, the King of kings and Lord of lords,) [e] Sovereign

Having read, in the first 10 verses of this chapter, of the evil which so easily besets us, in the rest of the chapter we read of how we true believers should respond and live our lives. The reason for this is given in verses 13 to 16 today, including our verse today, in which we are reminded of the second coming of Yeshua which will be by the **BLESSED** and only Sovereign God, who is King of kings and Lord of lords. ADONAI, our God, is **BLESSED** far more than we can even begin to imagine, **BLESSED** by all things good and wonderful. 29th of December 2021.

BLESSED are they

367. **Psalm 2:12 CJB:** ¹² Kiss the son, lest he be angry, and you perish along the way, when suddenly his anger blazes. How **BLESSED** are all who take refuge in him.

(NKJV: ¹² []Kiss the Son, lest []]He be angry, And you perish in the way, When His wrath is kindled but a little. **BLESSED** are all those who put their trust in Him.) [i] LXX Vg. Embrace discipline; Tg Receive instruction [j] LXX the Lord

This whole Psalm down to verse 9 is a rebuke to the kings and leaders on earth, then finally offers **BLESSINGS** to those who wholeheartedly turn to Yeshua. Or as it reads at the end of our verse today, "How **BLESSED** are all who take refuge in Him." **BLESSING** in our context today alludes to peace, real peace.

 30^{th} of December 2021.

368. Psalm 84:4 CJB: ⁴ How happy are those who live in your house; they never cease to praise you! (Selah)
(NKJV: ⁴ BLESSD are those who dwell in Your house; They will still be praising You. Selah)

Between the 2 translations used, above, we see that happiness is a form of **BLESSING**. From the context of our verse today, we see that this especially applies to those who, in the days this Psalm was written, live in the House of God. Today, there is no physical house, however, it is for those who "dwell" with ADONAI, who know His presence is with them. *31st of December 2021*.

369. Psalm 106:3 CJB: ³ How happy are those who act justly, who always do what is right!
(NKJV: ³ BLESSED are those who keep justice, And [] he who does righteousness at all times!)
[c] LXX, Syr. Tg Vg. Those who do

Once more we see the equivalence between **BLESSED** and happy in our verse today, between the 2 translations. In today's case, the **BLESSING** is for those who seek the Will of ADONAI for ourselves and do it. 1st of January 2022.

370. **Psalm 119:2 CJB:** ² How happy are those who observe his instruction, who seek him wholeheartedly!

(NKJV: ² BLESSED are those who keep His testimonies, who seek Him with the whole heart!)

Happy and **BLESSED** are seen to be the same in our verse today, as read previously. What we read here today in this, the longest Psalm, is that the **BLESSING** comes as a result of our leading a blameless life, observing His Torah and seeking Him wholeheartedly. This begs the question, how do we live a blameless life, when we have a sin nature? The only answer is in our verse today, read it carefully in its context. 2nd of January 2022.

371. **Proverbs 8:32 CJB:** ³² "Therefore, children, listen to me: happy are those who keep my ways.

(NKJV: ³² "Now therefore, listen to me, my children, for **BLESSED** are those who keep my ways.)

Read from verse 12 of this chapter, down to the end. In our verse today, it starts with a "therefore" and one should always ask, what is that "therefore" is there for? It is usually to draw attention to the preceding passage, where we read that wisdom was there before the earth was created. Hence, in our verse, we read that when we listen to wisdom and keep to His ways, we are **BLESSED** or happy as in the CJB. Wisdom is an aspect of ADONAI and He will **BLESS** us as we keep His ways. 3^{rd} of January 2022.

372. **Isaiah 30:18 CJB:** ¹⁸ Yet *ADONAI* is just waiting to show you favour, he will have pity on you from on high; for *ADONAI* is a God of justice; happy are all who wait for him!

(**NKJV**: ¹⁸ Therefore the LORD will wait, that He may be gracious to you; and therefore, He will be exalted, that He may have mercy on you. For the LORD is a God of justice; **BLESSED** are all those who wait for Him.)

The first 17 verses of this chapter are about the rebelliousness of the children of Isra'el, yet, as our verse today reads, ADONAI is just waiting for each of us to turn back to Him. ADONAI is waiting to show us His favour, to have pity on us, at which point He will **BLESS** all of us when we wait for Him again, His **BLESSINGS** we will receive when we wait for Him to show us the ways in which we should walk. 4^{th} of January 2022.

373. **Matthew 5:4 CJB:** ⁴ "How **BLESSED** are those who mourn! For they will be comforted.

(*NKJV*: ⁴ **BLESSED** are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.)

This chapter, along with the next 2 chapters, form the "Sermon On The Mount," as it is known. Our verse today is one of the 9 **BLESSINGS** in the 1st part of this chapter and each **BLESSING** gives the form of the **BLESSING** in each case. In our verse, we read that those who mourn, will be **BLESSED** by being comforted. 5^{th} of January 2022.

374. **Matthew 5:6 CJB:** ⁶ "How **BLESSED** are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness! For they will be filled.

(NKJV: ⁶ BLESSED are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be filled.)

In our verse today, we come to the 4th **BLESSING** in this Sermon. This **BLESSING** is for those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, those who continually try to do the right thing in their lives. The form of **BLESSING** for them, is that they will be filled with the righteousness they are always seeking after, for their own lives. 6^{th} of January 2022.

375. Matthew 5:10 CJB: ¹⁰ "How BLESSED are those who are persecuted because they pursue righteousness! For the Kingdom of Heaven is theirs.
(NKJV: ¹⁰ BLESSED are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.)

In the eternal way of things, it seems that persecution is good, for the reward it brings, the **BLESSING** for this persecution is the Kingdom of Heaven! What better reward can there be? The lesson is, that true believers must pursue righteousness, even though this will bring persecution, the end result, the **BLESSING**, is worth it, to give us our place in the Kingdom of Heaven. *7th of December 2022.* 376. Luke 11:28 CJB: ²⁸ But he said, "far more **BLESSED** are those who hear the word of God and obey it!"

(NKJV: ²⁸ But He said, "more than that, **BLESSED** are those who hear the word of God and keep it!")

In our verse today, we read how to obtain **BLESSINGS** from ADONAI. It sounds too simple to be true, but, as we read in our verse today, we must read the word of God every day and not just a verse but whole chapters at a time. As the verse says: **"BLESSED** are those who hear the word of God and keep it!" Oh, Father God, help me to consistently read your word every day and absorb the content and the meaning of it. Amen. 8th of December 2022.

377. John 20:29 CJB: ²⁹ Yeshua said to him, "Have you trusted because you have seen me? How BLESSED are those who do not see, but trust anyway!"
(NKJV: ²⁹ Jesus said to him, ^[f]"Thomas, because you have seen Me, you have believed. BLESSED are those who have not seen and yet have believed.")
[f] Some translations omit Thomas

Reading this passage from verse 19 to the end, we read that Toma was not there when Yeshua appeared among them the 1st time and he refused to believe that He had been there with them. A week later, we read, Toma was there when Yeshua came to them again. When Toma saw Him, he exclaimed "My Lord and my God!" At this, Yeshua asked if Toma now believed because he has seen Him? Yeshua then said that we, who have not seen Him but trust, are to be **BLESSED**, meaning we receive the salvation offered by the death and resurrection of Himself. Thank You Lord. 9^{th} of January 2022.

378. **Romans 4:7 CJB:** ⁷ "**BLESSED** are those whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered over;

(*NKJV*: ⁷ "*BLESSED* are those whose lawless deeds are forgiven, and whose sins are covered;)

Reading this chapter down to verse12, we read that righteousness was credited to Avraham, even before he was circumcised, due to his complete trust in ADONAI. This level of trust brings forgiveness of our sins, which is the **BLESSING** for those who do trust completely in the Lord God of Isra'el, those sins are covered over by the blood of Yeshua. 10th of January 2022.

379. **Revelation 19:9 CJB:** ⁹ The angel said to me, "Write: 'How **BLESSED** are those who have been invited to the wedding feast of the Lamb!" Then he added, "These are God's very words."

(NKJV: ⁹ Then he said to me, "Write: **BLESSED** are those who are called to the marriage supper of the Lamb!" "And he said to me, "These are the true sayings of God.")

How **BLESSED** are those who have been invited to the wedding feast of the Lamb! The words of God! So, who are these? I may well be wrong, but they are the righteous who trusted ADONAI before the death and resurrection of Yeshua -Avraham, David and Ruth, for instance. The bride is those who trust in Yeshua and the salvation through that trust. The **BLESSING**? To be invited to come to the wedding feast to rejoice with Yeshua and the bride. *11th of January 2022*.

380. **Revelation 22:14 CJB:** ¹⁴ How **BLESSED** are those who wash their robes, so that they have the right to eat from the Tree of Life and go through the gates into the city!

(NKJV: ¹⁴ BLESSED are those who ^[g]do His commandments, that they may have the right to the tree of life, and may enter through the gates into the city.) [g] Wash their robes

To be **BLESSED**, one must wash one's robes or clothing or, as in the NKJV, do His commandments. The verse following our verse today, shows who will **not** enter the eternal city, Heaven. To be able to enter Heaven is the **BLESSING** for those covered by washing their clothes (*in the blood of Yeshua*). True believers will be able to eat from the Tree of Life, have eternal life, another part of the **BLESSING**, to say nothing of the **BLESSING** of being with Yeshua for eternity.

12th of January 2022.

BLESSED are you

381. Isaiah 32:20 CJB: ²⁰ Happy are you who sow by all streams, letting oxen and donkeys roam freely.

(*NKJV*: ²⁰ *BLESSED* are you who sow beside all waters, who send out freely the feet of the ox and the donkey.)

Reading the whole chapter, we read of: meanness; miserliness; spreading error about ADONAI; complacent; overconfidence. Thus. we come to verses 15 to the end - with our verse today. Here we read of righteousness and justice where, if we follow these, we shall be **BLESSED** with freedom to follow and walk in this righteousness and justice. *13th of January 2022.*

382. **Matthew 5:11 CJB:** ¹¹ "How **BLESSED** you are when people insult you and persecute you and tell all kinds of vicious lies about you because you follow me!

(*NKJV*: ¹¹ *BLESSED* are you when they revile and persecute you and say all kinds of evil against you falsely for My sake.)

In our chapter today (down to verse 16) we are back to the Sermon on the Mount, as in studies 373 to 375, which covered verses 4, 6 and 10, in our verse today we look at verse 11. Here we read more than verse 10 reveals, in that we read more about the way in which we are persecuted: insulted and being the subject of vicious lies, simply as a result of following Yeshua. Verse 12 reveals the form of the **BLESSING** that will follow those who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness. When we read these verses (1-16) we must ask ourselves, how much do I walk in these ways portrayed? The <u>TRUE</u> answer will reveal much about our standing in life, as a Christian, a follower of the ways of Yeshua. The next question is, where do I stand in my **BLESSINGS**, as I read all these verses? 15^{th} of January 2022. 383. Luke 6:21 CJB: ²¹ "How BLESSED are you who are hungry! For you will be filled. "How BLESSED are you who are crying now! For you will laugh. (*NKJV: ²¹ BLESSED are you who hunger now, for you shall be filled.^[e] BLESSED are you who weep now, for you shall laugh.)
[e] Satisfied*

This passage, verses 20 to 23, are similar to the "Sermon on the Mount" in Matthew 5 and here are headed, "The Beatitudes." The **BLESSINGS** here are seen to be, that the hungry will be fed and those who weep, will be brought to laughter. What comfort are these **BLESSINGS** to these people. What a mighty God we have, for these are His words, His **BLESSINGS** for those who hunger and/or weep. Hallelujah! Amen. 16^{th} of January 2022.

384. Luke 6:22 CJB: ²² "How BLESSED you are whenever people hate you and ostracize you and insult you and denounce you as a criminal on account of the Son of Man.

(*NKJV*: ²² *BLESSED* are you when men hate you, and when they exclude you, and revile you, and cast out your name as evil, for the Son of Man's sake.)

Our verse today reveals the difference between the worldly way of seeing things and God's way. When (*NOT if*) we stand for Christ's ways of doing and being a Christian, then, as our verse reads, we shall be **BLESSED** in being denounced, labelled a criminal, hated and ostracised for doing so. The **BLESSING** will follow when we reach Heaven, but also here and now in knowing that these things are happening to us, as a result of our following Yeshua and His ways.

17th of January 2022.

BLESSED is he

385. Numbers 24:9 CJB: ⁹ "When they lie down, they crouch like a lion, or like a lioness — who dares to rouse it? BLESSED be all who BLESS you! Cursed be all who curse you!"

(NKJV: ⁹ 'He bows down, he lies down as a lion; and as a lion, who shall rouse him?' "BLESSED is he who BLESSES you and cursed is he who curses you.")

Our verse is the last part of Bil'am's **BLESSING** of Isra'el, which started at verse 1, much to the anger of Balak, who had sent for Bil'am to curse Isra'el. **BLESSING** in this context, is similar to the reading in Genesis 12:3 but there, what is translated "curse" is actually 2 different words in Hebrew. Unfortunately, I cannot find if the 2 words "curse" in our verse are the same in Hebrew or, as in Genesis 12:3, different. **BLESSING** in our context, is victory over all Isra'el's enemies.

18th of January 2022.

386. Psalm 32:1 CJB: ¹ How BLESSED are those whose offense is forgiven, those whose sin is covered!
(NKJV: ¹ BLESSED is he whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.)

In our verse today, we read that when our sins are forgiven, we are **BLESSED**. The next verse gives a clue of the form of the **BLESSING** that those whose sins are covered (*by the blood of Yeshua*). The **BLESSING** is to be free from the feelings of guilt from those sins which are now covered. To obtain this **BLESSING**, we have to confess those sins to Yeshua and receive that forgiveness so freely offered, a process mostly known as being "born again." Thank you, almighty God that you offer this forgiveness so freely, that we have only to accept it and follow Yeshua and all His ways from that point on. *19th of January 2022*. 387. **Psalm 41:1 CJB:** ¹ How **BLESSED** are those who care for the poor! When calamity comes, *ADONAI* will save them.

(NKJV: 1 **BLESSED** *is* he who considers the ^[a]poor; The LORD will deliver him in time of trouble.)

[a] helpless or powerless

BLESSING, in our verse today, for those who care for the poor, is that "when calamity comes, ADONAI will save them." This is an incentive from God Himself, to care for the poor around us, not to be selfish, thinking only about ourselves and our problems. Maybe we should even seek out the poor around us, in order to be able to help them. 20th of January 2022.

388. **Daniel 12:12 CJB:** ¹² How **BLESSED** will be anyone who waits and arrives at the 1,335 days.

(*NKJV*: ¹² **BLESSED** is he who waits and comes to the one thousand three hundred and thirty-five days.)

Please read the whole of this short chapter, the last of the book of Dani'el. Upon reading verses 8 and 9, we see that Dani'el, and hence we, are not to understand these things in this chapter as they are sealed until the time of the end. In our verse today, we read that **BLESSED** are those who wait to the end of the 1335 days. In other words, a message to us today is: don't try to pre-empt the Lord. 22^{nd} of January 2022.

389. Matthew 11:6 CJB: ⁶ and how BLESSED is anyone not offended by me!"

(NKJV: ⁶ And **BLESSED** is he who is not offended because of Me.")

Read the chapter down to verse 15 for the context. Yochanan the Immerser had sent to ask Yeshua if He was the "One to Come," His answer to Yochanan is in verses 4 to 6. In our verse today, Yeshua, who knew that there were (*and still are today*) some who were offended by Himself, those who are not offended are **BLESSED**. This **BLESSING** is to be with Yeshua for all eternity. Amen. 23^{rd} of January 2022.

390. Luke 7:23 CJB: ²³ and how BLESSED is anyone not offended by me!"
(NKJV: ²³ And BLESSED is he who is not ^[I] offended because of Me.")
[f] caused to stumble

Yochanan's talmidim went back to him having been told by Yeshua to report all that they had seen and heard, as in the previous verse to our verse today. How could anyone be offended having just witnessed all these things. Well, there are people who see these things and they **are** offended, which would include the P'rushim and the Torah teachers and others who suffer with self-righteousness – they are not **BLESSED** unless they turn from their ways.

24th of January 2022.

391. **Matthew 21:9 CJB:** ⁹ The crowds ahead of him and behind shouted, "Please! Deliver us!"[b] to the Son of David; "**BLESSED** is he who comes in the name of Adonai!" "You in the highest heaven! Please! Deliver us!"[c][d]

- 392. [b] Greek Ôsanna (English "Hosanna") transliterates Hebrew Hosha na, which means "Please! Save [us]!"
- 393. [c] Psalm 118:25-26
- 394. [d] Greek *Ôsanna* (English "Hosanna") transliterates Hebrew *Hosha na*, which means "Please! Save [us]!"

(NKJV: ⁹ Then the multitudes who went before and those who followed cried out, saying: "Hosanna to the Son of David! "BLESSED is He who comes in the name of the Lord!" Hosanna in the highest!")

Here in this chapter, we read about a common misconception, "Hosha'na" does <u>not</u> mean **BLESSING** or praise, the footnotes under the CJB verse above explain the true meaning. In our verse today, we read that "**BLESSED** is he who comes in the name of ADONAI." In this context, the one who comes is Yeshua Himself but, the **BLESSING** for Him is death on a cross and then Resurrection on the 3rd day. Some **BLESSING**! True believers reap the **BLESSING** from this, upon reaching Heaven. Thank you, 25th of January 2022.

392. Matthew 23:39 CJB: ³⁹ For I tell you, from now on, you will not see me again until you say, 'BLESSED is he who comes in the name of ADONAL."

[c] Psalm 118:2 5 &26

(NKJV: ³⁹ for I say to you, you shall see Me no more till you say, 'BLESSED is He who comes in the name of the LORD!'")

Please read the whole chapter, about the 7 woes, for the context of our verse today. The context is about how the P'rushim and Torah teachers are so self-righteous, saying all the right things but never doing them! Yeshua tells them of all the things that will befall them. In our verse today, Yeshua says that He will never be seen again by anyone until they say: "**BLESSED** is he who comes in the name of ADONAI." The lesson for true believers, is to welcome those who come in the name of the Messiah, Yeshua. 26th of January 2022.

393. Mark 11:9 CJB: ⁹ Those who were ahead and those behind shouted,
"Please! Deliver us!" [a] [b] "Blessed is he who comes in the name of ADONAI!" [c]
[a] Psalm 118;25
[b] see note - not given
[c] Psalm 118:26
(NKJV: ⁹ Then those who went before and those who followed cried out, saying:
"Hosanna! BLESSED is He who comes in the name of the LORD!')

Once again, we have the word "Hosanah," meaning, as in the CJB, "Please deliver us!" This is addressed to Yeshua, as is "**BLESSED** is He who comes in the name of ADONAI!" who was seen to be a representative of ADONAI by the people who followed Him. The **BLESSING**, in our context today, is that He was coming in the name of the Lord, a **BLESSING** in itself. 27th of January 2022.
Luke 13:35 CJB: ³⁵ Look! God is abandoning your house to you! I tell **394**. you, you will not see me again until you say, 'BLESSED is he who comes in the name of ADONAI!""[a]

[a] Psalm 118:26

(NKJV: ³⁵ See! Your house is left to you desolate; and ^[k]assuredly, I say to you, you shall not see Me until the time comes when you say, **BLESSED** is He who comes in the name of the LORD!"") [k] the word "assuredly" is not in the original

In our verse today and the previous verse, Yeshua is recalling what the people, especially the leaders, have done to the prophets in the past. How He desired to gather them (into the Kingdom of God) but they refused! Now, He is leaving them to themselves but 'BLESSED is he who comes in the name of ADONAL! This is not only the prophets but, all who do come in the name of ADONAI who will be **BLESSED**. 28th of January 2022.

395. Luke 14:15 CJB: ¹⁵ On hearing this, one of the people at the table with Yeshua said to him, "How **BLESSED** are those who eat bread in the Kingdom of God!"

(NKJV: 15 Now when one of those who sat at the table with Him heard these things, he said to Him, "BLESSED is he who shall eat [e] bread in the kingdom of God!")

[e] Dinner

Our verse today is in the middle of parables, the first 24 verses of this chapter. Please read them to get then context of our verse today. Upon hearing the parable, one of those there, said: "How **BLESSED** are those who eat bread in the Kingdom of God!" Yeshua's reply to this, was another parable, which explained that those who do eat bread in the Kingdom will be **BLESSED** but, as in the following parable, those who are invited do not necessarily get there (to Heaven) speaking to the Torah Teachers and P'rushim, only those who accept the invitation (of salvation) offered by the death and resurrection of Yeshua. 29th of January 2021.

396. Revelation 1:3 CJB: ³ **BLESSED** are the reader and hearers of the words of this prophecy, provided they obey the things written in it! For the time is near!

(*NKJV*: ³ *BLESSED* is he who reads and those who hear the words of this prophecy and keep those things which are written in it; for the time is near.)

The first 2 verses of Revelation stand alone and our verse tells us, those who listen or read these words of this prophesy will be **BLESSED** BUT, there is a condition! We true believers must obey what is written in this prophesy! We are not told what form of **BLESSING** is given here but, the warning is that we shall not have it unless we obey the words of the prophesy.

30th of January 2022.

397. Revelation 16:15 CJB: ¹⁵ ("Look! I am coming like a thief! How BLESSED are those who stay alert and keep their clothes clean, so that they won't be walking naked and be publicly put to shame!")

(NKJV: ¹⁵ "Behold, I am coming as a thief. **BLESSED** is he who watches, and keeps his garments, lest he walk naked and they see his shame.")

Now one knows when these things will happen, only God the Father. Yet here we are being warned of these things that are going to happen. Praise God that all true believers will be in Heaven celebrating the Wedding Feast at that time. However, in our verse today, we true believers are warned to be ready, alert and with our clothes kept clean for the day when Yeshua will appear in the clouds and, we rise to join Him for that Feast in Heaven. What a **BLESSING** there is waiting for us. 31^{st} of January 2022.

398. Revelation 20:6 CJB: ⁶ BLESSED and holy is anyone who has a part in the first resurrection; over him the second death has no power. On the contrary, they will be *cohanim* of God and of the Messiah, and they will rule with him for the thousand years.

(*NKJV*: ⁶*BLESSED* and holy is he who has part in the first resurrection. Over such the second death has no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ and shall reign with Him a thousand years.)

Please read at least the first 10 verses of this chapter to have the full context. In our verse today, the 1st word is **BLESSED**, so read on, where we read the form of that **BLESSING**. Those true believers who have a part in the 1st resurrection will, in the Millenium, be the cohanim (*priests*) of God and the Messiah, ruling with Him for that Millenium, since the 2nd death has no power over them. Wow! Some **BLESSING**! Ruling over whom? Those still alive after the tribulation ends. 1^{st} of February 2022.

399. Revelation 22:7 CJB: ⁷ "Look! I am coming very soon. BLESSED is the person who obeys the words of the prophecy written in this book!"
(NKJV: ⁷ "Behold, I am coming quickly! BLESSED is he who keeps the words of the prophecy of this book.")

In our verse today, we read that **BLESSED** is the one(*s*) "who obey the words of the Prophecy written in this book!" (*Revelation*). This begs the question of: who reads the book of Revelation? How can one be **BLESSED** by obeying the Prophecy if one doesn't even read it? There we go then, if you want to be **BLESSED**, read the book to find the prophecy within and then obey it (*or them*). Amen!

(A personal note: in the January 2022 issue of Prophetic Witness, in an article by Dennis Porter, on page 16, he makes this comment about the book of Revelation, he wrote "without a thorough knowledge of the O.T., we have little chance of understanding it." So many people don't read the book of Revelation because they don't understand it.) 2^{nd} of February 2022.

BLESSED is the man

400. Psalm 1:1 CJB: How BLESSED are those who reject the advice of the wicked, don't stand on the way of sinners or sit where scoffers sit!
(NKJV: ¹ BLESSED is the man who walks not in the counsel of the ^[a]ungodly, nor stands in the path of sinners, nor sits in the seat of the scornful;)
[a] wicked

Please read the whole of this short Psalm, it is a "completion" of our verse today. To reject the advice of the wicked reflects the old adage: "you are the company you keep." So rarely is the advice of the wicked good, that one should always reject it and seek the advice of ADONAI. The **BLESSINGS** are shown in verse 2, where true believers delight in ADONAI'S Torah, meditating upon it continually. Thus, we read that to obtain the **BLESSING** we should read God's Teachings, the Torah, take in and walk in the meaning(*s*) thereof.

3rd of February 2022.

401. Psalm 32:2 CJB: ² How **BLESSED** those to whom *ADONAI* imputes no guilt, in whose spirit is no deceit!

(NKJV: ² BLESSED is the man to whom the LORD does not ^[b]impute iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit.) [b] charge his account with

Some **BLESSING** in our verse today! To have no guilt imputed to one because one has no deceit in one's spirit. To be able to stand before ADONAI with all our sins covered, as in the **previous verse**. Please Father God, in your mercy, help each of us to attain this position before You and thank you that you have made this available to everyone through the blood of your Son, Yeshua.

4th of February 2022.

402. Romans 4:8 CJB: ⁸ BLESSED is the man whose sin *ADONAI WILL* not reckon against his account."^[b]

[b] Psalm 32:1-2 (**NKJV**: ⁸ **BLESSED** is the man to whom the LORD shall not impute sin.")

Our verse today is a New Testament repeat of the previous study. The verses following ours, show that this **BLESSING** is available for all people, not the Jews only. What a good thing, or **BLESSING**, it is to know that ADONAI will not reckon our sins against our (*Heavenly*) account if we have received and walk in, the salvation offered by Yeshua, His life, death and resurrection. What a wonderful God we have. Hallelujah! Amen. 5th of February 2022.

403. Psalm 34:8 CJB: ⁸⁾ Taste, and see that *ADONAI* is good. How **BLESSED** are those who take refuge in him!

(NKJV: ⁸ Oh, taste and see that the LORD is good; **BLESSED** is the man who trusts in Him!)

Having read the whole of this wonderful Psalm, we have, in our verse today, an invitation for all to come, taste and see, that ADONAI is good. Then, in the 2^{nd} half of our verse today, we read that those who take refuge in Him are **BLESSED**. The **BLESSING** here, is to be always in the presence of ADONAI, our God. How do we take refuge in Him? By walking exclusively in His ways, seeking Him always to know His ways, hence, to be in them and with Him. *6th of February 2022*.

404. Psalm 84:12 CJB: ¹² *ADONAI-Tzva'ot*, how happy is anyone who trusts in you!

(NKJV: ¹² O LORD of hosts, **BLESSED** is the man who trusts in You!)

BLESSED is anyone who trusts in ADONAI-Tzva'ot, our verse reads. As we read the 2 translations above, we read that **BLESSED** in our verse today means that the **BLESSING** here is happiness. There is a condition to obtain this happiness and that is, that if we don't trust in ADONAI and that means complete trust, that **BLESSING** or happiness is not given to us.

7th of February 2022.

405. Jeremiah 17:7 CJB: ⁷ BLESSED is the man who trusts in *ADONAI*; *ADONAI* will be his security.

(NKJV: ⁷ "BLESSED is the man who trusts in the LORD, and whose hope is the LORD.)

Reading the chapter down to verse 8, we see that down to our verse today, it shows what happens to His people, Isra'el, when they turned away from ADONAI and His ways. Then, in our verse, the subject changes to an individual man, one who trusts in ADONAI, for he will be **BLESSED**, he will be secure in ADONAI, who will be his security. Amen. 8th of February 2022.

406. Psalm 40:4 CJB: ⁴) How BLESSED the man who trusts in ADONAI and does not look to the arrogant or to those who rely on things that are false.
(NKJV: ⁴ BLESSED is that man who makes the LORD his trust, and does not respect the proud, nor such as turn aside to lies.)

By reading this whole Psalm we see it is a praise and prayer by David to ADONAI. In our verse today, we read that to be **BLESSED** by ADONAI, we must trust in Him. We also read that there is a warning in the latter part of our verse, we must look only to God and not to arrogant people or those who rely upon false things – things of this world. *9th of February 2022.*

407. Psalm 65:4 CJB: ⁴ How **BLESSED** are those you choose and bring near, so that they can remain in your courtyards! We will be satisfied with the goodness of your house, the Holy Place of your temple.

(*NKJV*: ⁴ *BLESSED* is the man You choose, and cause to approach You, that he may dwell in Your courts. We shall be satisfied with the goodness of Your house, of Your holy temple.)

Having read the whole Psalm, we read in our verse today that "BLESSED are those You choose." When David wrote this Psalm, he was thinking of those like himself, of his day. However, we know today that Yeshua has chosen those the Father has given Him. Thank You Father that You have chosen those true believers to be BLESSED as in our verse today. Hallelujah! Amen. 10th of February 2022.

408. Psalm 84:5 CJB: ⁴ How happy are those who live in your house; they never cease to praise you! (*Selah*)

(*NKJV*: ⁴ *BLESSED* are those who dwell in Your house; They will still be praising You. Selah)

Having read this whole Psalm, we read that it is extoling our almighty God! In our verse today, we read "how happy are those who live in Your house," where in this case, the house is the Tabernacle in which the Ark of the Covenant resides. No wonder those living there were praising ADONAI without ceasing, being so near to the Ark. So, in our verse today we see that the **BLESSING** here, in the NKJV, is such happiness that they continually praise our God. 11th of February 2022.

409. Psalm 94:12 CJB: ¹² How happy the man whom you correct, *Yah*, whom you teach from your *Torah*,

(NKJV: ¹² BLESSED is the man whom You instruct, O LORD, and teach out of Your law,)

Oh to be corrected and taught the Torah by ADONAI, Yah, Himself. As our verse today reads, to be corrected by Yah brings happiness (or **BLESSING** in the NKJV). It is also shown in our verse, that a similar **BLESSING** (or happiness) comes when He teaches us the Torah (meaning instructions, not law). His teaching would give us the true meaning(s) of the Torah and we would be **BLESSED**! 12th of February 2022.

410. Psalm 112:1 CJB: *Halleluyah*! How happy is anyone who fears *ADONAI*, who greatly delights in his *mitzvot*.

(NKJV: Praise^[a] the LORD! BLESSED is the man who fears the LORD, who delights greatly in His commandments.) [a] the Hebrew is Hallelujah

Firstly, we read in this Psalm, between the translations, that **BLESSED** in the NKJV is more correctly translated, "happy." The question then becomes, how do we obtain this happiness? Our verse today tells us that we should fear ADONAI to the extent that we delight in His mitzvot, His teachings or instructions. Those teachings are to be found by reading all of Scripture, from the Torah (*Genesis to Deuteronomy*) right through to Revelation, missing none out.

13th of February 2022.

411. Proverbs 8:34 CJB: ³⁴ How happy the person who listens to me, who watches daily at my gates and waits outside my doors.

(*NKJV*: ³⁴ **BLESSED** is the man who listens to me, watching daily at my gates, waiting at the posts of my doors)

Once again, we read that happiness is a form of **BLESSING**. To obtain this **BLESSING**, in the context of our verse today, it is given in the previous 2 verses, 32 & 33. These show that we must keep the ways of ADONAI, hearing His instruction(s) and hence, grow wise. The gates and doors would be those of the Temple. 14^{th} of February 2022.

412. Isaiah 56:2 CJB: ² Happy is the person who does this, anyone who grasps it firmly, who keeps *Shabbat* and does not profane it, and keeps himself from doing any evil.

(NKJV: ² **BLESSED** is the man who does this, and the son of man who lays hold on it; who keeps from defiling the Sabbath, and keeps his hand from doing any evil.")

We read in these first half a dozen or so verses of this chapter, the importance of keeping Shabbat(s). Verse 1 reminds us that salvation (*the Rapture*) is coming soon and keeping Shabbat is a part of that salvation, as is also, keeping away from evil for the rest of the week. In other words, to obtain the **BLESSING** or happiness, we must live the Christian life not only on Shabbat but throughout the whole week. 15th of February 2022.

413. Ya'akov 1:12 CJB: ¹² How BLESSED is the man who perseveres through temptation! For after he has passed the test, he will receive as his crown the Life which God has promised to those who love him.
(NKJV: ¹² BLESSED is the man who endures temptation; for when he has been approved, he will receive the crown of life which the Lord has promised to those who love Him.)

Having read the chapter down to verse 16, to obtain the context of our verse today, we read that true believers will receive a crown of Life, as God promised to those who love Him. This is the **BLESSING** to those who persevere through temptation and passed the test. 17th of February 2022.

BLESSEDNESS

414. Romans 4:6 CJB: ⁶ In the same way, the **BLESSING** which David pronounces is on those whom God credits with righteousness apart from legalistic observances:

(*NKJV*: ⁶ just as David also describes the **BLESSEDNESS** of the man to whom God imputes righteousness apart from works:)

Reading all the chapter down to verse 12 at least, we see that the **BLESSING** is upon both Jews and Gentiles and, it is NOT for any legalistic observances or works! The form of this **BLESSEDNESS** is to have righteousness credited to each individual one of us, only as a result of our trust in God. Otherwise, we have no righteousness at all. *18th of February 2022.*

415. Romans 4:9 CJB: ⁹ Now is this **BLESSING** for the circumcised only? Or is it also for the uncircumcised? For we say that Avraham's **trust was** credited to his account as righteousness;

(NKJV: ⁹ Does this **BLESSEDNESS** then come upon the circumcised only, or upon the uncircumcised also? For we say that faith was accounted to Abraham for righteousness.)

Please read the chapter again down to verse 12, as it is important to know the context of our verse. What we read here is how it is, that trust in ADONAI is counted as righteousness to us uncircumcised Gentiles as well as for Jews. This is how ADONAI arranges things, in that Avraham was credited with righteousness for his trust in ADONAI BEFORE he was circumcised, which is how we non-Jews can have that **BLESSING** when we put our whole trust in ADONAI. Hallelujah! Thank you, almighty God! Amen.

19th of February 2022.

416. Galatians 4:15 CJB: ¹⁵ So what has become of the joy you felt? For I bear you witness that had it been possible, you would have gouged out your eyes and given them to me.

(NKJV: ¹⁵ []]What then was the **BLESSING** you enjoyed? For I bear you witness that, if possible, you would have plucked out your own eyes and given them to me.)

[f] Where

Sha'ul is here, in this book, rebuking the Galatians, asking them, in our verse today, where is the **BLESSING** (*Joy here in the CJB*) that they had felt when they received Yeshua as their Messiah? Sha'ul is recounting how they had been so welcoming to him, how they had treated him so well, doing anything for him but, now going after false teachers again instead of continuing with Yeshua. Where now, is the **BLESSING** (Joy) they had? 20th of February 2022.

BLESSEST

417. Numbers 22:6 CJB: ⁶ Therefore, please come, and curse this people for me, because they are stronger than I am. Maybe I will be able to strike them down and drive them out of the land, for I know that whomever you BLESS is in fact BLESSED, and whomever you curse is in fact cursed."
(NKJV: ⁶ Therefore please come at once, curse this people for me, for they are too mighty for me. Perhaps I shall be able to defeat them and drive them out of the land, for I know that he whom you BLESS is BLESSED, and he whom you curse is cursed.")

In our verse today Balak, king of Mo'av, was afraid of the people of Isra'el and therefore, sent for Bil'am to come and curse God's people for him. As we read in verse 12, Bil'am was told by God NOT to go and do this, since Isra'el are **BLESSED** by God Himself! Obviously, the form of **BLESSING** here is to be protected by God Himself. *21st of February 2022.*

418. 1 Chronicles 17:27 CJB: ²⁷ and now it has pleased you to BLESS the family of your servant and thereby cause it to continue forever in your presence. For you, *ADONAI*, have BLESSED, and it is BLESSED forever."
(*NKJV*: ²⁷ Now You have been pleased to BLESS the house of Your servant, that it may continue before You forever; for You have BLESSED it, O LORD, and it shall be BLESSED forever.")

Reading the chapter from verse 16 to the end, we read David humbled himself and sat before ADONAI, God, and confessed that he was not worthy of the honours with which He was **BLESSING** him and his family. In our verse today, David was recounting the way in which ADONAI has **BLESSED** his family and how this **BLESSING** will continue forever, which we now know gave us Yeshua, son of David, as our Lord and saviour. Thank you, almighty God. Amen. 22nd of February 2022.

419. Psalm 65:10 CJB: ¹⁰ Soaking its furrows and settling its soil,

you soften it with showers and **BLESS** its growth.

(*NKJV*: ¹⁰ You water its ridges abundantly, You settle its furrows; You make it soft with showers, You **BLESS** its growth.)

A Psalm of the goodness of the God of our salvation. In our verse today, we read of how ADONAI **BLESSES** the ground with showers that cause the grass and the grain to grow. What a God we praise and glorify. This Psalm is a song of David the king and Psalmist but who knows the tune? Fortunately, we have many songs, written over centuries, for which we know the tunes and the words, by which we sing praises to our God. Hallelujah!

 23^{rd} of February 2022.

BLESSETH

420. Genesis 27:29 CJB: ²⁹ May peoples serve you and nations bow down to you. May you be lord over your kinsmen, let your mother's descendants bow down to you. Cursed be everyone who curses you and BLESSED be everyone who BLESSES you!"

(NKJV: ²⁹ Let peoples serve you, and nations bow down to you. Be master over your brethren and let your mother's sons bow down to you. Cursed be everyone who curses you and **BLESSED** be those who **BLESS** you!")

To get the complete context of our verse today, please read the Chapter down to at least verse 41. Here we learn the Rivkah, the mother of Esav and Ya'akov was heavily involved, actually, initiating the plot to get the eldest son's **BLESSING** for Ya'akov. In our verse today and the previous verse show what was that actual **BLESSING**. Unlike Genesis 12:3, the 2 words "curse" here are the same in the Hebrew. 24th of February 2022.

421. Numbers 24:9 CJB: ⁹ "When they lie down, they crouch like a lion, or like a lioness, who dares to rouse it? BLESSED be all who BLESS you! Cursed be all who curse you!"

(NKJV: ⁹ 'He bows down, he lies down as a lion; and as a lion, who shall rouse him?' "BLESSED is he who BLESSES you and cursed is he who curses you.")

In our verse today, Bil'am, having **BLESSED** Isra'el, then tells Balak, "**BLESSED** be all who **BLESS** you! Cursed be all who curse you!" Bil'am, the 1st half of our verse warns Balak against rousing Isra'el. Bil'am's eyes and mind had been opened by ADONAI and, much to the anger of BALAK, he couldn't do anything but **BLESS** Isra'el and warn Balak about how to treat God's own people. 25th of February 2022. 422. Deuteronomy 15:6 CJB: ⁶Yes, ADONAI your God will BLESS you, as he promised you, you will lend money to many nations without having to borrow, and you will rule over many nations without their ruling over you.
(NKJV: ⁶ For the LORD your God will BLESS you just as He promised you; you shall lend to many nations, but you shall not borrow; you shall reign over many nations, but they shall not reign over you.)

For the full context of our verse today, please read the whole chapter down to verse 13. Most of the context is about "feeding" your brother but in our verse today, ADONAI is referring to the nation of Isra'el and how they are to treat other nations. We read that ADONAI will **BLESS** those who obey the commandments in this chapter, with all the **BLESSINGS** He has promised. 26th of February 2022.

Psalm 10:3 CJB: ³ For the wicked boasts about his lusts; he **BLESSES** greed and despises *ADONAI*.
(*NKJV:* ³ For the wicked boasts of his heart's desire; ^[b]He **BLESSES** the greedy and renounces the LORD.)
[b] or: The greedy man curses and spurns the Lord.

This Psalm is about the wicked and in our verse today, we read that he despises ADONAI! Please read the whole Psalm, for, in the last 7 verses we read that ADONAI triumphs! In our verse today, the wicked boasts about his lusts and his heart's desires, whilst we read that he **BLESSES** greed. What sort of **BLESSING** is this? It is not one that I would want, that is for sure. 27th of February 2022.

424. Psalm 107:38 CJB: ³⁸ He BLESSES them, their numbers grow, and he doesn't let their livestock decrease.
(NKJV: ³⁸ He also BLESSES them, and they multiply greatly; and He does not let their cattle decrease.)

This Psalm relates how, as the people act wickedly and then suffer the result, when they (*we*) call out to ADONAI in their (*our*) affliction, He rescues them (*us*). Then He leads them (*us*) to a land of flowing springs, then, as our verse today reads, He **BLESSES** them (*us*) as there (*our*) numbers grow and He keeps our livestock from getting less. Wow! What a God we love and serve, who keeps us safe when we walk in His paths. 28th of February 2022.

425. Proverbs 3:33 CJB: ³³ *ADONAI*'s curse is in the house of the wicked, but he **BLESSES** the home of the righteous.

(NKJV: ³³ The curse of the LORD is on the house of the wicked, but He **BLESSES** the home of the just.)

In Proverbs, mainly, each verse shows 2 opposites. In our verse today, we read how a curse of ADONAI or His **BLESSING** rests upon one's house, dependant on how one lives. Please Father God, help me to be righteous in Your eyes, that Your **BLESSING** may rest upon my house. Remembering that house means one's family and descendants, not so much a physical building. Amen. 1st of March 2022.

426. Proverbs 27:14 CJB: ¹⁴ Whoever greets his neighbour in a loud voice at dawn, might just as well have cursed him.
(NKJV: ¹⁴ He who BLESSES his friend with a loud voice, rising early in the morning, it will be counted a curse to him.)

Another stand-alone verse in Proverbs. This verse shows us how not to treat our neighbours! What sort of **BLESSING** is this, to upset our neighbours? As it says, the one who does this might as well be cursed! In other words, don't do it, don't make loud noises early in the morning.

 2^{nd} of March 2022.

427. Isaiah 65:16 CJB: ¹⁶ Thus someone on earth who BLESSES himself will BLESS himself by the God of truth, and someone on earth who swears an oath will swear by the God of truth; for past troubles will be forgotten, hidden from my eyes.

(NKJV: ¹⁶ So that he who **BLESSES** himself in the earth shall **BLESS** himself in the God of truth; and he who swears in the earth shall swear by the God of truth; because the former troubles are forgotten, and because they are hidden from My eyes.)

According to my "Jewish Study Bible," the verses 11 to 16, contrast the good ones against the bad ones of God's chosen people, culminating with our verse today. Whilst my "The Complete Jewish Study Bible" has no notes for this passage. Our verse today starts with the word 'thus,' which means that verse 16 is a follow on of, the statements in the first 15 verses of the chapter. If one **BLESSES** oneself, it will be a **BLESSING** by the God of truth and, past troubles will be forgotten. 3^{rd} of March 2022.

BLESSING

428. Psalm 3:8 CJB: ⁸ Victory comes from ADONAI; may your BLESSING rest on your people. (Selah)
(NKJV: ⁸ Salvation belongs to the LORD. Your BLESSING is upon Your people. Selah)

Please read this short this short Psalm for the context of our verse today. Here we see that David is recounting parts of his troubles in life, then in our verse, he acknowledges that his victories over these problems come only from ADONAI and, asks that His **BLESSING** would rest upon His people. This, as in other verses, is followed by "Selah." Now Selah means, roughly, think about all these things you have just read in this Psalm.

4th of March 2022.

429. Deuteronomy 28:2 CJB: ² and all the following BLESSINGS will be yours in abundance, if you will do what ADONAI your God says: (NKJV: ² And all these BLESSINGS shall come upon you and overtake you, because you obey the voice of the LORD your God:)

The 1st verse of this chapter tells us that there is a condition to receiving all the **BLESSINGS** which follow our verse today, "if you will do what ADONAI your God says!" If we do all that ADONAI commands, then all these **BLESSINGS** will be ours BUT, we must observe **and obey** all His Mitzvot. If we do not do this, then there are the curses which follow on from the **BLESSINGS**, from verse 15 of this chapter. 5th of March 2022.

430. Psalm 24:5 CJB: ⁵ They will receive a **BLESSING** from *ADONAI* and justice from God, who saves them.

(NKJV: ⁵ He shall receive **BLESSING** from the LORD, and righteousness from the God of his salvation.)

This Psalm is an exclamation of the glories of our God! Such is the**BLESSING** from ADONAI they will receive, who honour and glorify ADONAI,who have clean hands and pure hearts, who don't make vanities or swearoaths just to deceive others. 6^{th} of March 2022.

431. Isaiah 44:3 CJB: ³ For I will pour water on the thirsty land and streams on the dry ground; I will pour my Spirit on your descendants, my **BLESSING** on your offspring.

(NKJV: ³ For I will pour water on him who is thirsty, and floods on the dry ground; I will pour My Spirit on your descendants, and My BLESSING on your offspring;)

This chapter starts with "Now listen." Why? To find the whole context of our verse today, please read from Chapter 43:22 down to chapter 44:8, where you will find that ADONAI, in chapter 43 is remonstrating with Isra'el for the things they had not done. In these first few verses of Chapter 44, including our verse, ADONAI is telling Isra'el of the good He is going to do for them, in meeting all their needs and then saying that He "will pour our His Spirit on their descendants and His **BLESSINGS** on their offspring." The implication is that these **BLESSINGS** will be meeting all their needs and prospering them. 7^{th} of March 2022.

432. Ephesians 1:3 CJB: ³ Praised be *ADONAI*, Father of our Lord Yeshua the Messiah, who in the Messiah has **BLESSED** us with every spiritual **BLESSING** in heaven.

(NKJV: ³ BLESSED be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has BLESSED us with every spiritual BLESSING in the heavenly places in Christ,)

In this letter to the Ephesian true believers, Sha'ul is telling them (& us today) that ADONAI is to be praised for the fact that He has **BLESSED** us with every spiritual **BLESSING** in Heaven. So, what will these "spiritual **BLESSINGS**" be? I believe that one will be to have all understanding of God's Word, another will be to have new perfect bodies (*no more painful Osteo Arthritis in hips*) another will be no more evil thoughts and one more of so many **BLESSINGS**, will be to be able to literally worship Yeshua and the Father in spirit and truth. Hallelujah! 8th of March 2022.

433. Isaiah 19:24 CJB: ²⁴ On that day Isra'el will be a third partner with Egypt and Ashur, a BLESSING here on earth;
(NKJV: ²⁴ In that day Israel will be one of three with Egypt and Assyria, a BLESSING in the midst of the land)

Our verse today is in, as expected, a whole chapter worth reading. Our verse reveals something of the future, when Egypt, Syria and Isra'el will be in partnership together. Our verse also reveals that these three nations will, collectively, be a **BLESSING** here on earth, all three worshipping ADONAI. Already we know of how He is **BLESSING** the whole earth with so many inventions and medical advances – just look at from where most of the NHS medicines originate. Thank You Father God. 9th of March 2022.

434. 1 Peter 3:9 CJB: ⁹ not repaying evil with evil or insult with insult, but, on the contrary, with **BLESSING**. For it is to this that you have been called, so that you may receive a **BLESSING**.

(*NKJV*: ⁹ not returning evil for evil or reviling for reviling, but on the contrary *BLESSING*, knowing that you were called to this, that you may inherit a *BLESSING*.)

Our verse today is pure advice for the lifestyle of true believers. Please read carefully our verse today and verses 8 to 12 of this chapter, which gives the whole context, where we read that no matter how hurt we may feel, our response is to be to give a **BLESSING** in reply and NOT sarcastically!!! If we continually respond in this way, we shall, as the 2nd half of our verse reads, receive a **BLESSING**, obviously from our Father.

10th of March 2022.

435. Genesis 33:11 CJB: ¹¹ So please accept the gift I have brought you, for God has dealt kindly with me and I have enough." Thus he urged him, until he accepted it.

(NKJV: ¹¹ Please, take my BLESSING that is brought to you, because God has dealt graciously with me, and because I have ^[a]enough." So he urged him, and he took it.) [a] literally all

One needs to read the first 11 verses of this chapter for the context, remembering also what happened at the birth of these twins, Ya'akov and 'Esav and subsequently. We read here, in our verse today, that **BLESSING** in this verse is in the form of a gift from Ya'akov to his (*older*) twin brother. 11^{th} of March 2022. 436. Genesis 12:2 CJB: ² I will make of you a great nation, I will BLESS you, and I will make your name great; and you are to be a BLESSING.
(NKJV: ² I will make you a great nation; I will BLESS you and make your name great; and you shall be a BLESSING)

This verse today, is a promise of ADONAI to Avram and his descendants, that they would become a great nation, Avram himself would become famous (*New Living Translation NLT*) he would be **BLESSED** and would himself be a **BLESSING** (*to his descendants and the world*). Today, as we look at Isra'el and the world, although Isra'el as a nation are not exactly following the Lord, they have brought so many **BLESSING** to the world in technology, medical advances etc. etc. Thank You Father God. 12th of March 2022.

437. Genesis 22:17 CJB: ¹⁷ I will most certainly BLESS you; and I will most certainly increase your descendants to as many as there are stars in the sky or grains of sand on the seashore. Your descendants will possess the cities of their enemies,

(NKJV: ¹⁷ **BLESSING** I will **BLESS** you and multiplying I will multiply your descendants as the stars of the heaven and as the sand which is on the seashore; and your descendants shall possess the gate of their enemies.)

The context here is the first 18 verses of the chapter, Avraham was prepared to obey ADONAI to the extent of killing his only son. ADONAI had, of course, stopped Avraham at the very last moment, as we all know. As a result of Avraham's obedience and trust in ADONAI, we read in our verse today and the next one, of how he was going to be **BLESSED**. Those 2 verses tell us what the **BLESSING** is to be. Hallelujah! 14th of March 2022.

438. Hebrews 6:14 CJB: ¹⁴ and said, "I will certainly BLESS you, and I will certainly give you many descendants";^[C]

(NKJV: ¹⁴ saying, "Surely **BLESSING** I will **BLESS** you, and multiplying I will multiply you.")

It is beneficial to read the whole chapter here, although verses 13 to 15 really give the context to our verse today. We read in our verse, ADONAI reaffirming His promises to Avraham, which were confirmed to Isaac and Jacob. ADONAI has certainly kept that promise, as we know that there are about 18 million "Jews" in the world today, despite Satan's various attempts to destroy them, best known being the Holocaust only about 80 years ago. Even today, ADONAI is continuing His promised **BLESSINGS** despite groups like: Hamas, Hibzollah, PLO and others. *15th of March 2022*. 439. **Genesis 27:12 CJB:** ¹² Suppose my father touches me, he'll know I'm trying to trick him, and I'll bring a curse on myself, not a **BLESSING**!"

(NKJV: ¹² Perhaps my father will feel me, and I shall seem to be a deceiver to him; and I shall bring a curse on myself and not a **BLESSING**.")

We read in the verses 5 to 17, of how Rivkah, Ya'akov's mother, set out to trick her husband into giving the elder son's **BLESSING** to Ya'akov instead. We read too in the rest of the chapter, that her plan worked and that although Yitz'chak was initially suspicious but that suspicion was over come by her plan. Ya'akov did indeed receive the eldest son's **BLESSING** from his father. This was all part of God's plan, as we read in the Scriptures. Remember that 'Esav was only moments older than his twin brother and that Ya'akov was obviously a "mummies boy." 16^{th} of March 2022.

440. Genesis 27:35 CJB: ³⁵ He replied, "Your brother came deceitfully and took away your BLESSING."
(NKJV: ³⁵ But he said, "Your brother came with deceit and has taken away your BLESSING.")

Ya'akov had stolen the eldest son's **BLESSING**, given in verses 27b to 29. In our verse today, 'Esav had returned from the field with food for his father to find the eldest son's **BLESSING** had been given to Ya'akov.. 17th of March 2022.

441. Genesis 27:38 CJB: ³⁸ 'Esav said to his father, "Have you only one BLESSING, my father? Father, BLESS me too!" 'Esav wept aloud (*NKJV*: ³⁸ And Esau said to his father, "Have you only one BLESSING, my father? BLESS me, me also, O my father!" And Esau lifted up his voice and wept.)

I think that we probably all know this story, but please read verses 30 to 45 to refresh your memory. 'Esav was pleading with his father for any **BLESSING** he has left after giving the eldest son's **BLESSING** to Ya'akov. In the next verse, Yitz'chak gave 'Esav what **BLESSING** he could, with a warning, in verse 40, of what the future held for him.

Interesting to note how the AV and hence NKJV have added extra words not in the original Hebrew. 19th of March 2022. 442. Genesis 28:4 CJB: ⁴ And may he give you the BLESSING which he gave Avraham, you and your descendants with you, so that you will possess the land you will travel through, the land God gave to Avraham." (NKJV: ⁴ And give you the BLESSING of Abraham, to you and your descendants with you, that you may inherit the land in^[b] which you are a stranger, which God gave to Abraham.")
[b] of your sojournings

As we remember the previous chapter, it is wonderful to see God's plans for His people (*Isra'el*) being worked out here as we read these first few verses in chapter 28, including our verse today. We read in our verse that Yitz'chak conferred on Ya'akov the same **BLESSING** that was given by ADONAI to Avraham and then to Yitz'chak, now to Ya'akov. This was all before Ya'akov's name was changed to Isra'el, the name of his descendants, of course. The **BLESSING** here is that he will actually posses the land promised to his forefathers, Ya'akov and his descendants. 20^{th} of March 2022.

443. **Genesis 33:11 CJB:** ¹¹ So please accept the gift I have brought you, for God has dealt kindly with me and I have enough." Thus he urged him, until he accepted it.

(NKJV: ¹¹ Please, take my BLESSING that is brought to you, because God has dealt graciously with me, and because I have ^[a]enough." So he urged him, and he took it.) [a] Literally all

Please read the chapter down to our verse today. When doing so, remember that Ya'akov knew that his brother, 'Esav, had threatened to kill him for stealing his **BLESSING** all those years ago. Hence his attitude towards 'Esav, in effect, worshipping him and giving him the gift (**BLESSING**) to try to win 'Esav's favour. However, in the many years that had elapsed since the threat to kill him, 'Esav's thoughts toward Ya'akov had completely softened and he had himself grown very rich. This is the meaning of our verse today and the **BLESSING** here is the gift given and accepted. *21st of March 2022.*

444. **Genesis 39:5 CJB:** ⁵ From the time he appointed him manager of his household and all his possessions, *ADONAI* **BLESSED** the Egyptian's household for Yosef's sake; *ADONAI*'s **BLESSING** was on all he owned, whether in the house or in the field.

(NKJV: ⁵ So it was, from the time that he had made him overseer of his house and all that he had, that the LORD **BLESSED** the Egyptian's house for Joseph's sake; and the **BLESSING** of the LORD was on all that he had in the house and in the field.)

These first few verses, 1 to 6, of this chapter, tell us of how ADONAI so prospered Yosef's work in all he did as a slave to Potifar, He **BLESSED** Yosef's work and caused Potifar to completely entrust to him, absolutely everything in his household and all that he owned. As our verse reads: "ADONAI's BLESSING was on all he (*Potifar*) owned." So much so, that Potifar paid no attention to anything, except to the food he ate. We read here then, that the **BLESSING** was to give Yosef such capabilities as to excel in all that he did. 22^{nd} of March 2022.

445. Genesis 49:28 CJB: ²⁸ All these are the twelve tribes of Isra'el, and this is how their father spoke to them and BLESSED them, giving each his own individual BLESSING.
(NKJV: ²⁸ All these are the twelve tribes of Israel, and this is what their

father spoke to them. And he **BLESSED** them; he **BLESSED** each one according to his own **BLESSING**.)

Please read the whole chapter, at least down to our verse today. In our verse today we read that Ya'akov **BLESSED** each of his 12 sons individually, as in the first 27 verses of the chapter. Each **BLESSING** was unique to the individual son of Ya'akov. In our verse today, we read that these 12 sons were to be the 12 tribes of Isra'el.

23rd of March 2022.

446. **Exodus 32:29 CJB:** ²⁹ Moshe said, "You have consecrated yourselves today to *ADONAI*, because every one of you has been against his own son and against his own kinsman, in order to bring a **BLESSING** on yourselves today."

(NKJV: ²⁹ Then Moses said, ^[e] "Consecrate yourselves today to the LORD, that He may bestow on you a **BLESSING** this day, for every man has opposed his son and his brother.") [e] Literally Fill your hand

You need to read the whole chapter here! In our verse today, Moshe told the Levites that they had consecrated themselves to ADONAI and how it was done. There action has now brought a **BLESSING** upon themselves because they obeyed Moshe (& God) in killing even their own kinsmen, friends and neighbours. The **BLESSING** is to be consecrated to ADONAI. 24^{th} of March 2022.

447. Leviticus 25:21 CJB: ²¹ then I will order my BLESSING on you during the sixth year, so that the land brings forth enough produce for all three years

(NKJV: ²¹ Then I will command My **BLESSING** on you in the sixth year, and it will bring forth produce enough for three years.)

What an interesting chapter, if not reading the whole chapter, then please read down to verse 28. If the Isra'elis obey God's instructions for the 7-year cycle of the Sh'mit-tah (*7th year*) our verse tells how God will give His **BLESSING** in the 6th year of the cycle. Thank you, Lord Yeshua for that explanation and **BLESSING**. Amen.

25th of March 2022

448. Deuteronomy 11:26 CJB: ²⁶ "See, I am setting before you today a BLESSING and a curse (NKJV: ²⁶ "Behold, I set before you today a BLESSING and a curse:)

This verse is as much applicable today as it was when it was given to the people of Isra'el by Moshe. You want the **BLESSINGS** of God? Then listen to all His Mitzvot and obey them. Basically, we will get the curse of God by ignoring Him and His Mitzvot, following other gods such as self! The **BLESSINGS** for Isra'el. are to possess all that ADONAI has promised in the 6 verses following our verse. For us today, it is rather different, **BLESSINGS** to us is peace in our hearts as we follow His Mitzvot but not religiously. 26th of March 2022.

449. **Deuteronomy 30:19 CJB:** ¹⁹ "I call on heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have presented you with life and death, the **BLESSING** and the curse. Therefore, choose life, so that you will live, you and your descendants,

(NKJV: ¹⁹ I call heaven and earth as witnesses today against you, that I have set before you life and death, **BLESSING** and cursing; therefore, choose life, that both you and your descendants may live;)

Please read from verse 15 to the end of the chapter for the context of our verse today. We read that we each have a choice and, elsewhere that ADONAI will never override our choice! We must choose life for our destiny here on earth as well as our eternal destiny. Choose the **BLESSING** of God and not the curse of God for a life of His **BLESSINGS** for ourselves and for our children.

27th of March 2022.

450. **Deuteronomy 11:27 CJB:** ²⁷ the **BLESSING**, if you listen to the *mitzvot* of *ADONAI* your God that I am giving you today; (*NKJV:* ²⁷ the **BLESSING**, if you obey the commandments of the LORD your God which I command you today;)

The previous study of the word **BLESSING**, was almost a repeat of our verse today. We read here today that the **BESSING** offered by ADONAI is conditional on the Isra'elis listening to the Mitzvot of ADONAI and, obviously, obeying them. The **BLESSING** here is the possession of the land. 28th of March 2022.

451. **Deuteronomy 11:29 CJB:** ²⁹ "When *ADONAI* your God brings you into the land you are entering in order to take possession of it, you are to put the **BLESSING** on Mount Grizim and the curse on Mount 'Eival. (*NKJV:* ²⁹ Now it shall be, when the LORD your God has brought you into the land which you go to possess, that you shall put the **BLESSING** on Mount Gerizim and the curse on Mount Ebal.)

ADONAI commanded that His **BLESSING** be put on Mount G'rizim and that His curse be put on Mount 'Eival. Later, in **Joshua 8:33**, where the people (*Isra'el*) divided on either side of the Ark, half on the side of Mount G'rizim and the other half on the side of Mount 'Eival. I have to confess that the Lord isn't telling me the significance of the mountains or the dividing of the people, even my commentaries offer no help.

29th of March 2022.

452. Deuteronomy 12:15 CJB: ¹⁵ However, you may slaughter and eat meat wherever you live and whenever you want, in keeping with the degree to which *ADONAI* your God has **BLESSED** you. The unclean and the clean may eat it, as if it were gazelle or deer.
(*NKJV*: ¹⁵ "However, you may slaughter and eat meat within all your gates, whatever your heart desires, according to the **BLESSING** of the LORD your God which He has given you; the unclean and the clean may eat of it, of the gazelle and the deer alike.)

Please read the whole chapter down to verse19, since this is a rather complex set of instructions given to Isra'el on what to eat or NOT eat and, where to eat or NOT eat it. In our verse today, ADONAI is telling how they may eat whatever He has **BLESSED** them, even the unclean may eat it but, as the next verse reads, they must NOT eat (*drink*) the blood. What is set aside for ADONAI must NOT be eaten anywhere except in the place ADONAI will live! 30th of March 2022.

453. **Deuteronomy 16:17 CJB:** ¹⁷ but every man is to give what he can, in accordance with the **BLESSING** *ADONAI* your God has given you. (*NKJV:* ¹⁷ *Every man shall give as he is able, according to the* **BLESSING** of the LORD your God which He has given you.)

To understand the context of our verse today, please read verses 13 to our verse. In our verse today, we are instructed to give according to how ADONAI has **BLESSED** each one of us. Note, this is not our tithe and, notice too, the sentence before our verse. 31^{st} of March 2022.

454. Deuteronomy 23:5 CJB: ⁵ But ADONAI your God would not listen to Bil'am; rather, ADONAI your God turned the curse into a BLESSING for you; because ADONAI your God loved you.
(NKJV: ⁵ Nevertheless the LORD your God would not listen to Balaam, but the LORD your God turned the curse into a BLESSING for you, because the LORD your God loves you)

Reading the chapter from the beginning down to verse 8 gives the context of our verse today. We read here of the **BLESSINGS** that ADONAI will give His people, effectively, as a reward for listening **and** obeying His instructions completely. The **BLESSINGS** are prosperity in all things, as listed in these verses but, they are conditional, as mentioned in verses 1 and 2 of this chapter. *1st of April 2022*.

455. **Deuteronomy 28:8 CJB:** ⁸ "ADONAI will order a **BLESSING** to be with you in your barns and in everything you undertake; he will **BLESS** you in the land *ADONAI* your God is giving you.

(**NKJV**: ⁸ "The LORD will command the **BLESSING** on you in your storehouses and in all to which you set your hand, and He will **BLESS** you in the land which the LORD your God is giving you.)

Our verse today is the 5th of the series of **BLESSINGS** ADONAI will put upon His people **IF** they will, only listen closely to what *ADONAI* your God says, observing and obeying all his *mitzvot*! (*verse1*). I am sure that you will have noticed here that all these **BLESSINGS** are conditional upon obedience to God and all His instructions. 2nd of April 2022.

456. **Deuteronomy 33:1 CJB:** ^{1.} This is the **BLESSING** that Moshe, the man of God, spoke over the people of Isra'el before his death: (*NKJV*: ^{1.} Now this is the **BLESSING** with which Moses the man of God blessed the children of Israel before his death.)

In our verse today, we read that the **BLESSINGS** following were spoken by Moshe before his death, over the people of Isra'el. Verses 2 to 6 of this chapter are the words of Moshe before his individual **BLESSINGS** for each of the tribes of Isra'el from verse 7, in the rest of the chapter. 3^{rd} of April 2022.

457. Deuteronomy 33:7 CJB: ⁷ Of Y'hudah he said: "Hear, ADONAI, the cry of Y'hudah! Bring him in to his people, let his own hands defend him; but you, help him against his enemies."
(NKJV: ⁷ And this he said of Judah: "Hear, LORD, the voice of Judah, And bring him to his people; Let his hands be sufficient for him and may You be a help against his enemies.")

After the introduction of these **BLESSINGS** by Moshe, in the previous study. Having skipped over Re'uven, to our verse today, we have the **BLESSING** upon the tribe of Y'hudah, not so much a **BLESSING**, as a request for Godly defence. *4th of April 2022*.

458. **Deuteronomy 33:16 CJB:** ¹⁶ with the best from the earth and all that fills it, and the favour of Him who lived in the [*burning*] bush. May **BLESSING** come on the head of Yosef, on the brow of the prince among his brothers.

(NKJV: ¹⁶ With the precious things of the earth and its fullness, and the favour of Him who dwelt in the bush. Let the **BLESSING** come 'on the head of Joseph, and on the crown of the head of him who was separate from his brothers.')

Our verse today, is in the middle of verses 13 to 17, which are listing the **BLESSINGS** upon the tribe of Yosef. In our verse, are listed some of those **BLESSINGS**, to be even upon the head of Yosef and above those of his brothers. There is a reference to "Him who lived in the [burning] bush" which is ADONAI, as in Exodus 3:2-6. 5th of April 2022.

459. Deuteronomy 33:23 CJB: ²³ Of Naftali he said: "You, Naftali, satisfied with favour and full of BLESSING from ADONAI, take possession of the sea and the south."
(NKJV: ²³ And of Naphtali he said: "O Naphtali, satisfied with favour, and full of the BLESSING of the LORD, possess the west and the south.")

In our verse today, the **BLESSING** here for Naftali, is in the form of an instruction to go and take possession of the sea and the south, since ADONAI has filled him with **BLESSINGS**. Also, he is satisfied with the favour of ADONAI. *6th of April 2022*.

460. Judges 1:15 CJB: ¹⁵ She said to him: "Give me a BLESSING: since you gave me land in the Negev, also give me sources of water." So, Kalev gave her the Upper Springs and the Lower Springs. (*NKJV*: ¹⁵ So she said to him, "Give me a BLESSING; since you have given me land in the South, give me also springs of water." And Caleb gave her the upper springs and the lower springs.)

In our verse today, Akhsah, Kalev's daughter, after she was married to Otni'el, came to her father and asked him for a **BLESSING**. The land she had been given was in the dry desert of Negev, so Kalev gave her the **BLESSING** of the Upper and Lower Springs. Thus, she had water for the land she had been given. 7th of April 2022.

461. 1 Samuel 25:27 CJB: ²⁷ Meanwhile, let this present which your servant has brought to my lord be given to the men in my lord's service. (*NKJV*: ²⁷ And now this present which your maidservant has brought to my lord, let it be given to the young men who follow my lord.) (*OJB*: ²⁷ And now this *BROCHA* which thine shifchah (maidservant) hath brought unto adoni, let it even be given unto the ne'arim that follow at the feet of adoni. [*BROCHA* means *BLESSING*.])

Please read the whole chapter to obtain the whole context of our verse, it is a very interesting story. Naval, the villain of this piece, had been very aggressive toward David's men and when Avigayil, Naval's wife, heard about it, she rushed to appease David's anger, making and bringing much food, to David and his armed men. Verses 24 to 31 are Avigayil's message to David and our verse today is where she brings the **BLESSING** (*the present, this why I have included to OJB verse*) to David. Thus, we read in this chapter that a present can be a form of **BLESSING** to someone. 8th of April 2022.

462. 2 Samuel 7:29 CJB: ²⁹ So may it please you to BLESS the family of your servant and thereby cause it to continue forever in your presence. For you, *Adonai ELOHIM*, have said it. May your servant's family be BLESSED forever by your BLESSING."

(NKJV: ²⁹ Now therefore, let it please You to **BLESS** the house of Your servant, that it may continue before You forever; for You, O Lord GOD, have spoken it, and with Your **BLESSING** let the house of Your servant be **BLESSED** forever.")

This chapter is a wonderful one to read, of how David was to be the beginning of a dynasty in God's eyes. The **BLESSING** here in our verse today, is to know how David's descendants were to occupy the throne of Isra'el forever. As we know, this line came down to Yeshua, who occupies the throne for eternity. WOW! What a **BLESSING** with which to be **BLESSED**! Thank You Father God on the behalf of David himself and for us believers today. 9th of April 2022.

463. **2 Kings 5:15 CJB:** ¹⁵ Then, with his whole retinue, he returned to the man of God, went and stood before him, and said, "Well, I've learned that there is no God in all the earth except in Isra'el; therefore, please accept a present from your servant."

(NKJV: ¹⁵ And he returned to the man of God, he and all his aides, and came and stood before him; and he said, "Indeed, now I know that there is no God in all the earth, except in Israel; now therefore, please take a gift from your servant.")

(OJB: ¹⁵ He returned to the Ish HaElohim, he and all his machaneh came, stood before him; and he said, Hinei, now I know that there is no Elohim in kol ha'aretz, but in Yisroel; now therefore, please, take a **brocha** of thy eved.) Again, a reminder that **Brocha** in Hebrew means **BLESSING**

This wonderful story of the healing of Na'aman's leprosy, is one told to young children in Sunday Schools. In our verse today, Na'aman tried to give Elisha a **BLESSING** (*Present*) of all the silver, gold and clothing he had brought from king Aram but, Elisha refused it, despite Na'aman's urging. This story goes from verse 1 to verse 20, when it turns rather sad in the middle of verse 20, but that is another study.

10th of April 2022.

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464. Nehemiah 9:5 CJB: ⁵ Then the L'viïm Yeshua, Kadmi'el, Bani, Hashavn'yah, Sherevyah, Hodiyah, Sh'vanyah and P'tachyah said, "Stand up, and BLESS ADONAI your God from everlasting to everlasting; let them say: "BLESSED be your glorious name, exalted above all BLESSING and praise!

(NKJV: ⁵ And the Levites, Jeshua, Kadmiel, Bani, Hashabniah, Sherebiah, Hodijah, Shebaniah, and Pethahiah, said: "Stand up and **BLESS** the LORD your God Forever and ever! "**BLESSED** be Your glorious name, which is exalted above all **BLESSING** and praise!)

In the first 4 verses of this chapter, we read that the Isra'elis separated themselves from foreigners, confessed their own and their forefathers sins, reading from the Torah, then prostrated themselves in worship to ADONAI. Then we read in our verse today, that certain of the L'vi'im told the people to stand up and **BLESS** ADONAI with all their praises. These praises **BLESSING** ADONAI continued down to verse 15. Hence, we see that praise is a form of **BLESSING**. *12th of April 2022*.

465. Nehemiah 13:2 CJB: ² because they did not supply the people of Isra'el with food and water but, hired Bil'am against them to put a curse on them, although our God turned the curse into a BLESSING (NKJV: ² because they had not met the children of Israel with bread and water but hired Balaam against them to curse them. However, our God turned the curse into a BLESSING.)

We read here in **Nehemiah**, that the Isra'eli people, upon hearing the reading of the scroll of Moshe, separated from themselves all those of a mixed ancestry, that would be especially those with part Ammonite or Moabite origin. The people were reminded in our verse today, of how ADONAI turned that curse Bil'am was hired to put upon the people of Isra'el, He turned it into a **BLESSING**. 14th of April 2022.

466. Job 29:13 CJB: ¹³ Those who had been about to die would BLESS me, and I made widows sing in their hearts for joy.
(NKJV: ¹³ The BLESSING of a perishing man came upon me, and I caused the widow's heart to sing for joy.)

Job is, in this chapter, recounting how his life was, before he was afflicted and lost almost everything except his life. In our verse is one of those memories, where Job was so loved and respected that even a dying man would **BLESS** Job when the man would have nothing else to give. We read also that Job would cause a widow, even if she was still mourning her loss of her husband, to sing with joy.

15th of April 2022.

467. Psalm 3:8 CJB: ⁸ Victory comes from ADONAI; may your
BLESSING rest on your people. (Selah)
(NKJV: ⁸ Salvation belongs to the LORD. Your BLESSING is upon Your people. Selah)

We read in our verse today, of how "victory comes from ADONAI" and "may Your BLESSING rest upon Your people." Now the form of BLESSING is not precisely told but, from reading the whole Psalm, we see that the BLESSING is freedom from fear and, of course, our salvation. But this Psalm is for His people that we call today, the Jews or Isra'el isn't it? How does then, a Gentile, have this BLESSING? Romans 11:19 reveals that when we become believers in Yeshua, then we are grafted into the people of God and hence, have that BLESSING too. Amen! 16th of April 2022. 468. **Psalm 24:5 CJB:** ⁵ They will receive a **BLESSING** from *ADONAI* and justice from God, who saves them.

(**NKJV**: ⁵ He shall receive **BLESSING** from the LORD and righteousness from the God of his salvation.)

In our Psalm today, the first 6 verses describe, firstly, how ADONAI is the one who created all things. The passage then describes who may approach Him and our verse today, tells how ADONAI will **BLESS** them and they receive His Justice. The final 4 verses tell of His glory and His majesty. What a wonderful Psalm. 17th of April 2022.

469. Psalm 109:17 CJB: ¹⁷ He loved cursing; may it recoil on him! He didn't like BLESSING; may it stay far from him!
(NKJV: ¹⁷ As he loved cursing, so let it come to him; as he did not delight in BLESSING, so let it be far from him.)

As David recounted, in the first 19 verses of this Psalm, all the accusations against David by his enemies, in our verse today, David asks ADONAI to bring his enemies cursing back on themselves and may there be no **BLESSINGS** for them, only their own curses recoiling upon them to his detriment. 18th of April 2022.

470. Psalm 129:8 CJB: ⁸ so that no passer-by says, "ADONAI's
BLESSING on you! We BLESS you in the name of ADONAI!"
(NKJV: ⁸ Neither let those who pass by them say, "the BLESSING of the LORD be upon you; we BLESS you in the name of the LORD!")

In the CJB, this Psalm is headed "Song of ascents:" yet, as I read it, it seems more like a prayer to ADONAI, such that in our verse today, it seems to warn that "so that no passer-by says, "ADONAI's BLESSING on you!" it then turns around to say: "We bless you in the name of ADONAI!" According to my "Jewish Study Bible," There is some uncertainty about the real meaning of these two BLESSINGS in this verse.

19th of April 2022.

471. **Psalm 133:3 CJB:** ³ It is like the dew of Hermon that settles on the mountains of Tziyon. For it was there that *ADONAI* ordained the **BLESSING** of everlasting life.

(*NKJV*: ³ It is like the dew of Hermon, descending upon the mountains of Zion; For there the LORD commanded the **BLESSING**, Life forevermore.)

Our verse today reads about a **BLESSING** of everlasting life, which doesn't really make sense in the context. However, according to the notes in my "Jewish Study Bible," the "Dead Sea Psalms Scrolls" of our verse reads, "There the Lord ordained BLESSING forever; may all be well with Isra'el." This reads understandably, unlike the OJB, the NKJV or the CJB. **BLESSING** here means, "may all will be well with Isra'el." Thank You Lord. 20th of April 2022.

472. Proverbs 10:22 CJB: ²² The BLESSING of ADONAI is what makes people rich, and he doesn't mix sorrow with it.
(NKJV: ²² The BLESSING of the LORD makes one rich, and He adds no sorrow with it.)

As so often in Proverbs, our verse today is a standalone verse, seemingly not connected to those surrounding it, it IS in itself a proverb. It is a reminder that if one is rich, one must give thanks and glory to ADONAI for this, not keep glory to oneself. If, instead, one strains for riches by one's own efforts, there may come sorrow for not giving the thanks and glory to God. Thanks again to the JSB. *21st of April 2022*.

473. Proverbs 11:11 CJB: ¹¹ By the BLESSING of the upright, a city is raised up; but the words of the wicked tear it down.
(NKJV: ¹¹ By the BLESSING of the upright the city is exalted, but it is overthrown by the mouth of the wicked.)

In our verse today, we read that when the upright person gives a **BLESSING**, the whole city where he lives, is cheered up, raised up, brought to joyful ways. By contrast, the words of the wicked bring down the joy, the happiness, the whole wellbeing of the citizens of that city. 23^{rd} of April 2022. 474. Proverbs 11:26 CJB: ²⁶ The people will curse him who withholds grain; but if he sells it, BLESSINGS will be on his head.
(NKJV: ²⁶ The people will curse him who withholds grain, but BLESSING will be on the head of him who sells it.)

In our verse today, which is part of verses 24 to 26, we have a proverb about generosity or not and **BLESSING** or cursing. It is about our individual lifestyle, do we keep our riches, money, very much to ourselves, i.e. stingy or, are we generous? Are we cursed by others because we keep essentials for ourselves and watch others go hungry, or do we release or sell what we have to others in need and be **BLESSED** by them. 24^{th} of April 2022.

475. Proverbs 24:25 CJB: ²⁵ but with those who condemn him, things will go well, and a good BLESSING will come upon them.
(NKJV: ²⁵ But those who rebuke the wicked will have delight, and a good BLESSING will come upon them.)

In these 2+ verses, 23b, 24 & 25, some might say, "oh this only applies to judges." However, we all make decisions, "judgements," all day every day. If someone says something harsh about us, we would think bad things about that person, making a judgement on them. This is only a minor judgement, which illustrates the point. But currently, with Putin having invaded a people at rest in Ukraine, we condemn him. This is judgement, although there is nothing we can do about this except pray and this will result in **BLESSING** upon those who do so pray. Amen. 25^{th} of April 2022.

476. Isaiah 19:24 CJB: ²⁴ On that day Isra'el will be a third partner with Egypt and Ashur, a BLESSING here on earth;
(NKJV: ²⁴ In that day Israel will be one of three with Egypt and Assyria, a BLESSING in the midst of the land,)

Having read the whole chapter and reading all the horrors that will come upon Egypt, the message changes at verse 18 and then the message comes in our verse today. Here we read that Assyria (*Ashur*) Egypt and Isra'el become one in the Lord and they will, together, become, "in that day," a **BLESSING** on all the earth. This is something to really look forward. Amen. *26th of April 2022*. 477. **Isaiah 44:3 CJB:** ³ For I will pour water on the thirsty land and streams on the dry ground; I will pour my Spirit on your descendants, my **BLESSING** on your offspring.

(NKJV: ³ For I will pour water on him who is thirsty, and floods on the dry ground; I will pour My Spirit on your descendants, and My BLESSING on your offspring;)

In our verse today, Isaiah is, effectively, taking dictation from ADONAI, listing some of the **BLESSING** which He will give to Isra'el, Ya'akov. Firstly, the **BLESSINGS** on the land to sustain Isra'el then, how He will **BLESS** the descendants of Isra'el, sustaining them spiritually. These **BLESSINGS** are not stated to be for a specific time, or period, hence they are eternal **BLESSINGS**. 27th of April 2022.

478. **Isaiah 65:8 CJB:** ⁸ Here is what *ADONAI* says: "As when juice is found in a cluster of grapes, and people say, 'Don't destroy it, there is still some good in it,' so I will do likewise for the sake of my servants, and not destroy them all.

(NKJV: ⁸ Thus says the LORD: "As the new wine is found in the cluster, and one says, 'Do not destroy it, for a **BLESSING** is in it,' so will I do for My servants' sake, that I may not destroy them all.)

In the first seven verses of this chapter, ADONAI is rebuking the people of Isra'el who had gone far from ADONAI and His ways. In our verse today, ADONAI is saying that He will not destroy all the people of Isra'el, as there are still some who follow His ways, that there is still some good or **BLESSING** in them. 28th of April 2022.

479. **Ezekiel 34:26 CJB:** ²⁶ I will make them and the places around my hill a **BLESSING**, and I will cause the rain to fall when it should, there will be showers of **BLESSING**.

(NKJV: ²⁶ I will make them and the places all around My hill a **BLESSING**; and I will cause showers to come down in their season; there shall be showers of **BLESSING**.)

The context of our verse today is verses 23 to 31. The specific **BLESSING** in our verse today is that ADONAI will cause the rain to fall when it should, hence there will be showers of **BLESSING** upon the land and all the people of Isra'el. 29th of April 2022.

480. Ezekiel 44:30 CJB: ³⁰ The first of all the first fruits of everything, and every voluntary contribution of everything, from all your offerings, will be for the *cohanim*. You are also to give the *Cohen* the first of your dough, so that a BLESSING will rest on your house.
(*NKJV*: ³⁰ The best^[d] of all first fruits of any kind, and every sacrifice of any kind from all your sacrifices, shall be the priest's; also you shall give to the priest the first of your ground meal, to cause a BLESSING to rest on your house.)
[d] Lit. first

This chapter is about the instructions for the Cohanim. In our verse today, we read that the first fruits and all voluntary offerings of the people (of Isra'el) are to be for the Cohanim, also the first of the dough is to be given to the Cohen. Giving these things by the people, will result in a **BLESSING** resting on the house of, not only the giver but, on the house of Isra'el. 30th of April 2022.

481. Joel 2:14 CJB: ¹⁴ Who knows? He may turn, change his mind and leave a blessing behind him, [enough for] grain offerings and drink offerings to present to ADONAI your God.
(NKJV: ¹⁴ Who knows if He will turn and relent, and leave a blessing behind Him, a grain offering and a drink offering for the LORD your God?)

In the first 11 verses of this chapter, we read of how terrifying is the army of ADONAI. Then from verse 12, we read of what Isra'el should do. In our verse today we read that if Isra'el turns to ADONAI, He may turn and leave a **BLESSING** behind Him, enough for the people to present grain and drink offerings to Him. 1st of May 2022.

482. Zechariah 8:13 CJB: ¹³ House of Y'hudah and house of Isra'el, just as you were formerly a curse among the nations, so now I will save you; and you will be a BLESSING. Don't be afraid but take courage!' (*NKJV*: ¹³ And 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.')

Up until our verse in this chapter, ADONAI-TZVA'OT has been remembering His past actions and now, in our verse, what He is doing for the houses of Y'hudah and Isra'el, how they were a curse among the nations but, now to be a **BLESSING**. 2nd of May 2022.

483. Malachi 3:10 CJB: ¹⁰ Bring the whole tenth into the storehouse, so that there will be food in my house, and put me to the test," says *ADONAI-Tzva'ot*. "See if I won't open for you the floodgates of heaven and pour out for you a **BLESSING** far beyond your needs. (*NKJV*: ¹⁰ Bring all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be food in My house, and try Me now in this," Says the LORD of hosts, "If I will not open for you the windows of heaven and pour out for you such **BLESSING** that there will not be room enough to receive it.)

As so often, it is useful to read the chapter, down to at least verse 12. In our verse today, we read that His people must bring the whole tithe into the storehouse. This will be a "test" of ADONAI-Tzva'ot to see that, if we do bring in our tithe, He will pour out a **BLESSING** which meets far more than our needs. This is a contentious matter in the Church today I appreciate. For myself, I obey the Scripture. 3^{rd} of May 2022.

484. Luke 24:53 CJB: ⁵³ And they spent all their time in the Temple courts, praising God.
(NKJV: ⁵³ and were continually in the temple [n]praising and BLESSING God. [o]Amen.)
[n] NU omits praising and
[o] NU omits Amen
(NU stands for <u>N</u>etsie-Aland Greek New Testament/<u>U</u>nited Bible Society)

Having looked at several different translations, in Bible Gateway, of this verse, it seems that the word: **BLESSING** is not in the original. Hence no comment here. 4^{th} of May 2022.

485. Romans 15:29 CJB: ²⁹ and I know that when I come to you, it will be with the full measure of the Messiah's BLESSINGS. (NKJV: ²⁹ But I know that when I come to you, I shall come in the fullness of the BLESSING ^[1] of the gospel of Christ.)
[i] serve

Sha'ul, having explained many things to the Roman believers and expressing his longstanding desire to visit them, intending here, to visit them en-route to Spain, declares to the Romans, in our verse today, that when he does visit them, "it will be with the full measure of the Messiah's BLESSINGS." So, what are those BLESSINGS? We are not told. We can only imagine that they will be more good news of all that Yeshua said and did in His life, a little of which, Sha'ul has written in this letter. Amen! 5th of May 2022. 486. **1 Corinthians 10:16 CJB:** ¹⁶ The "cup of **BLESSING**" over which we make the *b*'rakhah, isn't it a sharing in the bloody sacrificial death of the Messiah? The bread we break, isn't it a sharing in the body of the Messiah?

(NKJV: ¹⁶ The cup of BLESSING which we BLESS, is it not the ^[e]communion of the blood of Christ? The bread which we break, is it not the communion of the body of Christ?) [e] fellowship or sharing

In our verse today, this "cup of **BLESSING**" and the "bread we break," which we share in today's communion, over each we make a **BLESSING**, b'rakhah in Hebrew. In these we **BLESS** our Lord Yeshua for the sacrifice he made for our salvation, **BLESSING**, thanking Him for what He has done for us. 8th of May 2022.

487. **Galatians 3:14 CJB:** ¹⁴ Yeshua the Messiah did this so that in union with him the Gentiles might receive the **BLESSING** announced to Avraham, so that through trusting and being faithful, we might receive what was promised, namely, the Spirit.

(**NKJV**: ¹⁴ that the **BLESSING** of Abraham might come upon the Gentiles in Christ Jesus, that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.)

In our verse today, we read firstly, that Yeshua took the curse pronounced in the Torah, in order that we Gentiles might receive the **BLESSING** as announced to Avraham. He trusted and was faithful to what God said, so the **BLESSING** we receive through trusting and being faithful, is the spirit, the Holy Spirit. *9th of May 2022.*

488. Hebrews 6:7 CJB: ⁷ For the land that soaks up frequent rains and then brings forth a crop useful to its owners receives a **BLESSING** from God;

(NKJV: ⁷ For the earth which drinks in the rain that often comes upon it, and bears herbs useful for those by whom it is cultivated, receives BLESSING from God;)

Please read carefully, verses 1 to 8. Many read this to mean that one can lose one's salvation, however, reading these verses carefully, especially the last part of verse 6, shows that this is not true! In our verse today, we read that the land that soaks up the rain and produces a good crop, receives a **BLESSING** from God, if produces thorns and thistles, then it is cursed. 10^{th} of May 2022.

489. Hebrews 12:17 CJB: ¹⁷ For you know that afterwards, when he wanted to obtain his father's **BLESSING**, he was rejected; indeed, even though he sought it with tears, his change of heart was to no avail. (*NKJV*: ¹⁷ For you know that afterward, when he wanted to inherit the **BLESSING**, he was rejected, for he found no place for repentance, though he sought it diligently with tears.)

This **BLESSING** in our verse today, is a "one off" **BLESSING**, one that can only given by a father to his 1^{st} born son. It can be given only by a father and only to his eldest son. Amongst those **BLESSINGS**, is the right to have double portion of the inheritance when the father dies, by Jewish Law in **Deuteronomy 21:17**. Today things, in the UK at least, are different. 11^{th} of May 2022.

490. James 3:10 CJB: ¹⁰ Out of the same mouth come BLESSING and cursing! Brothers, it isn't right for things to be this way.
(NKJV: ¹⁰ Out of the same mouth proceed BLESSING and cursing. My brethren, these things ought not to be so.)

This letter from Ya'akov (*his name was changed in the AV, and most subsequent translations, to honour king James who authorised and paid for the translation into English*) certainly in this chapter, down to verse 12, guides us on how we should control our tongues and, in our verse today, admonishes us when we use our tongue to both **BLESS** and curse. We read here how wrong we are if we fail to bridle our tongues (*no pun intended!*). 12th of May 2022.

491. 1 Peter 3:9 CJB: 9 not repaying evil with evil or insult with insult, but, on the contrary, with BLESSING. For it is to this that you have been called, so that you may receive a BLESSING.
(NKJV: 9 not returning evil for evil or reviling for reviling, but on the contrary BLESSING, knowing that you were called to this, that you may inherit a BLESSING.)

Having read from verse 1 to verse 12 of this chapter, to find the context of our verse today, we read of how we should treat one another, particularly within marriage. Within our verse today, we read that the 2^{nd} **BLESSING** there, is conditional upon the way in which we treat each other, in marriage and toward everyone else. **BLESS** others, even when they insult or harm us. 13^{th} of May 2022.

492. **Revelation 5:12 CJB:** ¹² and they shouted out, "Worthy is the slaughtered Lamb to receive power, riches, wisdom, strength, honour, glory and praise!"

(*NKJV*: ¹² saying with a loud voice: "Worthy is the Lamb who was slain to receive power and riches and wisdom, and strength and honour and glory and *BLESSING*!")

What a wonderful chapter to read, I found it to be uplifting! These millions and millions of angels should out our verse today, such total truth. Absolutely is the Lamb, our Lord Yeshua, worthy of "power, riches, wisdom, strength, honour, glory and praise!" The NKJV uses the word **BLESSING** for praise here, which gives added meaning to our word, **BLESSING**. 15th of May2022.

493. Revelation 5:13 CJB: ¹³ And I heard every creature in heaven, on earth, under the earth and on the sea, yes, everything in them, saying, "To the One sitting on the throne and to the Lamb belong praise, honour, glory and power forever and ever!"

(NKJV: ¹³ And every creature which is in heaven and on the earth and under the earth and such as are in the sea, and all that are in them, I heard saying: "BLESSING and honour and glory and power be to Him who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb, forever and [glever!") [g] M adds Amen

In our verse today, we read that every created living being and creature said, "To the One sitting on the throne and to the Lamb belong praise, honour, glory and power forever and ever!" We see again that the CJB has praise rather than **BLESSING**, by which we read that praise is a form of **BLESSING** our Lord God and, indeed, to our fellow beings, whilst we are here on earth. *16th of May 2022.*

494. **Revelation 7:12 CJB** ¹² "Amen! "Praise and glory, wisdom and thanks, honour and power and strength belong to our God forever and ever! "Amen!"

(NKJV: ¹² saying: "Amen! **BLESSING** and glory and wisdom, thanksgiving and honour and power and might, be to our God forever and ever. Amen.")

We read in the previous verse, that the elders and the 4 living beings fell face down before the throne (*of God*). There, in our verse today, we read that they worshipped God, saying the words as shown in our verse today, giving praise, glory, thanks, honour, power and strength to our God forever and ever. Once again, we read here that a form of **BLESSING** here is praise. Maybe we should do the same? *17th of May 2022*.

BLESSINGS

495. **Genesis 49:25 CJB:** ²⁵ by the God of your father, who will help you, by *El Shaddai*, who will **BLESS** you with **BLESSINGS** from heaven above, **BLESSINGS** from the deep, lying below, **BLESSINGS** from the breasts and the womb.

(NKJV: ²⁵ By the God of your father who will help you, and by the Almighty who will BLESS you with BLESSINGS of heaven above, BLESSINGS of the deep that lies beneath, BLESSINGS of the breasts and of the womb.)

Please read the whole chapter since our verse today is a small part of the **BLESSINGS** given to each of the 12 sons of Ya'akov. Verses 22 to 26 are those pronounced over Yosef, which includes our verse. These **BLESSINGS** upon Yosef are considerably more than upon any of his 11 brothers. Yosef will receive **BLESSINGS** from Heaven above, from the deep and from having many descendants. These are only part of the abundance of **BLESSINGS** upon Yosef and those from him. WOW! Something much better than upon each of his brothers.

18th of May 2022.

496. Genesis 49:26 CJB: ²⁶ The BLESSINGS of your father are more powerful than the BLESSINGS of my parents, extending to the farthest of the everlasting hills; they will be on the head of Yosef, on the brow of the prince among his brothers.
(NKJV: ²⁶ The BLESSINGS of your father have excelled the

BLESSINGS of my ancestors, up to the utmost bound of the everlasting hills. They shall be on the head of Joseph, and on the crown of the head of him who was separate from his brothers.)

Our verse today follows on from the previous study, in these 2 verses we read of how Yosef was a favourite son! Here, Moshe writes of how Ya'akov's parents **BLESSINGS** were not as powerful as Ya'akov's **BLESSINGS** upon Yosef, how his **BLESSINGS** spread far and wide. Here, we read too, that Ya'akov considered Yosef to be the prince among his brothers. Of the **BLESSINGS** themselves, we only read that they are more powerful than those of Yitz'chak. 19th of May 2022.

497. Deuteronomy 28:2 CJB: ² and all the following BLESSINGS will be yours in abundance, if you will do what ADONAI your God says:
(NKJV: ² And all these BLESSINGS shall come upon you and overtake you, because you obey the voice of the LORD your God:)

Our verse today explains that ADONAI will give His people all the **BLESSINGS** in the verses following our verse. Hence, please read down to at least verse 14 to read about these **BLESSINGS**. Verse 1 and verse 14 give the conditions required to be met, to qualify for all these **BLESSINGS** listed in the 1st part of this chapter.

21st of May 2022.

498. **Joshua 8:34 CJB:** ³⁴ After this, he read all the words of the *Torah*, the **BLESSING** and the curse, according to everything written in the book of the *Torah*.

(NKJV: ³⁴ And afterward he read all the words of the law, the **BLESSINGS** and the cursings, according to all that is written in the Book of the Law.)

In the Torah (*means teaching, not Law*) of Moshe are all the **BLESSINGS** and the curse written therein. In our verse today, we read that Y'hoshua read to all the people assembled there, all the words written in the Torah, all 5 books. Assembled there for this were all the men, women, little ones and foreigners for this reading. This was to instruct all the people how to conduct their lives in the land which ADONAI was giving to them. This must have taken a long time. We today, should take care to read these 5 books, since they are the word of God, as is the whole of the Tanakh (*The Old Testament*) and we should be hungry for them.

499. Psalm 21:3 CJB: ³ For you come to meet him with the best BLESSINGS, you place a crown of fine gold on his head.
(NKJV: ³ For You meet him with the BLESSINGS of goodness; You set a crown of pure gold upon his head.)

In this Psalm, king David is recounting how ADONAI was looking after him, **BLESSING** him. In our verse today, we read how ADONAI comes to meet David, bringing him all the best **BLESSINGS** and putting a crown of fine gold on his head. Some of these **BLESSINGS** are listed in this Psalm, from verse 1 to the end. Even our verse shows us one of those **BLESSINGS**, the crown. 23rd of May 2022. 500. Proverbs 10:6 CJB: ⁶ BLESSINGS are for the head of the righteous, but the speech of the wicked is a cover for violence.
(NKJV: ⁶ BLESSINGS are on the head of the righteous, but violence covers the mouth of the wicked.)

We read here of the difference between the righteous and the wicked. **BLESSINGS**, which are not specified, are for or on the head of the righteous, whilst that spoken by the wicked, which may appear to be somewhat encouraging, are really only hiding the wickedness they are secretly planning against the righteous. The message for us true believers today, is listen very carefully to what the wicked are saying, in order to discern the truth of what they are saying.

27th of July 2022.

501. Proverbs 28:20 CJB: ²⁰ A trustworthy person will receive many BLESSINGS, but one rushing to get rich will not go unpunished.
(NKJV: ²⁰ A faithful man will abound with BLESSINGS, but he who hastens to be rich will not go unpunished.)

Are you faithful and trustworthy? Am I? The **BLESSINGS** here are many, if we are. However, if we are spending our time working out how to get rich, how to make money, we shall be punished, as it reads here in **our verse** today. The form of punishment is not specified here, but the **BLESSING** are going to be many if we are faithful and trustworthy. Thank you our Father God. 28th of July 2022. 502. Malachi 2:2 CJB: ² If you won't listen, if you won't pay attention to honouring my name," says *ADONAI-Tzva'ot*, "then I will send the curse on you; I will turn your **BLESSINGS** into curses. Yes, I will curse them, because you pay no attention.

(*NKJV*: ² If you will not hear, and if you will not take it to heart, to give glory to My name," says the LORD of hosts, "I will send a curse upon you, and I will curse your blessings. Yes, I have cursed them already, because you do not take it to heart.)

Verse 1 here tells us that our verse today and the following one is a command to the Cohanim (priests). Verses 2 and 3 tell of the results of the cohanim failing to listen to what ADONAI is telling them. The following verses give the rest of the context. ADONAI is telling them that He will turn their **BLESSINGS** into curses! No more **BLESSINGS** for them, only curses. For us today, this shows how imperative it is for us to always listen out for when ADONAI speaks to us as individuals and to follow His words! 29th of July 2022.

503. Ephesians 1:3 CJB: ³ Praised be ADONAI, Father of our Lord Yeshua the Messiah, who in the Messiah has BLESSED us with every spiritual BLESSING in heaven.
(NKJV: ³ BLESSED be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has BLESSED us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ,)

For the whole context of our verse today, if you can't read the whole chapter, then at least read down to verse 14. In our verse today, we read that, as true believers in Yeshua Ha'Mashiach, that Yeshua has **BLESSED** us with every spiritual **BLESSING** in Heaven. **WOW!** What a way in which to reach the last of these studies into the word **BLESS**. In the following verses, we read of how we were chosen by the Father, even before the creation and of some of those **BLESSINGS** set upon each of us. HALLELUJAH! Thank You Father God. Amen, Amen, *30th of July 2022*.