THE BEREKHU

BAREKHU ET ADONAI HA'ME'VO-RAKH

BLESS THE LORD, WHO IS TO BE BLESSED

CONGREGATION / OLIM

BARUCH ADONAI HA'ME'VO-RAKH LA OLAM VA'ED

BLESSED IS ADONAI, WHO IS BLESSED FOREVER AND EVER



Devarim / Deuteronomy 11:26 – 16:17 Reading: 15:19 – 16:17

Blessing the Reading of the Torah

ברוך אתה אדני אלהינו מלך העולם אשר בחר בנו מכל העמימ ונתן לנו את תורתו ברוך אתה אדני נותן התורה

Barukh ata Adonai Eloheynu,
melekh ha-olam,
Asher bechar banu mik-kol ha-am-mim
venatan la-nu et Torato.
Baruch ata Adonai, no-tein Ha-Torah

Blessed are you, Lord our God, King of the universe Who chose us from all the people and gave us His Torah Blessed are you, Lord, giver of the Torah

Blessing over the reader of Torah

May He who blessed our fathers, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob bless Caleb Lovelace because he has come up for the honor of God, for the honor of the Torah and for the honor of the Shabbat. In this merit may the Holy One, Blessed be He, protect and deliver Caleb from all trouble and distress, from all affliction and illness, and may He send blessing and success to all his endeavors, together with all Israel and all his brethren; and the congregation says, In Yeshua's Name Amen.

Deuteronomy 15:19 - 21

19 "All the firstborn males that are born in your herd and your flock you are to consecrate to Yah your Elohim. You are to do no work with the firstborn of your herd or shear the firstborn of your flock.

20 You are to eat it before Yah your Elohim year after year in the place Yah chooses—you and your household.

21 But if it has any blemish—if it is lame or blind or has any serious blemish—you are not to sacrifice it to Yah your Elohim.

Deuteronomy 15:22 – 16:1

22 You are to eat it within your gates, the unclean and the clean together, just as they eat the gazelle or deer.

23 Only its blood you are not to eat—you must pour it out on the ground like water.

16:1 "Observe the month of Aviv and keep the Passover to Yah your Elohim, for in the month of Aviv Yah your Elohim brought you out from Egypt by night.

Deuteronomy 16:2 - 4

2 You are to sacrifice the Passover offering to Yah your Elohim, from the flock and the herd, in the place Yah chooses to make His Name dwell.

3 You are not to eat hametz with it. For seven days you are to eat unleavened bread with it, the bread of affliction—for you came out from the land of Egypt in haste. Do this so that all the days of your life you will remember the day when you came out from the land of Egypt.

4 No hametz should be seen with you in all your territory for seven days, and none of the meat you sacrifice on the evening of the first day may be left overnight until the morning.

Deuteronomy 16:5 - 7

5 You may not sacrifice the Passover offering within any of your gates that Yah your Elohim is giving you.

6 Rather, at the place Yah your Elohim chooses to make His Name dwell, there you will sacrifice the Passover offering in the evening at sunset—the time of your coming out from Egypt.

7 You are to cook and eat it at the place Yah your Elohim chooses, then you will turn around in the morning and journey home.

Deuteronomy 16:8 - 10

8 For six days you are to eat unleavened bread. On the seventh day there is to be a solemn gathering for Yah your Elohim—on it you are to do no work.

9 Seven weeks you are to count for yourself—from the time you begin to put the sickle to the standing grain you will begin to count seven weeks.

10 Then you will keep the Feast of Shavuot to Yah your Elohim with a measure of a freewill offering from your hand, which you are to give according to how Yah your Elohim blesses you.

Deuteronomy 16:11 - 13

11 and you shall rejoice before Yah your Elohim, you, your son and your daughter, and your male and female servants, and the Levite who is in your town, and the immigrant, the orphan, and the widow who are in your midst, at the place where Yah your Elohim chooses to establish His name.

12 You will remember that you were a slave in Egypt, and you are to take care and do these statutes.

13 "You are to keep the Feast of Sukkot for seven days, after gathering in the produce from your threshing floor and winepress."

Deuteronomy 16:14-15

14 and you shall rejoice in your feast, you, your son and your daughter, and your male and female servants, and the Levite, the immigrant, the orphan, and the widow who are in your towns.

15 Seven days you will feast to Yah your Elohim in the place He chooses, because Yah your Elohim will bless you in all your produce and in all the work of your hand, and you will be completely filled with joy.

Deuteronomy 16:16-17

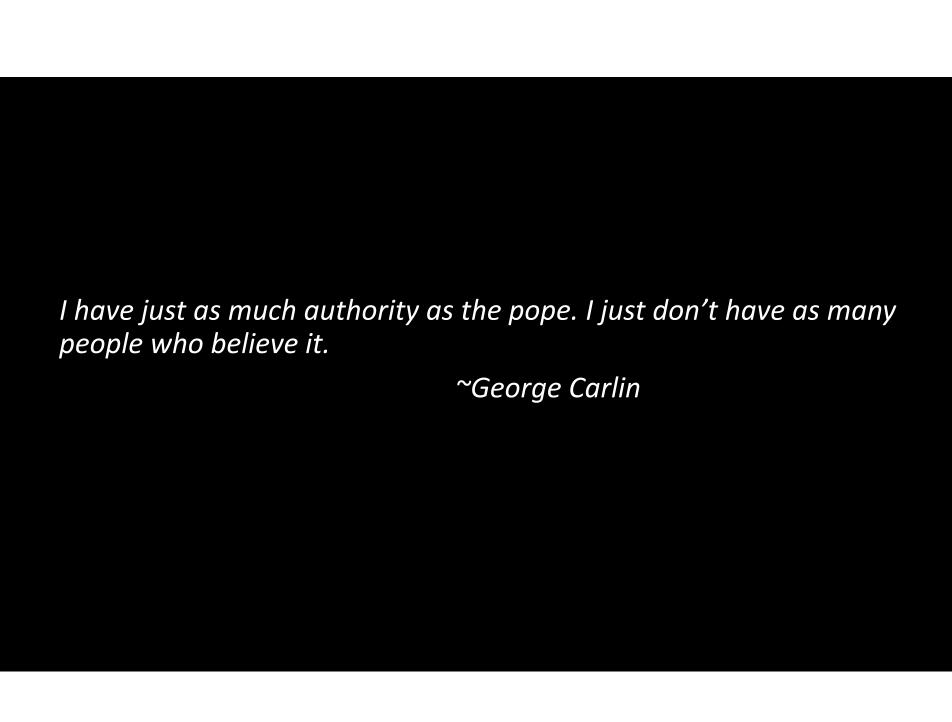
16 Three times a year all your males are to appear before Yah your Elohim in the place He chooses—at the Feast of Unleavened Bread, the Feast of Shavuot, and the Feast of Sukkot. No one should appear before Yah empty-handed—

17 the gift of each man's hand according to the blessing Yah your Elohim has given you.



Today's Teaching

- Blessings
- Responsibility
- Guidelines & Cleanliness
- Giving of your Blessings
- Beware of your Deceivers
- Expectations of following the His Commandments



Blessings – How did we get here?

- Genesis 48:18 When that year was over, they came to him the following year and said, "We cannot hide from our Elohim the fact that since our money is gone and our livestock belongs to you, there is nothing left for our Elohim except our bodies and our land.
- Genesis 50:22-24 22 Joseph stayed in Egypt, along with all his father's family. He lived a hundred and ten years 23 and saw the third generation of Ephraim's children. Also the children of Makir son of Manasseh were placed at birth on Joseph's knees.
- 24 Then Joseph said to his brothers, "I am about to die. But Yah will surely come to your aid and take you up out of this land to the land he promised on oath to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob."

Responsibilities – Who?

• Deut. 11 1-3: Love the Father and keep his requirements, his decrees, his laws and his commands always. 2 Remember today that your children were not the ones who saw and experienced the discipline of the Father: His majesty, His mighty hand, His outstretched arm; 3 the signs He performed and the things He did in the heart of Egypt, both to Pharaoh king of Egypt and to his whole country;

Responsibility – How to implement the new way?

- Deut. 11:18 Fix these words of mine in your hearts and minds; tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. 19 Teach them to your children, talking about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. 20 Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates, 21 so that your days and the days of your children may be many in the land the Father swore to give your ancestors, as many as the days that the heavens are above the earth.
- 22 If you carefully observe all these commands I am giving you to follow—to love the Father, to walk in obedience to him and to hold fast to him— 23 then the Father will drive out all these nations before you, and you will dispossess nations larger and stronger than you. 24 Every place where you set your foot will be yours: Your territory will extend from the desert to Lebanon, and from the Euphrates River to the Mediterranean Sea. 25 No one will be able to stand against you. The Father, as he promised you, will put the terror and fear of you on the whole land, wherever you go.

Responsibilities – At an impasse

• Deut. 11-26 See, I am setting before you today a blessing and a curse— 27 the blessing if you obey the commands of the Father that I am giving you today; 28 the curse if you disobey the commands of Yah and turn from the way that I command you today by following other gods, which you have not known. 29 When the Father has brought you into the land you are entering to possess, you are to proclaim on Mount Gerizim the blessings, and on Mount Ebal the curses. 30 As you know, these mountains are across the Jordan, westward, toward the setting sun, near the great trees of Moreh, in the territory of those Canaanites living in the Arabah in the vicinity of Gilgal. 31 You are about to cross the Jordan to enter and take possession of the land the Father is giving you. When you have taken it over and are living there, 32 be sure that you obey all the decrees and laws I am setting before you today.

Guidelines & Cleanliness – Cleaning house

• Deut. 12:1 These are the decrees and laws you must be careful to follow in the land that Yah Elohim of your ancestors, has given you to possess—as long as you live in the land. 2 Destroy completely all the places on the high mountains, on the hills and under every spreading tree, where the nations you are dispossessing worship their gods. 3 Break down their altars, smash their sacred stones and burn their Asherah poles in the fire; cut down the idols of their gods and wipe out their names from those places.

4 You must not worship the gods in their way.

Guidelines & Cleanliness - Celebration

• Deut. 12:5 But you are to seek the place Yah your Elohim will choose from among all your tribes to put his Name there for his dwelling. To that place you must go; 6 there bring your burnt offerings and sacrifices, your tithes and special gifts, what you have vowed to give and your freewill offerings, and the firstborn of your herds and flocks. 7 There, in the presence of the Father, you and your families shall eat and shall rejoice in everything you have put your hand to, because Yah has blessed you.

Guidelines & Cleanliness - Celebration

- Deut. 12:8 You are not to do as we do here today, everyone doing as they see fit, 9 since you have not yet reached the resting place and the inheritance that Yah is giving you. 10 But you will cross the Jordan and settle in the land that Yah is giving you as an inheritance, and he will give you rest from all your enemies around you so that you will live in safety.
- 11 Then to the place of Yah will choose as a dwelling for his Name—there you are to bring everything I command you: your burnt offerings and sacrifices, your tithes and special gifts, and all the choice possessions you have vowed to the Father. 12 And there rejoice before Yah—you, your sons and daughters, your male and female servants, and the Levites from your towns who have no allotment or inheritance of their own. 13 Be careful not to sacrifice your burnt offerings anywhere you please. 14 Offer them only at the place that Yah will choose in one of your tribes, and there observe everything I command you.

Guidelines & Cleanliness – Tow the line

• Deut. 12:17 You must not eat in your own towns the tithe of your grain and new wine and olive oil, or the firstborn of your herds and flocks, or whatever you have vowed to give, or your freewill offerings or special gifts. 18 Instead, you are to eat them in the presence of Yah at the place that Yah will choose—you, your sons and daughters, your male and female servants, and the Levites from your towns—and you are to rejoice before the Yah in everything you put your hand to.

Guidelines & Cleanliness - Blood

- Deut. 12:23 But be sure you do not eat the blood, because the blood is the life, and you must not eat the life with the meat. 24 You must not eat the blood; pour it out on the ground like water.
- Lev 17:11 For the life of a creature is in the blood, and I have given it to you to make atonement for yourselves on the altar; it is the blood that makes atonement for one's life.

Guidelines & Cleanliness — Don't fall back

- 29 Yah will cut off before you the nations you are about to invade and dispossess. But when you have driven them out and settled in their land, 30 and after they have been destroyed before you, be careful not to be ensnared by inquiring about their gods, saying, "How do these nations serve their gods? 31 You must not worship the gods in their way, because in worshiping their gods, they do all kinds of detestable things that Yah hates. They even burn their sons and daughters in the fire as sacrifices to their gods.
- 32 See that you do all I command you; do not add to it or take away from it.

Guidelines & Cleanliness

• 14:14 You are the children of Yah. Do not cut yourselves or shave the front of your heads for the dead, 2 for you are a people holy to Him. Out of all the peoples on the face of the earth, Yah has chosen you to be his treasured possession.

Guidelines & Cleanliness - Food

- Deut 14:3 Do not eat any detestable thing.
- 4-20 What is and isn't acceptable to eat.
- 14:8 The pig is also unclean; although it has a divided hoof, it does not chew the cud. You are not to eat their meat or touch their carcasses.
- 14:21 Do not eat anything you find already dead. You may give it to the foreigner residing in any of your towns, and they may eat it, or you may sell it to any other foreigner. But you are a people holy to Yah. (Lev 17:15 give rules for this.) Do not cook a young goat in its mother's milk.

We can eat shrimp!

- Mark 7:15 Nothing outside a person can defile them by going into them. Rather, it is what comes out of a person that defiles them." 16 "If anyone has ears to hear, let him hear!"
- 17 After He had left the crowd and entered the house, his disciples asked him about this parable. 18 "Are you so dull?" He asked. "Don't you see that nothing that enters a person from the outside can defile them? 19 For it doesn't go into their heart but into their stomach, and then out of the body."
- 20 He went on: "What comes out of a person is what defiles them.

Peter & Cornelius

 Acts 10:9 About noon the following day as they were on their journey and approaching the city, Peter went up on the roof to pray. 10 He became hungry and wanted something to eat, and while the meal was being prepared, he fell into a trance. 11 He saw heaven opened and something like a large sheet being let down to earth by its four corners. 12 It contained all kinds of four-footed animals, as well as reptiles and birds. 13 Then a voice told him, "Get up, Peter. Kill and eat."

Giving of your Blessings (or increase)

• Deut: 14:22 Be sure to set aside a tenth of all that your fields produce each year.

• 27 And do not neglect the Levites living in your towns, for they have no allotment or inheritance of their own.

Giving of your Blessings – Forgiveness

• Deut 15:15 At the end of every seven years you must cancel debts. This is how it is to be done: Every creditor shall cancel any loan they have made to a fellow Israelite. They shall not require payment from anyone among their own people, because the Father's time for canceling debts has been proclaimed. 3 You may require payment from a foreigner, but you must cancel any debt your fellow Israelite owes you. 4 However, there need be no poor people among you, for in the land Yah has giving you to possess as your inheritance, he will richly bless you, 5 if only you fully obey Yah and are careful to follow all these commands I am giving you today.

Innocents

- Matthew 18:1 At that time the disciples came to Jesus and asked, "Who, then, is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?"
- 2 He called a little child to him, and placed the child among them. 3 And he said: "Truly I tell you, unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. 4 Therefore, whoever takes the lowly position of this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.

Giving of your Blessings - Forgiveness

- Matthew 18: 22-35
 - Servant owed master 10,000 talents and begged for forgiveness
 - Servant went to another that owed him 100 dinars
 - Servant begged for forgiveness but the other put his hands around his throat
 - Other servants told the master of this event
 - Master turned over the servant to the tormentors to repay the debt
- Forgiveness is not about fairness
- Why would you carry this grudge?
- Luke 23:34

Pesah - Passover

• Deut. 16:16 Observe the month of Aviv and celebrate the Passover of Yah, because in the month of Aviv He brought you out of Egypt by night. 2 Sacrifice as the Passover to Yah an animal from your flock or herd at the place that Yah will choose as a dwelling for his Name. 3 Do not eat it with bread made with yeast, but for seven days eat unleavened bread, the bread of affliction, because you left Egypt in haste—so that all the days of your life you may remember the time of your departure from Egypt.

Pesah - Passover

• Deut. 16:4 Let no yeast be found in your possession in all your land for seven days. Do not let any of the meat you sacrifice on the evening of the first day remain until morning. 5 You must not sacrifice the Passover in any town that Yah gives you 6 except in the place he will choose as a dwelling for his Name. There you must sacrifice the Passover in the evening, when the sun goes down, on the anniversary of your departure from Egypt. 7 Roast it and eat it at the place the Yah will choose. Then in the morning return to your tents. 8 For six days eat unleavened bread and on the seventh day hold an assembly to the Yah and do no work.

Shabu'ot – Feast of Weeks

• Deut. 16:9 Count off seven weeks from the time you begin to put the sickle to the standing grain. 10 Then celebrate the Festival of Weeks to the Yah by giving a freewill offering in proportion to the blessings the Yah has given you. 11 And rejoice before the Yah at the place he will choose as a dwelling for his Name—you, your sons and daughters, your male and female servants, the Levites in your towns, and the foreigners, the fatherless and the widows living among you. 12 Remember that you were slaves in Egypt, and follow carefully these decrees.

Sukkot - Tabernacles

• Deut. 16:13 Celebrate the Festival of Tabernacles for seven days after you have gathered the produce of your threshing floor and your winepress. 14 Be joyful at your festival—you, your sons and daughters, your male and female servants, and the Levites, the foreigners, the fatherless and the widows who live in your towns. 15 For seven days celebrate the festival to the Yah at the place that Yah will choose. For Yah will bless you in all your harvest and in all the work of your hands, and your joy will be complete.

Commanded Festivals

• Deut 16:16 Three times a year all your men must appear before the Yah at the place he will choose: at the Festival of Unleavened Bread, the Festival of Weeks and the Festival of Tabernacles. No one should appear before Yah empty-handed: 17 Each of you must bring a gift in proportion to the way the Yah has blessed you.

Beware of your Deceivers

• Deut. 13:6 If your very own brother, or your son or daughter, or the wife you love, or your closest friend secretly entices you, saying, "Let us go and worship other gods", 7 gods of the peoples around you, whether near or far, from one end of the land to the other), 8 do not yield to them or listen to them. Show them no pity. Do not spare them or shield them.

Jeremiah – Deception

- Jer. 11 For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Father, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. – False sense of comfort
- Jer. 24:4 25:1-9 They brought upon themselves
- Jer. 26:7-15 Jeremiah said the city would be destroyed
- Jer. 26:16-19 Do we kill him?
- Jer. 28:1-3 Hananiah false prophecy
- Jer. 25:12 & 29:10 70 years not 2 years
- Jer. & 29:4-7 Have optimism and trust in the Father

The Ultimate Deceiver

- 2 Thessalonians 2:3 Don't let anyone deceive you in any way, for that day will not come until the rebellion occurs and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the man doomed to destruction.
- 4 He will oppose and will exalt himself over everything that is called god or is worshiped, so that he sets himself up in god's temple, proclaiming himself to be god.
- 5 Don't you remember that when I was with you I used to tell you these things? 6 And now you know what is holding him back, so that he may be revealed at the proper time. 7 For the secret power of lawlessness is already at work; but the one who now holds it back will continue to do so till he is taken out of the way.

The Ultimate Deceiver

• 2 Thessalonians 2:8 And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Yah will overthrow with the breath of his mouth and destroy by the splendor of his coming. 9 The coming of the lawless one will be in accordance with how Satan works. He will use all sorts of displays of power through signs and wonders that serve the lie, 10 and all the ways that wickedness deceives those who are perishing. They perish because they refused to love the truth and so be saved. 11 For this reason Yah sends them a powerful delusion so that they will believe the lie 12 and so that all will be condemned who have not believed the truth but have delighted in wickedness

Expectations of following His Commandments

• 2 Timothy 3:12 In fact, everyone who wants to live a life in Yeshua will be persecuted, 13 while evildoers and impostors will go from bad to worse, deceiving and being deceived. 14 But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have become convinced of, because you know those from whom you learned it, 15 and how from infancy you have known the Set-Apart Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for deliverance through faith in Yeshua. 16 All Scripture is Yah - breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, 17 so that the servant of Yah may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

Peter & John Acts 3

- They came across a lame man wanting change
- We have none but we heal you in the name of Yeshua
- The man of forty years jumped to his feet and praised Yah
- Confronted by Priests, Captains, and Sadducess
- 5000 men came to faith through Peter & John that day
- Persecution for using His name- Unlearned Ordinate Men
- No longer speak his name

His People

- 2 Chronicles 7:11 When Solomon had finished the temple of the Yah and the royal palace, and had succeeded in carrying out all he had in mind to do in the temple of the Yah and in his own palace, 12 then Yah appeared to him at night and said: "I have heard your prayer and have chosen this place for Myself as a temple for sacrifices.
- 13 "When I shut up the heavens so that there is no rain, or command locusts to devour the land or send a plague among My people, 14 if My people, who are called by My name, will humble themselves and pray and seek My face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land.

What are you willing to endure to keep His commandments?

Parashah Shoftim Aliyah or Reading

שוֹפְטִים – Judges

Deuteronomy 16:18 – 21:9

- 1st Day Deuteronomy 16:18 17:13 <u>Haftarah</u>
- 2nd Day Deuteronomy 17:14 20 Isaiah 51:12 52:12
- 3rd Day Deuteronomy 18:1 5
- 4th Day Deuteronomy 18:6 13
- •5th Day Deuteronomy 18:14 19:13 Gospels
- •6th Day Deuteronomy 19:14 20:9 John 14:9 20
- 7th Day Deuteronomy 20:10 21:9



Blessings and Shalom