



## Why do we bless Israel?

And the Lord said to Abram: *'I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great; and you shalt be a blessing: And I will bless them that bless you, and curse him that curses you: and in you shall all families of the earth be blessed.'* Genesis 12:2-3.

We bless Israel so that she can be a blessing. Blessing is God empowering something or somebody to do that which they are designed to do. We bless Israel in order to empower her to be all she was purposed to be in God. In response to our blessing Israel, God blesses/empowers us to become all we were designed to be. When the nations bless Israel, their own national purpose and calling unfolds and they receive the empowerment to fulfill that calling. God's blessing order causes us to be reciprocal and relational.

In the book of Genesis we read, that it was said: *'Blessed be the LORD God of Shem.'* Genesis 9:26. God had already revealed that He was the source of all blessing when He identified Himself as the God of Shem. From then on, the blessing would flow from Him through the line of Shem which is Israel.

The Lord also, had spoken to Aaron and to his sons, saying, *on this wise you shall bless the children of Israel, saying to them, The LORD make his face shine upon you, and be gracious to you: The LORD lift up his countenance upon you, and give you peace. And they shall put my name (Shem) upon the children of Israel; and I will bless them.* Numbers 6:23-27.

God puts His name on Israel so that His blessedness will flow to him and he in turn will bless all the families of the earth. With God's name and blessing on him, He is commissioning him to be the source of blessing to the world. When we bless Israel, we empower him to carry out his office to bless God and to bless the world. We bless Israel because it pleases the Lord that we do so.

*And when Balaam saw that it pleased the LORD to bless Israel, he went not, as at other times, to seek for enchantments, but he set his face toward the wilderness. And Balaam lifted up his eyes, and he saw Israel abiding in his tents according to their tribes; and the spirit of God came upon him. 'How goodly are your tents, O Jacob, and your tabernacles, O Israel!' Balaam also had said: 'The one who heard the words of God, and knew the knowledge of the most High, which saw the vision of the Almighty, falling into a trance, but having his eyes open: I shall see him, but not now: I shall behold him, but not near: there shall come a Star out of Jacob, and a Sceptre shall rise out of Israel, and shall smite the corners of Moab, and destroy all the children of Sheth.'* Numbers 24:1-5, 16-17.

Ultimately, when we bless Israel, we declare the coming of His Son Yeshua who will destroy His enemies and bless the world.

Jesus also said: (...) *For I say to you, you shall not see me henceforth, till you shall say, blessed is he that comes in the name of the Lord.* Mathew 23:37-39. When Jews say, "blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord", they are bowing the knee and declaring that He is Lord. They are saying that Yeshua is the source of all blessing because He is God. When the Jews say this, it is a key to His coming.

Already there are 30,000 Messianic Jews in Israel alone and about 350,000 throughout the world. We bless Israel so that many more will receive Yeshua as their Messiah and will bless Him. In this way, they will be calling for His return to Jerusalem to rule and reign in righteousness over all the earth.

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