

# Q & A: BLESS

## QUESTION:

Sister Audrey said: Please may I ask a question about a word in the Holy Bible, and that is the word bless, what does it mean and where does it come from?

## ANSWER:

First I just went to look at the etymology of the word.



Old English *blēdsian*, *blētsian*, based on *blōd* 'blood' (i.e. originally perhaps 'mark or consecrate with blood'). The meaning was influenced by its being used to translate Latin *benedicere* 'to praise, worship', and later by association with [bliss](#).

Just a random online search reveals that the etymology is from Old English blood and Old English Bledsian or Bletsian and Latin benedicere (meaning to praise, worship) and today's English word bliss all of this was linked to and led to the word bless.

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## bless (v.)

Middle English *blessen*, from Old English *bletsian*, *bledsian*, Northumbrian *bloedsian* "to consecrate by a religious rite, make holy, give thanks," from Proto-Germanic *\*blodison* "hallow with blood, mark with blood," from *\*blotham* "blood" (see **blood** (n.)). Originally a blood sprinkling on pagan altars.

This word was chosen in Old English bibles to translate Latin *benedicere* and Greek *eulogein*, both of which have a ground sense of "to speak well of, to praise," but were used in Scripture to translate Hebrew *brk* "to bend (the knee), worship, praise, invoke blessings." L.R. Palmer ("The Latin Language") writes, "There is nothing surprising in the semantic development of a word denoting originally a special ritual act into the more generalized meanings to 'sacrifice,' 'worship,' 'bless,' " and he compares Latin *immolare* (see **immolate**).

The meaning shifted in late Old English toward "pronounce or make happy, prosperous, or fortunate" by resemblance to unrelated **bliss**. The meaning "invoke or pronounce God's blessing upon" is from early 14c. No cognates in other languages. Related: **Blessed**; **blessing**.

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<https://www.etymonline.com/word/bless>

They say originally it was a pagan term meaning sprinkling blood on pagan altars. We know from the Old Testament that Moses consecrated the altar and the people to God by sprinkling them with blood which was called the blood of the covenant. Sprinkling blood was certainly a godly commandment and ritual performed by God's prophet and then His priests.

The first occurrence of the word bless is in Genesis 1:28 where God blessed Adam and Eve and that did not involve blood. The next occurrence is in Genesis 12:2 where God says He will bless Abraham and make his name great and that he would be a blessing. That is because Jesus would eventually come and He was the seed that was promised and that is how all the nations are blessed through Abraham. **(Gal.3:29)**

The freemasons, the illuminati, satan's servants tell us what they have been up to in books and movies that are made out to be fiction but really contain more truth than fiction. One of their playbooks that lays out step by step what they hope to accomplish and are accomplishing is the book *1984*. In that book they plainly tell you that they have been changing the definitions of words for quite some time. Phrasing words out and messing with what they mean to keep things all mixed up. They change the spelling of words and their meanings over time. We cannot reinvent our languages so we must go on trusting that the Lord knows our enemy better than we do and He knows what they have been up to. He knows when we are His children what the meanings of the words we are speaking mean to us in the time we are living.

So let's move on from there. I am going to address what I think Sister Audrey actually wanted to know, and that is what the word bless means to us right now.

First let's look at a Bible concordance, I'll use my KJ Bible.

Bless – make happy, praise

When God blesses us, He is making us happy. He is pouring His favor out in our lives, giving us peace and good things. When we say we bless His name, that is the same as saying we praise His name or that is that we praise Him. When I say, I

bless You Heavenly Father, it means I praise You heavenly Father. It's just a different way of saying the same thing.

Blessed – happy, praised – it is just the past tense of bless.

Blessing – Divine favor.

From my Pictorial Bible Dictionary:

**BLESS, BLESSING** (Heb. *bārakh*). 1. God blesses nature (Gen. 1:22), mankind (Gen. 1:28), the Sabbath (Gen. 2:3), nations (Ps. 33:12), classes of men (Ps. 1:1-3) and individuals (Gen. 24:1, etc.).

2. Godly men should “bless” God; i.e. they should adore him, worship him and praise him (Ps. 103:1,2, etc.),

3. Godly men by words and actions can bestow blessings on their fellows (Matt. 5:44; I Pet. 3:9).

4. In Bible times, godly men under inspiration bestowed prophetic blessings on their progeny, e.g. Noah blessing Japheth and Shem (Gen. 9:26,27), Isaac blessing Jacob and Esau (Gen. 27:27-29,39, 40), Jacob blessing the tribes of Israel (Gen. 49), and Moses also blessing them (Deut. 33).

5. We can bless things when we set them apart for sacred use e.g. the “communion cup” (I Cor. 10:16).

Bless, Blessing (Heb. Barakh). 1. God blesses nature, mankind, the Sabbath, nations, classes of men and individuals. 2. Godly men should “bless” God; i.e. they should adore Him worship Him and praise Him. 3. Godly men by words and actions can bestow blessings on their fellows. 4. In Bible times, godly men under inspiration bestowed prophetic blessings on their progeny, e.g. Noah blessing Japheth and Shem, Isaac blessing Jacob and Esau, Jacob blessing the tribes of Israel and Moses also blessing them. 5. We can bless things when we set them apart for sacred use e.g. the “communion cup”.

Here are a few things I wanted to share from Strong's Concordance on the word barak, Strong's H# 1288 which is the first occurrence of the word blessed in our Bibles used in Genesis 1:22. This blessing was to the birds of the air and all the creatures in the sea. God's first word to man is introduced in the same way: "And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply..." (v.28). Thus the whole creation is shown to depend upon God for its continued existence and function. (cf. Ps 104:27-30).

God's covenant with Abraham was all about being blessed and it pertains to us today under the New Covenant of Jesus Christ. God longs to bless His children.

A common form of greeting was, "Blessed be thou of the Lord" (1 Sam.15:13; cf. Ruth 2:4)

This is like what we say today, "God bless you" or some people just say "bless you" or "blessings". If they are not doing anything to bless you then it is usually understood that they are saying "may God bless you".

It can also be used in such a way as to be profanity. Showers of blessing was referring to God sending down the rain (Eze.34:26; Ps.84:6)

The Hebrew word esher, Strong's H# 835, from happiness:

Basically, this word connotes the state of "prosperity" or "happiness" that comes when a superior bestows his favor (blessing) on one. (2a) In most passages, the one bestowing favor is God Himself: "Happy art thou, O Israel: who is like unto thee, O People saved by the Lord" (Deut 33:29) (2b) The state that the blessed one enjoys does not always appear to be "happy": "Behold, happy is the man whom God correcteth: therefore despise not thou the chastening of the Almighty: for He maketh sore, and bindeth up..." (Job 5:17-18). Eliphaz was not describing Job's condition as a happy one; it was "blessed," however, inasmuch as God was concerned about him. Because it was a blessed state and the outcome would be good, Job was expected to laugh at his adversity (Job 5:22).

And a general search online reveals the following about the word bless:



# bles

/bles/

verb

pronounce words in a religious rite, to confer or invoke divine favor upon; ask God to look favorably on.

"he blessed the dying man and anointed him"

Similar: ask God's favor for ask God's protection for give a benediction for

- (especially in Christian church services) call (God) holy; praise (God).

Similar: praise worship glorify honor exalt adore pay tribute to

- (of God or some notional higher power) endow (someone) with a particular cherished thing or attribute.

"God has blessed us with free will"

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(of God or some notional higher power) endow (someone) with a particular cherished thing or attribute.

Ex: “God has blessed us with free will”

God bless you Sister Audrey and thank you for your question.