

**Divine “bless/blessing” (Hebrew, *brk*) in Genesis [outside the Joseph story]
some examples (among 72 uses of the word)**

1.22	God blessed them , saying, " Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth."
1.28	God blessed them , and God said to them, " Be fruitful and multiply... "
9.1	God blessed Noah and his sons , and said to them, " Be fruitful and multiply , and fill the earth."
12.2-3	I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you , and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you , and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed. "
17.16	I will bless [Saraj] , and moreover I will give you a son by her. I will bless her , and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her."
22.17	"I will indeed bless you, and I will make your offspring as numerous as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore."
26.3-4	Reside in this land as an alien, and I will be with you, and will bless you ; for to you and to your descendants I will give all these lands , and I will fulfill the oath that I swore to your father Abraham. I will make your offspring as numerous as the stars of heaven, and will give to your offspring all these lands ; and all the nations of the earth shall gain blessing for themselves through your offspring...