

Blessings or Curses

What will you choose?



In the Bible we are told that we should choose between life and death, between blessing and curse. We can choose life and YAHUAH's blessings by walking in His ways and keeping His commands. In doing so, we reject the curses that could come onto our lives. We choose abundant life in the Father, but especially we choose the blessing of eternal life that can only be found in Him and His Son.

Curses

There are different types of curses spoken of in Scripture. Many of them are passive curses that come upon us due to our own sins or the sins of our ancestors.

To the woman He said, "I greatly increase your sorrow and your conception – bring forth children in pain. And your desire is for your husband, and he does rule over you." And to the man He said, "Because you have listened to the voice of your wife, and have eaten of the tree of which I commanded you, saying, 'Do

not eat of it': "Cursed is the ground because of you, in toil you are to eat of it all the days of your life, and the ground shall bring forth thorns and thistles for you, and you shall eat the plants of the field. By the sweat of your face you are to eat bread until you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken. For dust you are, and to dust you return. Genesis 3:16-19

The first curse that came upon mankind was because of the disobedience in the Garden of Eden. Because of Adam and Hawah's (Eve's) choice to eat of the fruit of the tree of knowledge of good and evil, the bloodlines of both of them were cursed. This curse is still evident today in both men and women, and only by drawing closer to YAHUAH and living according to His instructions and His will can we overcome them!

The serpent was also cursed in this passage, and he still falls under this curse to this day!

Generational curses

And YAHUAH passed before him and proclaimed, "YAHUAH, YAHUAH, an Ĕl compassionate and showing favour, patient, and great in loving-commitment and truth, watching over loving-commitment for thousands, forgiving crookedness and transgression and sin, but by no means leaving unpunished, visiting the crookedness of the fathers upon the children and the children's children to the third and the fourth generation." Exodus 34:6-7

Generational curses are mentioned quite a few times throughout Scripture. To explain this type of curse, very simply, it is a curse passed down in our bloodlines from mother or father to their children. If the parent is under the influence of a specific sin, such as gluttony, lust or murder, their children and grandchildren inherit this sin as a bloodline curse and are very often more likely to repeat the sins and mistakes of their parents and grandparents.

But there is hope for us to come out of these curses!

*And the word of YAHUAH came to me, saying, "What do you mean when you use this proverb concerning the land of Yashar'el, saying, 'The fathers have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are blunted'? As I live," declares the Master YAHUAH, "you shall no longer use this proverb in Yashar'el. See, all beings are Mine, the being of the father as well as the being of the son is Mine. **The being that is sinning shall die.** But if a man is righteous and shall do right-ruling and righteousness, if he has not eaten on the mountains, nor lifted up his eyes to the idols of the house of Yashar'el, nor defiled his neighbour's wife, nor comes near a woman during her uncleanness, if he does not oppress anyone, does not return to the debtor his pledge, does not commit robbery, does give his bread to the hungry and covers the naked with a garment, if he does not lend on interest or take increase, turns back his hand from unrighteousness, executes right-ruling*

in truth between man and man, if he walks in My laws, and he has guarded My right-rulings in truth – **he is righteous, he shall certainly live!**” declares the Master YAHUAH. “But if he has brought forth a son who is a robber or a shedder of blood, who does any of these – whereas he himself did not do any of these – that also he has eaten on the mountains or defiled his neighbour’s wife, if he has oppressed the poor and needy, has committed robbery, he does not return a pledge, has lifted his eyes to the idols, or did abomination, if he has lent on interest or taken increase – shall he live? He shall not live! If he has done any of these abominations, he shall certainly die, his blood is upon him. But see, **if he has brought forth a son who sees all the sins which his father has done**, but he fears and does not do likewise, has not eaten on the mountains, and has not lifted his eyes to the idols of the house of Yashar’el, has not defiled his neighbour’s wife, has not oppressed anyone, nor withheld a pledge, nor committed robbery, has given his bread to the hungry and covered the naked with a garment, turns back his hand from wronging the poor, and he has not taken interest or increase, has executed My right-rulings and walked in My laws – **he shall not die for the crookedness of his father, he shall certainly live!** His father, because he used oppression, robbed his brother, and did what is not good among his people, see, he shall die for his crookedness. And you said, ‘Why should the son not bear the crookedness of the father?’ But the son has done right-ruling and righteousness, he has guarded all My laws and he does them, he shall certainly live. **The being who sins shall die. The son shall not bear the crookedness of the father, nor the father bear the crookedness of the son.** The righteousness of the righteous is upon himself, and the wrongness of the wrong is upon himself. But the wrong, if he turns from all his sins which he has done, and he shall guard all My laws, and shall do right-ruling and righteousness, he shall certainly live, he shall not die. **All the transgressions which he has done shall not be remembered against him** – in his righteousness that he has done, he shall live. Have I any pleasure in the death of the wrong?” declares the Master YAHUAH. “Is it not that he should turn from his ways, and live? But when a righteous one turns away from his righteousness and does unrighteousness, according to all the abominations that the wrong one has done, shall he live? All his righteousness which he has done shall not be remembered. For his trespass which he has committed, and for his sin which he has committed, for them he shall die. And you said, ‘The way of YAHUAH is not right.’ Hear now, O house of Yashar’el, is My way not right? Is it not your ways that are not right? When a righteous one turns away from his righteousness, and does unrighteousness, and he dies in it, it is because of his unrighteousness which he has done that he dies. **And when the wrong turns away from the wrong which he has done, and he does right-ruling and righteousness, he keeps himself alive. Because he sees and turns away from all the transgressions which he has done, he shall certainly live, he**

shall not die. And the house of Yashar'el have said, 'The way of YAHUAH is not right.' Are My ways not right, O house of Yashar'el? Is it not your ways that are not right? **Therefore I judge you, O house of Yashar'el, every one according to his ways,**" declares the Master YAHUAH. "Repent, and turn back from all your transgressions, and let not crookedness be a stumbling-block to you. Cast away from you all the transgressions, by which you have transgressed, and make for yourselves a new heart and a new spirit. For why should you die, O house of Yashar'el? For I have no pleasure in the death of one who dies," declares the Master YAHUAH. "So turn back and live!" Ezekiel 18 (Emphasis mine.)

No matter what our ancestors have done before us, if we turn away from our sins and those of our fathers, if we repent of these sins and live according to the will of the Most High, we will no longer be under the curses of our forefathers! This is an amazing freedom and also so important for our own sakes, as well as for our children and their children! The Father has told us that we will each be judged for our own ways and actions, rather than for the sins of our fathers, once we turn to Him.

Curses for disobedience for Yashar'el

The Torah outlines for us the curses, or consequences, of disobeying the Torah – which is YAHUAH's instructions for how we should live.

Looking around us today, we can see that these curses are alive and prevalent in modern society!

*"And do not turn aside from any of the Words which I am commanding you today, right or left, to go after other mighty ones to serve them. And it shall be, if you do not obey the voice of YAHUAH your Elohim, to guard to do all His commands and His laws which I command you today, that all these curses shall come upon you and overtake you. Cursed are you in the city, and cursed are you in the field. Cursed is your basket and your kneading bowl. Cursed is the fruit of your body and the fruit of your land, the increase of your cattle and the offspring of your flocks. Cursed are you when you come in, and cursed are you when you go out. YAHUAH **sends on you the curse, the confusion, and the rebuke in all that you set your hand to do**, until you are destroyed and until you perish quickly, because of the evil of your doings by which you have forsaken Me. YAHUAH makes **the plague cling to you** until He has consumed you from the land which you are going to possess. YAHUAH strikes you with **wasting disease**, and with **inflammation**, and with **burning**, and with **extreme heat**, and with **the sword**, and with **blight**, and with **mildew**. And they shall pursue you until you perish. And your heavens which are over your head shall be bronze, and the earth which is under you iron. YAHUAH makes **the rain of your land powder and dust**; from the heavens it comes down on you until you are destroyed. YAHUAH causes you to be **defeated before your enemies** – you go*

out one way against them and flee seven ways before them. And you shall become a horror to all the reigns of the earth. And your carcasses shall be food for all the birds of the heavens and the beasts of the earth, with no one to frighten them away. YAHUAH shall strike you with the **boils of Mitsrayim, with tumours, with the scab, and with the itch, from which you are unable to be healed.** YAHUAH shall strike you with **madness and blindness and bewilderment of heart.** And you shall be groping at noon, as a blind man gropes in darkness, and not prosper in your ways. And you shall be only **oppressed and plundered** all the days, with no one to save you. You become engaged to a wife, but **another man does lie with her.** You build a house, but **do not dwell in it.** You plant a vineyard, but **do not use its fruit.** Your ox is slaughtered before your eyes, but you do not eat of it. Your donkey is violently taken from before you, and it is not given back to you. Your sheep are given to your enemies, with no one to save them. Your **sons and your daughters are given to another people,** and your eyes look and fail for them all day long, and your hand powerless. **A people whom you have not known eat the fruit of your land and all your labours.** And you shall be only oppressed and crushed all the days. And you shall be maddened because of the sight which your eyes see. YAHUAH strikes you in the knees and on the legs with evil boils of which you are unable to be healed, and from the sole of your foot to the top of your head. YAHUAH brings you and the sovereign whom you set over you to a nation which neither you nor your fathers have known, and there you shall serve other mighty ones, wood and stone. Thus you shall become an astonishment, a proverb, and a mockery among all the peoples to which YAHUAH drives you. You take much seed out into the field but **gather little in,** for the locust consumes it. You plant vineyards, and shall labour, but you **neither drink of the wine nor gather,** for the worm eats it. You have olive trees in all your border, but do not anoint with oil, for your olives drop off. You bring forth sons and daughters, but they are not with you, for they go into captivity. Locusts possess all your trees and the fruit of your ground. **The sojourner who is among you rises higher and higher above you, but you come down lower and lower.** He lends to you, but you do not lend to him. He is the head, and **you are the tail.** And all these curses shall come upon you, and they shall pursue and overtake you, until you are destroyed, because you did not obey the voice of YAHUAH your Elohim, to guard His commands and His laws which He commanded you. **And they shall be upon you for a sign and for a wonder, and on your seed, forever.** Because you did not serve YAHUAH your Elohim with joy and gladness of heart for all the plenty, you shall serve your enemies whom YAHUAH sends against you, in hunger, and in thirst, and in nakedness, and in need of all. And he shall put a yoke of iron on your neck until he has destroyed you. YAHUAH shall bring a nation against you from afar, from the end of the earth, as swift as the eagle flies, a nation whose language you shall not understand, a fierce-looking nation,

which shall show no regard for the elderly nor show favour to the young, and they shall eat the fruit of your livestock and the fruit of your land, until you are destroyed. They leave you no grain, nor new wine, nor oil, nor the increase of your cattle or the offspring of your flocks, until they have destroyed you. And they shall besiege you at all your gates till your high and fenced walls, in which you are trusting, come down in all your land. And they shall besiege you at all your gates in all your land which YAHUAH your Elohim has given you. **And you shall eat the fruit of your own body, the flesh of your sons and your daughters** whom YAHUAH your Elohim has given you, in the siege and distress in which your enemies distress you. **The man among you who is tender, and who is very delicate,** his eye is evil against his brother, against the wife of his bosom, and against the rest of his children whom he leaves behind, against giving any of them the flesh of his children that he eats, because it is all that has been left to him in the siege and distress with which your enemy distresses you in all your gates. The tender and the delicate woman among you, who has not tried to set the sole of her foot on the ground because of her delicateness and tenderness, her eye is evil against the husband of her bosom, and against her son, and against her daughter, and against her seed which comes out from between her feet, and her children whom she bears, for she eats them in secret for lack of all, in the siege and distress with which your enemy distresses you in all your gates. If you do not guard to do all the Words of this Torah that are written in this book, to fear this esteemed and awesome Name, YAHUAH your Elohim, then YAHUAH shall bring upon you and your descendants **extraordinary plagues, great and lasting plagues, and grievous and lasting sicknesses.** And He shall bring back on you **all the diseases of Mitsrayim,** of which you were afraid, and they shall cling to you, also every sickness and every plague, which is not written in the book of this Torah, YAHUAH does bring upon you until you are destroyed. And you shall be left with few men, although you had become as numerous as the stars of the heavens, because you did not obey the voice of YAHUAH your Elohim. And it shall be, that as YAHUAH rejoiced over you to do you good and increase you, so YAHUAH does rejoice over you to destroy you and lay you waste. And you shall be plucked from off the land which you go to possess. And YAHUAH shall scatter you among all peoples, from one end of the earth to the other, and there you shall serve other mighty ones, which neither you nor your fathers have known, wood and stone. And among those nations **you are to find no rest, nor have a resting place for the sole of your foot.** But there YAHUAH shall give you a **trembling heart, and failing eyes, and sorrow of being.** And your life shall be hanging in suspense before you, and **you shall fear night and day,** and not be certain of your life. In the morning you say, 'Oh, that it were evening!' And at evening you say, 'Oh, that it were morning!' because of the fear of your heart, with which you fear, and because of the sight which your eyes see. And YAHUAH shall bring

you back to Mitsrayim in ships, by a way of which I said to you, 'You are never to see it again.' And there you shall be sold to your enemies as male and female slaves, but no one to buy." Deuteronomy 28:14-68

The curses that come upon people because of disobedience to YAHUAH and the refusal to keep His Law, are very harsh. These curses are passive in nature and automatically come upon people when they live in disobedience. The disobedience is an active choice by people – they choose curses and death, most times without even knowing it.

It brings to mind the verse, "My people die for lack of knowledge." They choose death away from the Father by not following in His way.

As I said earlier, you can see evidence of these curses all around us in modern society! We see many diseases running rampant. We see murder, robbery, abortion, idolatry, adultery, loss, plagues and so much more. How much more proof do we need that society has rejected YAHUAH in word and deed?

As a bird wanders, as a swallow flies about, so a curse without cause does not come. Proverbs 26:2

This verse shows us that curses will only come upon us with good cause, by our sin and disobedience. But when we are obedient to the Father, there is no reason for any of the Biblical curses to come upon us.

"Bless those cursing you, and pray for those insulting you." Luke 6:28

Another type of curse mentioned in Scripture is curses that come from our enemies in the world, whether physical or spiritual. But we are reminded to bless and pray for those who curse us, and also that the Father is greater than any spiritual or physical power who may want to curse us! He is our protection and safe space from all harm.

Blessings

When we live in obedience and walk in love in the way that we have been instructed through learning Scripture and following the promptings of the Ruach (Spirit of YAH), we are opening the doors in our lives for Him to bless us and our families in amazing ways!

"If YAHUAH has delighted in us, then He shall bring us into this land and give it to us, 'a land which is flowing with milk and honey.'" Numbers 14:8

Blessings for obedience for Yashar'el

"And it shall be, if you diligently obey the voice of YAHUAH your Elohim, to guard to do all His commands which I command you today, that YAHUAH your Elohim shall set you high above all nations of the earth. And all these blessings shall

come upon you and overtake you, if you obey the voice of YAHUAH your Elohim: Blessed are you **in the city**, and blessed are you **in the field**. Blessed is the **fruit of your body**, and the **fruit of your ground** and the **fruit of your livestock** – the increase of your cattle and the offspring of your flocks. Blessed is your **basket** and your **kneading bowl**. Blessed are you **when you come in**, and blessed are you **when you go out**. YAHUAH causes your **enemies who rise against you to be smitten before your face** – they come out against you one way and flee before you seven ways. YAHUAH commands the blessing on you in your **storehouses** and in all to which you set your hand, and **shall bless you in the land** which YAHUAH your Elohim is giving you. YAHUAH does establish you as **a set-apart people** to Himself, as He has sworn to you, if you guard the commands of YAHUAH your Elohim and walk in His ways. And all peoples of the earth shall see that **the Name of YAHUAH is called upon you**, and they shall be afraid of you. And YAHUAH shall make you to have **plenty of what is good**, in the fruit of your body, in the fruit of your livestock, and in the fruit of your ground, in the land of which YAHUAH swore to your fathers to give you. YAHUAH **opens to you His good treasure, the heavens**, to give the **rain to your land in its season**, and to **bless all the work of your hand**. And you shall **lend to many nations, but you do not borrow**. And YAHUAH shall make you the **head and not the tail**. And you shall be **only on top**, and not be beneath, if you obey the commands of YAHUAH your Elohim, which I command you today, to guard and do.” Deuteronomy 28:1-13 (All emphasis mine.)

The Torah, along with sharing the curses that come along with disobedience, also outlines the amazing blessings that the Most High promises to those who walk in obedience to His will and instructions! His blessings encompass every area of life, our possessions, professions, families, protection against enemies, finances and so much more. How incredible is this passage!

You are of Elohim, little children, and have overcome them, because He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world. 1 John 4:4

YAHUAH is great and all-powerful, surrendering to Him and walking in obedience to Him will help us to overcome any curse or hardship in our lives.

“You do not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness of that which is in the heavens above, or which is in the earth beneath, or which is in the waters under the earth, you do not bow down to them nor serve them. For I, YAHUAH your Elohim am a jealous Ēl, visiting the crookedness of the fathers on the children to the third and fourth generations of those who hate Me, but showing loving-commitment to thousands, to those who love Me and guard My commands.” Exodus 20:4-6

Once again we see that obedience comes in the opposite spirit to disobedience, YAHUAH promises His love and faithfulness to all those who guard His commands and love Him.

And my Elohim shall fill all your need according to His riches in esteem by Messiah Yahusha. And to our Elohim and Father be esteem forever and ever. Amēn. Philippians 4:19-20

Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no change, nor shadow of turning. Having purposed it, He brought us forth by the Word of truth, for us to be a kind of first-fruits of His creatures. James 1:17-18

Give, and it shall be given to you. A good measure, pressed down and shaken together and running over shall be put into your lap. For with the same measure with which you measure, it shall be measured back to you. Luke 6:38

The Father is faithful to bless those who follow Him. Every gift and blessing in our lives comes from Him. He provides for our every need when we put Him first.

YAHUAH bless you and guard you; YAHUAH make His face shine upon you, and show favour to you; YAHUAH lift up His face upon you, and give you peace.” Numbers 6:24-26

The Aaronic blessing shows us that our Father will bless us with His presence peace and favour in our lives.

“Do not fear, for I am with you. Do not look around, for I am your Elohim. I shall fortify you, I shall also help you, I shall also uphold you with the right hand of My righteousness. See, all those who raged against you are ashamed and blush, they are as non-existent. And the men who strive with you perish. You seek them but do not find them, those who struggle with you. Those who fight you are as non-existent, as naught.” Isaiah 41:10-12

And Elohim is able to make all favour overflow toward you, that you, always having all you need in every way, have plenty for every good work. As it has been written, “He scattered abroad, He gave to the poor, His righteousness remains forever.” And He who supplies seed to the sower, and bread for food, shall supply and increase the seed you have sown and increase the fruit of your righteousness, being enriched in every way for all simplicity, which works out thanksgiving to Elohim through us. 2 Corinthians 9:8-11

And out of His completeness we all did receive, and favour upon favour, for the Torah was given through Mosheh – the favour and the truth came through Yahusha Messiah. No one has ever seen Elohim. All came to be through Him, The

only brought-forth Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, He did declare. Now this was the witness of Yoḥanan when the Yehudim sent from Yerushalayim priests and Lēwites to ask him, “Who are you?” John 1:16-19

When a man’s ways please YAHUAH, He makes even his enemies to be at peace with him. Better is a little with righteousness, than a large income without right-ruling. A man’s heart plans his way, But YAHUAH establishes his steps. An oath is on the lips of the sovereign, in right-ruling his mouth trespasses not. A right scale and balances are of YAHUAH; all the weights in the bag are His work. Proverbs 16:7-10

The greatest blessing is YAHUAH! Having Him first and foremost in our lives is truly the greatest thing that can happen to us.

I have no greater joy than to hear of my children walking in truth. 3 John 1:4

I’m sure that John’s sentiment echoes how the Father feels about each of us that walk in His truth!

“But if Elohim so clothes the grass of the field, which exists today, and tomorrow is thrown into the furnace, how much more you, O you of little belief? Do not worry then, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’ For all these the nations seek for. And your heavenly Father knows that you need all these. But seek first the reign of Elohim, and His righteousness, and all these shall be added to you.” Matthew 6:30-33

And He said to His taught ones, “For this reason I say to you, do not worry about your life, what you shall eat; nor about the body, what you shall put on. The life is more than the food, and the body is more than the clothing. Look at the ravens, for they neither sow nor reap, which have neither storehouse nor granary, and Elohim feeds them. How much more valuable are you than the birds? And which of you by worrying is able to add one cubit to his life’s span? If then you are unable to do the least, why do you worry about the rest?” Luke 12:22-26

If we put the Father first by loving Him and being obedient to Him, he blesses us by fulfilling every need we may have in life. He feeds us, gives us shelter, clothes us and so much more!

And the peace of Elohim, which surpasses all understanding, shall guard your hearts and minds through Messiah Yahusha. Philippians 4:7

And to Him who is able to do exceedingly above what we ask or think, according to the power that is working in us, to Him be esteem in the assembly by Messiah Yahusha unto all generations, for ever and ever. Amēn. Ephesians 3:20-21

But those who wait on YAHUAH renew their strength, they raise up the wing like eagles, they run and are not weary, they walk and do not faint. Isaiah 40:31

“If you submit and obey, you shall eat the good of the land; but if you refuse and rebel, you shall be devoured by the sword,” for the mouth of YAHUAH has spoken. Isaiah 1:19-20

For YAHUAH Elohim is a sun and a shield; YAHUAH gives favour and esteem; He withholds no good matter from those who walk blamelessly. O YAHUAH of hosts, blessed is the man who trusts in You! Psalm 84:11-12

Blessed is he who has the Ēl of Ya‘aqob₂ for his help, whose expectancy is in YAHUAH his Elohim, Maker of the heavens and earth, the sea and all that is in them, who is guarding truth forever, doing right-ruling for the oppressed, Giving bread to the hungry. YAHUAH releases those who are bound, YAHUAH opens the eyes of the blind, YAHUAH raises those who are bowed down, YAHUAH loves the righteous. YAHUAH guards the strangers, He lifts up the fatherless and widow, but the way of the wrong ones He turns upside down. Psalm 146:5-9

Blessed is the man who does endure trial, for when he has been proved, he shall receive the crown of life which the Master has promised to those who love Him. James 1:12

Oh, taste and see that YAHUAH is good; blessed is the man that takes refuge in Him! Psalm 34:8

To sum up, let all of you be like-minded, sympathetic, loving as brothers, tenderhearted, humble-minded, not returning evil for evil or reviling for reviling, but on the contrary blessing, knowing that you were called to this, in order to inherit a blessing. 1 Peter 3:8-9

In conclusion, by living a life obedient to YAHUAH, He promises to guard and guide us in life, to provide all we need, to love us and be faithful to us, to be our refuge in this life, to strengthen us and to bless us exceedingly in ways we can't even imagine!

And in our obedience, we escape from the curses of disobedience, we choose abundant life in YAHUAH rather than death.