

THE FATHER'S BESSING

Genesis 1:28 (NIV)

God blessed them and said to them, "Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air and over every living creature that moves on the ground."

I. INTRODUCTION

A. "Blessing" is one of the most important words in Scripture.

B. What does it mean?

1. The Hebrew word is BARAK and means to kneel.

2. The Greek word is EULOGEO and means:

to eulogize or speak well of

to praise

to admire

3. There are several aspects of the blessing.

a. God blesses us.

Genesis 1:28

Genesis 12:2-3

"I will make you into a great nation and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you."

Psalms 29:11

The Lord gives strength to his people; the Lord blesses his people with peace.

Ezekiel 34:26

I will bless them and the places surrounding my hill. I will send down showers in season; there will be showers of blessing.

Romans 10:12

For there is no difference between Jew and Gentile-the same Lord is Lord of all and richly blesses all who call on him, for, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."

b. We bless God.

Psalms 34:1

Of David. When he pretended to be insane before Abimelech, who drove him away, and he left. I will extol the Lord at all times; his praise will always be on my lips.

Psalms 103:1

Of David. Praise the Lord, O my soul; all my inmost being, praise his holy name.

c. The "blessed life" is conditional.

Matthew 5:3-10

Psalms 1:1-2

Blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked or stand in the way of sinners or sit in the seat of mockers. But his delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law he meditates day and night.

Psalms 33:12

Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord, the people he chose for his inheritance.

Ephesians 1:3

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ.

Deuteronomy 28:2-13

4. God gives us the right to bless others.

Hebrews 11:20-21

By faith Isaac blessed Jacob and Esau in regard to their future. By faith Jacob, when he was dying, blessed each of Joseph's sons, and worshiped as he leaned on the top of his staff.

Numbers 6:23-27

"Tell Aaron and his sons, 'This is how you are to bless the Israelites. Say to them: "'The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you; the Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace.'" "So they will put my name on the Israelites, and I will bless them."

Mark 10:13-14

People were bringing little children to Jesus to have him touch them, but the disciples rebuked them. When Jesus saw this, he was indignant. He said to them, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these.

II. HOW DO WE IMPART "THE FATHER'S BLESSING"?

A. The Power of Touch

1. The laying on of hands

Luke 4:40

a. The kiss or embrace ("hug")

Genesis 48:15-16

Then he blessed Joseph and said, "May the God before whom my fathers Abraham and Isaac walked, the God who has been my shepherd all my life to this day, the Angel who has delivered me from all harm --may he bless these boys. May they be called by my name and the names of my fathers Abraham and Isaac, and may they increase greatly upon the earth."

b. The meaningful touch

1. Matthew 8:2 – 3:15

2. Matthew 9:29

Then he touched their eyes and said, "According to your faith will it be done to you"; and their sight was restored.

3. Mark 7:33

After he took him aside, away from the crowd, Jesus put his fingers into the man's ears. Then he spit and touched the man's tongue.

4. Luke 22:51

But Jesus answered, "No more of this!" And he touched the man's ear and healed him.

B. The Power of Praise

1. It's important how you describe your children to others.

1 Peter 2:9-10

But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

2. We should constantly and consistently say to our children:

I love you!

I believe in you!

C. The Power of Commitment

1. I get to really know them
2. I spend time with them.
3. I stick it out through thick and thin.
4. I give them to God.