

A Word Study by Pastor Melissa Scott, Ph.D.
The words “Bless” and “Blessing” Hebrew *brk* Part 2

Three categories previously referenced:

- 1) God blessing Man
- 2) Man blessing Man
- 3) Man blessing God

The focus has been on the third group.
Below is a list of ‘subcategories’ within this study.

Man blessing God

- 1) For deliverance & protection (received)
- 2) Imperatively
- 3) As a vow
- 4) Expression of gratitude/thankfulness
- 5) Expression of admiration/awe

1. **Man blessing God for deliverance & protection:**

Psalm 28:6 “Blessed be the LORD because he hath heard the voice of my supplications.”

Psalm 31:21 “Blessed be the LORD for he hath showed me his marvelous (miraculous unconditional - unending love) in a strong city (besieged, hostile or overtaken place).”

Psalm 66:20 “Blessed be God, which hath not turned away my prayer, nor his mercy from me.”

2. **Imperatively:**

The purpose seems clear with the Psalmist or writers guidance to others - that they are to “Bless!” God - perhaps without this command/instruction - the hearers/readers would not.

Psalm 68:26 “Bless ye God in the congregations...”

Psalms 96:1-3 & 100:4 “Bless his name...”

Psalm 134:1&2, Psalm 135:19-21 // etc.

3. **As a vow:**

Usually found at the beginning of the Psalm or at the end of a lament.

Psalm 16:7 “I will bless the LORD, who hath given...”

Psalm 26:12 “My feet stand on level ground in the great assembly I will bless the LORD...”

Psalm 34:1 “I will bless the LORD at all times...”

Psalm 63:4 “I will bless thee while I live...”

Also Psalms 115:18 and 145:1&2//etc.

4. **As an expression of gratitude / thankfulness**

a.) (for what they themselves have received)

For example: In 1 Kings 1:48 “And also thus said the king (David), Blessed be the LORD God of Israel, who hath given one to sit on my throne this day mine eyes even seeing it.” (Solomon) which fulfills 2 Samuel 7:12-16.

1 Kings 8:15 = 2 Chronicles 6:4 (Solomon is speaking) “Blessed be the LORD God of Israel, which spake with his mouth unto David my father...”

Ezra 7:27 an expression of gratitude “Blessed be the LORD God of our fathers, which hath put such a thing as this in the king’s heart (Artaxerxes) to beautify the house of the LORD...”

4. **As an Expression of gratitude / thankfulness**

b.) (spoken by a person who was not the direct beneficiary)

For Example: In Genesis 14:20 Melchizedek blesses God for Abraham’s victory over his enemies. “And blessed be the Most High God which hath delivered thine enemies into thy hand.”

Also in Genesis 24:27 - As Abraham’s servant is successful in his quest to find a wife for Isaac, “Blessed be the LORD God of my master Abraham...”

5. As an expression of admiration

2 Chronicles 2:11-12 Hiram, King of Tyre: “Blessed be the LORD God of Israel...”

Likewise, the Queen of Sheba will utter a similar statement in 2 Chronicles 9:8 (except her emphasis is “thy” God) “Blessed be the LORD thy God, which delighted in thee to set thee on his throne...”

Daniel 3:28 “Then Nebuchadnezzar spake and said “Blessed be the God of Shadrach, Meshah and Abednego who hath sent his angel and delivered his servants...”

(Also see Exodus 18:10 & Ruth 4:14, etc.)

A final category NOT included with the 5

Doxological - (with emphasis on the eternal)

Psalm 41:13 “Blessed be the LORD God of Israel from everlasting to everlasting. Amen and Amen.”

Psalm 89:52 “Blessed be the LORD forevermore Amen and Amen.”

Psalm 106:48 “Blessed be the LORD God of Israel from everlasting to everlasting.”