

## Some examples of "to bless" [*brk*, used 72 times in Genesis] in Genesis outside ch. 27

### YHWH OFFERING BLESSING

**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 the seventh day and hallowed** it, because on it God rested from all the work that he had done in creation. (2.3)

**Male and female he created them, and he blessed them** and named them "Humankind" when they were created. (5.2)

**[YHWH to Abram]: 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." (12.2-3)

**I will bless [Sarah], 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." (17.16)

**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. And your offspring shall possess the gate of their enemies,** and by your offspring shall all the nations of the earth gain blessing for themselves, because you have obeyed my voice." (22.17-18)

After the death of Abraham **God blessed his son Isaac.** (25.11)

**[YHWH to Isaac]: 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, because Abraham obeyed my voice and kept my charge, my commandments, my statutes, and my laws." (26.3-5)

And YHWH stood beside him and said, "**I am YHWH, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie I will give to you and to your offspring;** and your offspring shall be like the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south; and **all the families of the earth shall be blessed in you and in your offspring.** Know that I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land; for I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you." (28.13-15)

From the time that he made him overseer in his house and over all that he had, **YHWH blessed the Egyptian's house for Joseph's sake;** the blessing of YHWH was on all that he had, in house and field. (39.5)

### HUMANS OFFERING BLESSING

**[Abimelech] blessed him and said, "Blessed be Abram by God Most High,** maker of heaven and earth; and blessed be God Most High, who has delivered your enemies into your hand!" (14.19-20)

**"Blessed be YHWH, the God of my master Abraham,** who has not forsaken his steadfast love and his faithfulness toward my master. (24.27)

Early in the morning **Laban** rose up, and kissed his grandchildren and his daughters and **blessed them** (31.55)

Then Joseph brought in his father Jacob, and presented him before Pharaoh, and **Jacob blessed Pharaoh.** (47.7)

**Jacob blesses Joseph's Egyptian sons,** including this text: Joseph said to his father, "Not so, my father! Since this one is the firstborn, put your right hand on his head. "But his father refused, and said, "I know, my son, I know; he also shall become a people, and he also shall be great. **Nevertheless his younger brother shall be greater than he, and his offspring shall become a multitude of nations.**" (48.10-20; 18-19)

### AMBIGUOUS OFFERING OF BLESSING

Then Jacob asked him, "Please tell me your name." But he said, "Why is it that you ask my name?" And there **he blessed him.** (32.29)