

The apostle Paul was a Jewish rabbi and would have declared this blessing over his congregation every Sabbath.

 יְבָרְכֶךָ יְהוָה וַיִּשְׁמְרֶךָ v'yishm'reka YHWH y'varech'ka and keep you The LORD bless you	Start reading here (Hebrew is read right to left.) 5 words are circled for emphasis—they are not circled in the original text.	
 יָאֵר יְהוָה פָּנָיו אֵלֶיךָ וַיְחַנֶּךָ vichuneka eleyka panayv YHWH yaer and be gracious upon you his face The LORD make shine to you		
יִשָּׂא יְהוָה פָּנָיו אֵלֶיךָ וַיַּשֵּׁם לְךָ שְׁלוֹם shalom l'ka v'yasem eleyka panayv YHWH yisa peace you and give upon you his face The LORD lift up		
THE AARONIC BLESSING (Numbers 6:24–26)		Remove 3 YHWHs 12 words left (12 tribes)

Enlarged 'Samechs'
 Besides the Hebrew letter 'shin,' there is a letter often pronounced the same way in the Hebrew language (like 'c' and 's' in English). It is a 'samech.'

In old copies of the Torah, there are 3 enlarged samechs in this blessing (Samech means 'to uphold.')

Also, there are **15** Hebrew words and **60** letters in this blessing. Samech is the **15th** letter of the Hebrew aleph-bet (alphabet) and samech is also the number **60**.*

*Greek and Hebrew are **alpha-numeric**—letters are numbers (just like the Latin alphabet has 10 letters that we call 'Roman numerals').

Note that the Lord is mentioned 3 times—as it also is in the 'SHMA' recited by Jews - 'HEAR, O Israel, the Lord our God is One Lord.'

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Blessing of the Priest

Grace & Peace

Those born into God's priesthood (Exodus 19:6, 1 Peter 2:5, Isaiah 61:6, John 20:22-23) are instructed to 'PUT' (translated 'MARK' in Genesis 4:15) God's Name* on His people (Numbers 6:22-27)



“And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying, Speak unto Aaron and unto his sons, saying, ‘On this wise ye shall bless the children of Israel, saying unto them, The LORD bless thee, and keep thee: The LORD make his face shine upon thee, and be GRACIOUS unto thee: The LORD lift up his countenance upon thee, and give thee PEACE. And they shall PUT MY NAME upon the children of Israel; and I will bless them.’”

* "... his Name is called The Word of God." Revelation 19:13

Speaking God's **Word aloud** marks people with His Name. So, be marked (& washed) DAILY. Never underestimate the power of the **spoken Word**. It's the **source of all that is created**. (Heb. 11:3)

The Hebrew letter shin (s or sh) represents the **Name of God** because it is the first letter of the word **Shem** (meaning 'Name'). It is also the first letter of the words: **Shalom** (peace), **Shaddai** (God) & **Shekinah** (glory).



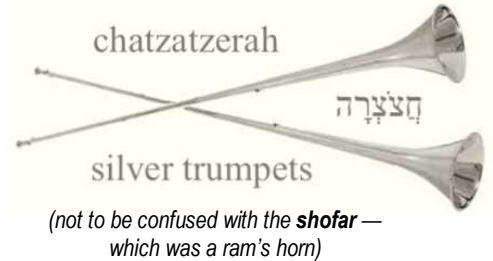
The letter shin was made by those born into the **priesthood** using one (or both) hands forming the letter shin with their fingers while **speaking** the Aaronic Blessing (Numbers 6:22-26) of **GRACE & PEACE**.



Note: Jewish actor Leonard Nimoy chose to adopt this as his 'Vulcan salute' with the verbal blessing 'live long and prosper' in the TV series Star Trek—but, for millenia, Jewish rabbi's have raised their hands with this same sign when they rose to **impart God's Name** upon His people, blessing them. The Hebrew alphabet of 22 letters is found written in most Bibles in Psalm 119, marking 22 divisions of 8 verses—each starting with that letter (alphabetic acrostic). (Shin is the second to last letter of the Hebrew alphabet.)

***Paul's Letters to 7 CHURCHES:** Rome, Corinth, Galatia, Ephesus, Philippi, Colossae, Thessalonica
 ALL OPEN with **Grace & Peace** (2 silver trumpets were blown to call people together—Numbers 10:1-3)
 and ALL CLOSE with **Grace** (1 silver trumpet was used to dismiss the assembly and call the leaders together)

- ROMANS 1:7 "Grace to you and Peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ."
 Romans 16:24 "The **Grace** of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. **Amen.**"
- 1 CORINTHIANS 1:3 "Grace to you and Peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ."
 1 Corinthians 16:23 "The **Grace** of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. My **LOVE** be with you all in Christ Jesus. **Amen.**"
 2 Corinthians 1:2 "Grace to you and Peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ."
 2 Corin. 13:14 "The **Grace** of the Lord Jesus Christ & the love of God and the communion of the Holy Ghost be with you all. **Amen.**"
- GALATIANS 1:3 "Grace to you and Peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ."
 Galatians 6:18 "Brethren, the **Grace** of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit. **Amen.**"
- EPHESIANS 1:2 "Grace to you and Peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ."
 Ephesians 6:24 "Grace be with all them that love our Lord Jesus Christ in sincerity. **Amen.**"
- PHILIPPIANS 1:2 "Grace to you and Peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ."
 Philippians 4:23 "The **Grace** of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. **Amen.**"
- COLOSSIANS 1:2 "Grace to you and Peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ."
 Colossians 4:18 "Grace be with you. **Amen.**"
- 1 THESSALONIANS 1:1 "Grace to you and Peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ."
 1 Thessalonians 5:28 "The **Grace** of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. **Amen.**"
 2 Thessalonians 1:2 "Grace to you and Peace from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ."
 2 Thessalonians 3:18 "The **Grace** of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. **Amen.**"



*These New Testament epistles (letters) to churches were written by the **Jewish rabbi**, Saul (his Jewish name is mentioned 22 times) before he changes it to a Gentile (non-Jewish) name—Paul, after Acts 7—and he becomes an apostle to the Gentiles. Indeed, Paul's life is an **allegory** of the Church—birthed into Judaism—but becoming 'all things to all men...' (1 Corinthians 9:22)

Other New Testament Letters to (or from) 7 MEN: Timothy, Titus, Philemon, James, Peter, John, Jude

- 1 TIMOTHY 1:2 "Grace, Mercy and Peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord."
 1 Timothy 6:21 "Grace be with thee. **Amen.**"
 2 Timothy 1:2 "Grace, Mercy and Peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord."
 2 Timothy 4:22 "Grace be with you. **Amen.**"
- TITUS 1:4 "Grace, Mercy and Peace from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ our Savior."
 Titus 3:15 "Grace be with you all. **Amen.**"
- PHILEMON 1:3 "Grace to you and Peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ."
 Philemon 1:25 "The **Grace** of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit. **Amen.**"
- JAMES—James is the only letter that doesn't use the Grace & Peace Blessing (nor do the 4 Gospels & Acts)**
- 1 PETER 1:2 "May **Grace** and **Peace** be yours in the fullest measure."
 1 Peter 5:14 "Peace be with you all that are in Christ Jesus. **Amen.**"
 2 Peter 1:2 "Grace and Peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord."
 2 Peter 3:18 "But grow in **Grace** and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ."
- 2 JOHN 1:3 "Grace be with you, **Mercy** and **Peace** from God the Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ..."
 3 John 1:14 "...Peace be unto you..."
- JUDE 1:2 "Mercy be unto you and **Peace** and **Love** be multiplied."



HEBREWS 13:25 ends with "Grace be with you all. **Amen.**" and John finishes the Bible with:
 REVELATION 1:4 "...Grace be unto you and Peace from Him which is, which was, & which is to come..."
 Revelation 22:21 "The **Grace** of the Lord Jesus be with all. **Amen.**"

Here are just a few instances of **Grace & Peace** appearing together in scripture at **MAJOR HISTORICAL EVENTS:** Genesis 43:23 & 29: "And he (**Joseph**) said '**PEACE** be to you...and he said: God be **GRACIOUS** unto thee..." 1 Samuel 1:17-18 "Then Eli answered (**Hannah**) and said 'Go in **PEACE**...and she said 'Let thine handmaid find **GRACE**...' 1 Samuel 20:3&7, 21&29 "1 (**David**) have found **GRACE**...thy servant shall have **PEACE**..." 2 Samuel 15:25&27 "If I shall find FAVOR (**GRACE**)...return to the city in **PEACE**..." Esther 2:11, 15 "to know how **Esther** did (*literally: PEACED/Shalomed*)...and Esther obtained FAVOR (**GRACE**)..." Luke 1:29 & 36 "...lettest thou thy servant (**Simeon**) depart in **PEACE**...and there was one **Anna** (*Ckhanna means GRACE*)..."

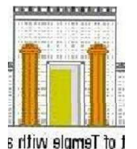


For further study, within the Holy of Holies (where only the High Priest went), there were **2 Cherubim** over the Ark of the Covenant. In the Holy Place (where priests went) the **2 Olive Trees** (Anointed Ones) were seen in Zechariah 4:3-14. And, in the Outer Court of Solomon's Temple (for all to see) were **2 Pillars**.



These all may be representations of the two **Guardians** of the **Covenant of Grace** (salvation by grace) to all creation sealed with a rainbow manifestation of the 7-fold Holy Spirit of Grace (Isaiah 11:2-3, Rev. 4:5, 5:6) and the

Covenant of Peace—the inheritance promised to Abraham & ratified by each generation in his seed, sealed with the Law- (circumcising flesh) until Christ fulfilled ALL Law—bringing Peace (Numbers 25:12, Ephesians 2:14-17, Isaiah 9:6, John 14:27).



And, here's a little **Grace & Peace** chorus written in January 2024 by grandma ginger— <ginger@2-acres.com>.
 Remember, God's people are **MARKED** not by saying these words but by **HEARING & SPEAKING GOD'S WORD**. (His NAME)

