**Ptz is פרשת חעע שרה / Parashat Chayei Sarah**

Shabbat Cheshvan 17, 5769, November 22, 2008

32:1-32:52 MATSATI.COM / Rightly Dividing The Word of G-d

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| **השבועות הזה קוראים / This Week’s Reading** |
| **תורה:****הפטרה:****הברית:****החדשה:** | Genesis 23:1-25:181 Kings 1:1-31Matthew 1:1-17 1 Corinthians 15:50-57 |

 In this week’s parsha, following the triennial cycle (*Bereshit / Genesis 24:10-24:52*) there is an interesting aspect of the text that deals with the Hebrew verb ברך (Barach) which means “to bless.” Following the various occurrences of the word “barach” throughout the Masoretic text one of the most often found uses of the verb is located in *Bereshit / Genesis 12:2* when HaShem blesses Avraham and his seed. One of the less often uses is found in *Bereshit / Genesis 24:11* where “barach” can also mean “kneel” (in this instance the servant of Avraham caused the camels to kneel outside of the city). Another variation of the Hebrew word is “berachah” meaning “a blessing” or “a gift/present.” By studying the ancient use of the word we can gain insight behind the meaning of “barach” and its meaning of blessing. It is to bring a gift to another while kneeling out of respect. Another way to look at this word is to do or give something of value to another. G-d "blesses" us by providing for our needs and likewise we in turn "bless" G-d by giving him of ourselves as his servants.

**Bereshit / Genesis 12:1-3**

12:1 Now the Lord said to Abram, ‘Go forth from your country, And from your relatives And from your father's house, To the land which I will show you; 12:2 And I will make you a great nation, And I will bless you, And make your name great; And so you shall be a blessing; 12:3 And I will bless those who bless you, And the one who curses you I will curse. And in you all the families of the earth will be blessed.’ (NASB)

**12:2בראשית**

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**Bereshit / Genesis 24:10-11**

24:10 Then the servant took ten camels from the camels of his master, and set out with a variety of good things of his master's in his hand; and he arose and went to Mesopotamia, to the city of Nahor. 24:11 He made the camels kneel down outside the city by the well of water at evening time, the time when women go out to draw water. (NASB)

**24:11בראשית**



1. to bless, kneel
	1. (Qal)
		1. to kneel
		2. to bless
	2. (Niphal) to be blessed, bless oneself
	3. (Piel) to bless
	4. (Pual) to be blessed, be adored
	5. (Hiphil) to cause to kneel
	6. (Hithpael) to bless oneself
2. to praise, salute, curse

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How often are preachers and teachers loosing the centrality of the Word in their ministry? How about focusing upon teaching technique at the expense of quality time in the Word, thus substituting the shape of the message for its essence.

**Be Blessed in Yeshua our Messiah!**

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**הללויה לאדוננו מורנו ורבינו ישוע מלך המשיח לעולם ועד:**

Hallelujah for our Lord, our Teacher, our Rabbi,

“Yeshua” King Messiah forever and ever