

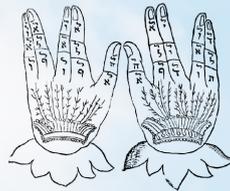
“ May God bless you and safeguard you.



May God illuminate you with His countenance
and be gracious to you.



May God turn His countenance to you
and establish for you peace. ”



The **Priestly Blessing - Birkat Kohanim** (Bamidbar/Numbers 6:23-27), which is recited daily in the Land of Israel, and on the Biblical Holidays of Sukkot, Passover, Shavuot, Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur outside of Israel, has been recited for more than 3,300 years! The question is asked, is God blessing the people or, are the **Kohanim - Priests** (descendants of Aaron, Moses' brother), and if so, why did God give this particular Blessing through the **Priests**? God can obviously “just bless us” He doesn't need anyone doing it for Him. A part of the answer can be found in the specific WAY it is done. First, the Blessing is made up of 15 words (in the original Hebrew text). These words are specific and broken into three distinct Blessings. The first Blessing is made up of three words; the second, five words; the third, seven words. Fifteen is the acronym for the Hebrew name for **God - HASHEM** (“The Name”). When the **Priests** recite the Blessing, they face the congregation with their **Tallitot** (Prayer Shawls) over their heads, their feet bare, and their hands spread out in a special formation that symbolizes the Hebrew letter “**Shin**” which represents “**Shaddai - Almighty God**”.

The **Kohanim - Priests** are God's partner in blessing the children of Israel, reminding them (the Priests) that they rely on the People for their daily sustenance. As the tribe responsible for the rituals and daily service to God, the **Kohanim - Priests** did not own land or livestock. Their livelihood came from the sacrifices and offerings brought to the Tabernacle/Temple by the Israelites. By being a partner with God in blessing the people, they remain humble and connected to the daily lives of their brethren.

Though God often blesses us directly, the impact of the **Priestly Blessing** is meant to be one of unity, wholeness and humility before God. We stand together, with one heart and soul, actively engaged in God's presence and blessings. God's compassion and love is reflected in the very nature of the Blessing.

May we continue to merit His Blessings and Love.

Download your free beautiful Priestly Blessing print -
a gift from your Emunah Israel Family.

FREE





יברכך ה' וישמרך

May God

Bless You and Safeguard You



יאר ה' פניו אליו ויחנך

May God

**Illuminate You with His Countenance
and Be Gracious to You**



ישא ה' פניו אליך וישם לך

שלום

May God

**Turn His Countenance to You
and Establish For You
Peace.**

במדברנו, כג-כז

Bamidbar-Numbers Chapter 6 verses 23-27



EMUNAH ANGELS OF ISRAEL is a project of World Emunah, the international development arm of Emunah Israel. As one of Israel's leading humanitarian aid and social service organizations, Emunah has been providing the resources and support to Israel's most neediest and vulnerable children and families for over 80 years. Since opening the first residential homes and schools for refugee children from the Holocaust and Arab countries, Emunah has been the safe haven and family to hundreds of thousands of orphaned, abused and abandoned children.

EMUNAH ANGELS OF ISRAEL invites YOU to become a part of our Family. Together, we can bless the people of Israel as God declares: "I will bless those who bless you, and him who curses you I will curse; and all the families of the earth will be blessed by you." Genesis 12:3

We invite you, your family, church and organization to visit our projects when you are in Israel. If you would like to schedule an Emunah program in your community, please contact ruth@worldemunah.org or info@emunahangels.org

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