

BLESSING

There are 3 Gk words in
the NT directly related to
the English word
"blessing"

BLESSING

All 3 are compound words
made up of

"eu" = Well or good &

"logos" = a word, to speak

BLESSING

**"eu" & "logos" together =
"good word, to speak well of"**

The 3 Gk words are...

1 (*eulogeo*) a verb:

**“to speak well of; to
praise; to call down
God’s gracious power”**

The 3 Gk words are...

**# 2 (*eulogeitos*) an
adjective meaning
“well spoken of; praised”**

The 3 Gk words are...

3 is the **noun (*eulogia*)**

& that means

“praise; fine speaking”

These 3 Gk words ...

**... aren't used that often
in Gk classical writing.**

**These concepts
originate more with
the Jews and they run
thru the whole of the OT**

Question:

**What is the main Jewish
concept about blessings
in the OT?**

Jewish concept in the OT?

God possesses **AND**
dispenses **ALL** blessing

Definition Problem:

The English word
"blessing" is **NOT** a direct
translation from the Gk

Borrowed

"Blessing's" present day meaning has been attained by reason of long usage, rather than by etymological accuracy

World Book Dictionary

Blessing =

- 1a.** “to consecrate (a thing) by religious rite, formula, or prayer” e.g., “the bishop blessed the new church”

World Book Dictionary

Blessing =

1b. “to make holy or sacred.”
e.g., Gen 2:3 “And God
blessed the 7th day &
sanctified it”,

World Book Dictionary

Blessing =

- 2.** “to ask God’s favor for; to commend to God’s favor or protection”, e.g., “God bless mommy & daddy”

World Book Dictionary

Blessing =

- 3.** "to wish good for; to feel grateful to"
- 4.** "to make happy or fortunate"

World Book Dictionary

Blessing =

- 5.** "to praise, to glorify, to call holy"
- 6.** "to guard or protect from evil", e.g. "God bless this house"

World Book Dictionary

Blessing =

7. “to make the sign of the cross over; to ward off evil”

This one is superstitious

Why do we use
“blessing”

AND

Where did it
come from?

Check the Hebrew

Bless = *brk* (no vowels in Heb)

brk = to kneel, was used one way or another hundreds of times to express respect or adoration.

Hebrew Word Picture

Brk = "son of tenderness"...

To treat as you would a
precious son.

Hebrew Word Picture

Brk = we've seen is related to
"to kneel".

Looking at it from the point of view a son

Since

“son of tenderness” & kneel
are the same thing...

Hebrew Word Picture

...then to act as a son was to
“kneel before the father”.
Showing, respect & honour.

Why do we use
“blessing”

AND

Where did it
come from?

Etymology of Bless

Old English - *bletsian, bledsian*

Northumbrian - *bloedsian*

"to consecrate, make holy,"

Interesting why "consecrate/make holy"

Etymology of Bless

P. Gmc. - *blothisojan*

"mark with **blood**,"

From *blotham* "**blood**"

Originally **blood** sprinkled on
pagan altars

O.E.D. helps out too...

To Bless – to make sacred, to hallow (something).

Old Teutonic – *bletsian*, from heathen blood sacrifices

German - blut = **English** - Blood

O.E.D. helps out too...

“The meaning, then, was ‘to mark (or affect in some way) with **blood** (or a sacrificial animal)’.

O.E.D. helps out too...

The development of the word '**ble**ss' was greatly influenced by its having been chosen (in the early Eng church ceremonies) to translate the Latin (*benedicere*) & the Gk (*eulogeitos*).

Another point...

... the Etymology Dictionary made was that the meaning shifted in late O.E. towards "to confer happiness, well-being," by resemblance to the unrelated "bliss".

Calvary
Chapel
Laveen

Calvary Chapel...



Where the sheep like to eat!

Greek to Latin

eulogeitos = *benedicere*

"to say good things or good words", as the Gk intended

Italian Translation

Verb – *benedire*

bene = good &

dire = to speak

You that read Spanish
will see similar

Italian Translation

Verb – *benedire*

Adj – *benedetto*

"to say good things or good words", as the Gk intended

Noun – *benedizione*

Italian Translation

Noun – *benedizione*

English = benediction

Gk - Latin - Ital - Eng

Greek – *eulogeitos* =

Latin – *benedicere* =

Italian – *benedizione* =

English – *benediction* =

PRAISE

Blessing in the BIBLE

“**Blessing**” recognizes the
existence & deity of God

Blessing in the BIBLE

God was thinking about us
in favorable terms

God's attitude to us

Is an attitude of **love**,
grace, & **mercy** toward us
from ***before*** the **beginning**
of **time**

God's attitude to us

He literally thought &
thinks good words
towards us !!!

Matthew 12:34

O generation of vipers, how can ye, being evil, speak good things? For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks.

Luke 6:45

A good man out of the good treasure of his heart brings forth that which is good; & an evil man out of the evil treasure of his heart brings forth that which is evil: for of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaks.