Revelation 13 The Dragon and Two Beasts:

The Beast from the Sea The Beast from the Earth UNHOLY TRINITY

Focus on the RIGHT things...



Turn you eyes upon Jesus...



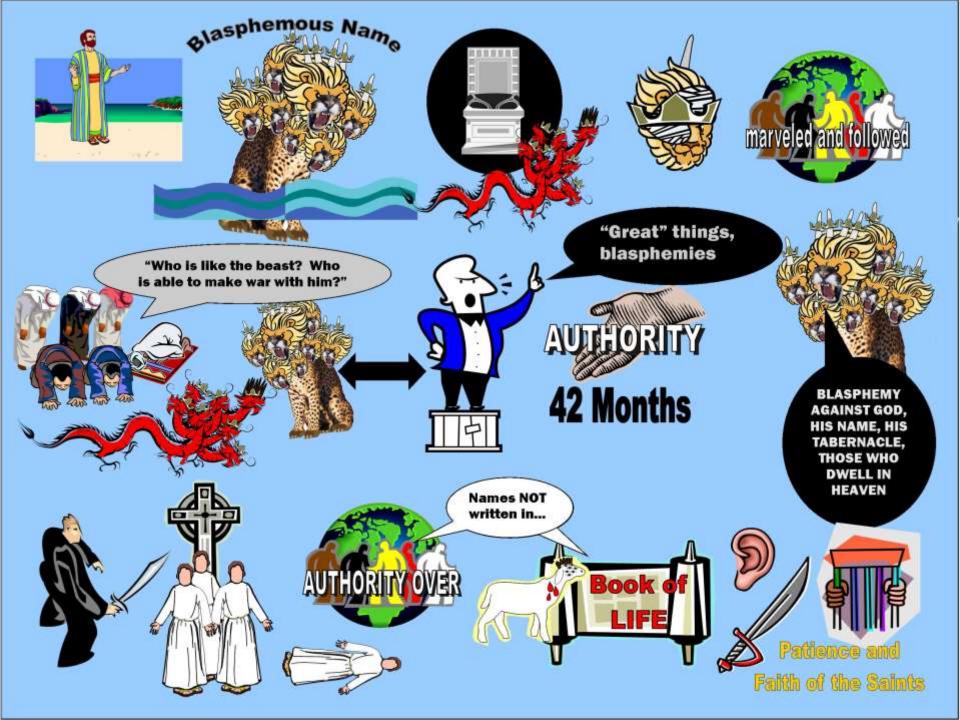
What have we just covered???

¹ Then I stood on the sand of the sea. And I saw a beast rising up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns, and on his horns ten crowns, and on his heads a blasphemous name.² Now the beast which I saw was like a leopard, his feet were like the feet of a bear, and his mouth like the mouth of a lion. The dragon gave him his power, his throne, and great authority.



³ And I saw one of his heads as if it had been mortally wounded, and his deadly wound was healed. And all the world marveled and followed the beast. ⁴ So they worshiped the dragon who gave authority to the beast; and they worshiped the beast, saying, "Who is like the beast? Who is able to make war with him?" ⁵ And he was given a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies, and he was given authority to continue for fortytwo months. ⁶ Then he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme His name, His tabernacle, and those who dwell in heaven.

⁷ It was granted to him to make war with the saints and to overcome them. And authority was given him over every tribe, tongue, and nation.⁸ All who dwell on the earth will worship him, whose names have not been written in the Book of Life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world. ⁹ If anyone has an ear, let him hear. ¹⁰ He who leads into captivity shall go into captivity; he who kills with the sword must be killed with the sword. Here is the patience and the faith of the saints.



Continuing on now...

¹¹ Then I saw another beast coming up out of the earth, and he had two horns like a lamb and spoke like a dragon. ¹² And he exercises all the authority of the first beast in his presence, and causes the earth and those who dwell in it to worship the first beast, whose deadly wound was healed. ¹³ He performs great signs, so that he even makes fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men. ¹⁴ And he deceives those who dwell on the earth by those signs which he was granted to do in the sight of the beast, telling those who dwell on the earth to make an image to the beast who was wounded by the sword and lived.

¹⁵ He was granted power to give breath to the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak and cause as many as would not worship the image of the beast to be killed. ¹⁶ He causes all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and slave, to receive a mark on their right hand or on their foreheads, ¹⁷ and that no one may buy or sell except one who has the mark or the name of the beast, or the number of his name. ¹⁸ Here is wisdom. Let him who has understanding calculate the number of the beast, for it is the number of a man: His number is 666.

Revelation 13:11

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¹¹ Then I saw another beast coming up out of the earth, and he had two horns like a lamb and spoke like a dragon.

 We are now introduced to the second beast in this chapter. Together with the dragon and the first beast, we have an unholy trinity – satan's <u>counterfeit</u> godhead.

DRAGON	BEAST FROM THE SEA	BEAST FROM THE LAND
Satan	Antichrist	False Prophet
Evil power anti-GOD	Political power,	Psychological
	evil	power, evil
	anti-CHRIST	anti-SPIRIT

- This beast comes <u>up out of the EARTH</u>, unlike the SEA (as first beast).
- Some believe this reference to **land of Israel** (earth being a reference to Israel), though no concrete proof. (Would indicate this beast is Jewish. May be, but merely speculation.)
- This beast is apparently one referenced as "False Prophet" in chapters 19 and 20.
- *"...he had two horns like a lamb"* Reference to lamb is an obvious counterfeit of Jesus, the Lamb of God

- *"...and spoke like a dragon."* Lambs are gentle, beast may appear gentle and kind, but voice gives him away. He is mouthpiece for the dragon, satan. His true character. Will be known by what he says a tool of the dragon.
- His whole purpose is to work toward the complete dominance of the earth by the antichrist (the first beast, from the sea), and the worship of the earth dwellers of antichrist.
- He can be considered the "high priest" of the <u>false religious system</u>. Another good title for him would be the antichrist's "henchman.

- Some people say that this beast is even more anti-christ than antichrist himself. Horns speak of power. This beast has been given some unusual powers to exercise with those who resist this enforced worship.
- Jesus warned of such: "Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravenous wolves." (Matthew 7:15) This second beast comes looking like a gentle lamb but speaking like a dragon. Or, as Jesus stated it, "a wolf in sheep's clothing."

- Jesus warned of other signs like this ... "For false christs and false prophets will rise and show great signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the elect." (Matthew 24:24)
- Here he warns there will be multiple
 "antichrists" and multiple "false prophets."
 These two characters (beast from the sea, beast from the land), however, are the epitome, the ultimate of anti-Messiahs in single individuals.
- In Revelation 16:13, 19:20 and 20:10 this beast from the land is called THE "false prophet." Hence our reference to him this way.

Revelation 13:12

¹² And he exercises all the authority of the first beast in his presence, and causes the earth and those who dwell in it to worship the first beast, whose deadly wound was healed.

- This 2nd beast has complete authority of the first beast, which has <u>complete authority of</u> <u>the dragon</u>. Chain of command here that reaches to Enemy.
- *"all authority..."* This beast does evil of first beast. Greek words used clearly show action – this beast carrying out first beast's evil plans.
- This "false prophet" will work to insure worship of antichrist, the one who <u>appeared</u> to have been healed of a deadly wound.
- Notice again reference to "earth and those who dwell in it..." <u>Unbelievers</u> will worship antichrist, not believers.

- We have spoken earlier about this "deadly wound" being "miraculously" healed. Some believe the Enemy resurrects antichrist after his "death." Others believe Ha'Satan does not have ability to do this, and has no authority over life and death (only God's authority). Therefore, many believe whatever event this portrays, "miraculous" aspect will be through deception and trickery.
- **Remember** antichrist seeks to counterfeit and deceive people into thinking he is messiah. He will do and "be" the things prophesied for true Messiah, such as death for the people.

- Likely that false prophet will be head of apostate church during first half (3½ years) of tribulation. Revelation 17 shows demise of "harlot" (false church) at about mid-point. After this, 2nd beast enforces worship of antichrist.
- **COMMENTARY:** (LaHaye). "Since man is incurably religious, a world dictator must provide man with an outlet for his religious inclinations."
- God programmed mankind to worship Him as Creator. We are designed to seek God, but <u>our</u> pride and will get in the way and we end up worshipping, as He intended, but wrong god.

Revelation 13:13-14

¹³ He performs great signs, so that he even makes fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men.¹⁴ And he deceives those who dwell on the earth by those signs which he was granted to do in the sight of the beast, telling those who dwell on the earth to make an image to the beast who was wounded by the sword and lived.

- This beast from the land has been given some unique powers. He is able to make fire come down from heaven.
- Should immediately cause us to think of one <u>other person who did this</u>: Elijah, in his contest between God and Baal on Mt. Carmel.
- Also, when Moses pleaded with Pharaoh to let God's people go, one of the plagues was hailstones and fire.
- These powers may be an attempt to convince people of their power, and that the Two Witnesses (chapter 11) are not the only ones with this kind of power.

- Regardless of how impressive this might be, it is satanic. Remember even magicians of Pharaoh's court could replicate a few things Moses did, but they couldn't come close to replicating all of them (and were defeated in the end!). God is still in control, even here.
- These unusual powers of the second beast are called "signs," apparently supposed to convince people of this beast's "divine" powers. Fear is a powerful controlling tool.



- There are verses (in addition to this one) that could indicate this is all trickery, and not real.
 We don't know.
- Must remember John's gospel called many of the things Jesus did "signs," but those signs were not parlor tricks or merely miracles, they were fulfillment of solid prophecies regarding His person and His work. Those signs in the book of John are intended to convince readers that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God. The signs used in this chapter in Revelation are intended to deceive and control.

Those who dwell on the earth "are now being coerced into making an image of some sort of the antichrist. We don't know what form this takes. In today's world, it could be a statue, a hologram, or even a television image, or something else.

 Notice yet another reference to the first beast (antichrist) having been "wounded by the sword and lived." There are multiple references to this. Obviously, this "event" will be significant, and will deceive many into thinking the first beast is indeed the "Messiah."

Revelation 13:15



¹⁵ He was granted power to give breath to the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak and cause as many as would not worship the image of the beast to be killed.



• Image of beast unclear in its form. Television image seems to have breath and can speak, so does a hologram or a robot, but speculation only. Greek means "likeness." Could be anything. Don't know how likeness of antichrist could kill people if they don't worship it, but perhaps it merely means false prophet orders people killed who do not do so.



 Image reminiscent of image of Nebuchadnezzar in Daniel 3. King of Babylon ordered everyone to worship his image, and those who didn't were thrown in execution chamber – the fiery furnace. Interestingly, Daniel not present during this incident. Only his cohorts (Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, or their Hebrew names of Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah) were there, and we all know the story of their faithfulness to God and miraculous deliverance. Some speculate this might be an early allusion to removal of Church, (non-presence of Daniel), and protection of Israel (his Jewish buddies) during this time.

- Once again, remember we are <u>on shaky</u> <u>ground when it comes to speculation and</u> <u>seeing the future</u>. We have great hindsight, but not so good foresight, unless it is specifically told to us by Elohim.
- We don't know what this image is, or how it works.
- We just know that whoever does not "worship" this image will be killed. We don't even know what form the expected worship must take.

Revelation 13:16-17

¹⁶ He causes all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and slave, to receive a mark on their right hand or on their foreheads, ¹⁷ and that no one may buy or sell except one who has the mark or the name of the beast, or the number of his name.

- These last verses are one of the most mysterious and investigated passages in all of scripture.
- Particularly of interest in today's high tech world, when it is completely possible such marks can be issued to everyone on earth. Wasn't possible a few short years ago. But in the age of computers and tracking abilities, this is very doable today and has even been tested in some regions – on foreheads and right hands. Today's headlines are a chilling reminder of how close we are to this time.

- Greek word used here is *charagma*, meaning <u>engraving</u>, brand, seal, or etching (in today's world this could include tattoos with barcodes, biochips, and other things).
- In Leviticus 19:28, God forbids such etching and tattoos (any permanent marking). (See also Leviticus 21:5, Deuteronomy 14:1, Isaiah 49:16, Ezekiel 9:4, Exodus 12:9, 16)
- God reserves the right to mark His own. He has His own mark for believers. While unbelievers take this "mark of the beast," God's children are sealed by Him.

- This mark is the mark of doom. We know from next chapter that <u>no one who receives this mark</u> <u>can be saved</u>. They are doomed to the lake of fire for all eternity. Pretty good incentive for NOT taking the mark.
- Required mark will mean complete economic control by antichrist. Believers will live in very difficult times at this point.
- Because of large population of tribulation saints, will most likely be some sort of "underground" economy that will enable believers to survive, at least those who can remain in secret and not be killed by this "image of the beast."

- Interesting, while many still recoil at the "mark of the beast" or a single type of identification code, especially anything with "666" in it, the troubling issues of identity theft, medical records and keeping track of everyone's personal "data" has already made the public receptive to this idea.
- The world will make it seem attractive and needed. When it is time to issue such a mark, people will flock to the marking stations. It is so important to know what God's Word has to say about this mark.

Revelation 13:18

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Revelation 13:16-18

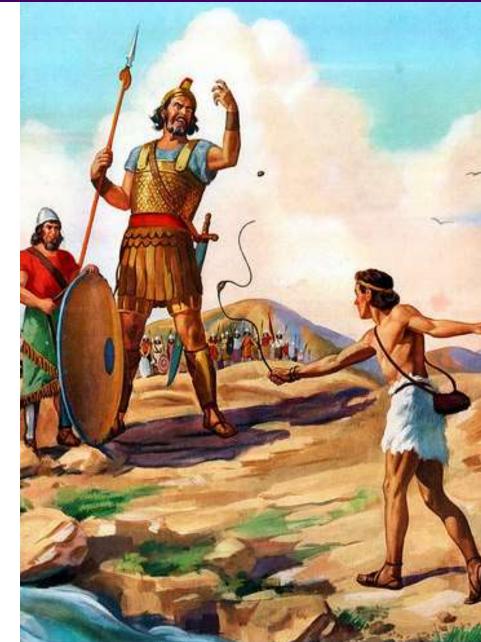
¹⁸ Here is wisdom. Let him who has understanding calculate the number of the beast, for it is the number of a man: His number is 666.

- This verse has been commented on, picked apart, puzzled, speculated and otherwise chewed on for centuries. <u>The verse itself</u> <u>indicates that it requires wisdom to calculate</u> <u>this number</u>.
- The word used here for "calculate" literally means to count. Where does wisdom come from? Certainly not from worldly man. All our answers come from God, from scripture.
- Proverbs 1:7 says that the fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge. We study scripture to understand scripture.

- In scripture, God has used a form of "gematria" to provide deeper levels of understanding.
- **GEMATRIA:** a system that assigns numerical value to letters, words or phrases. Those letters, words and phrases with identical numerical values bear relationship to each other, and often have symbolic meaning. Caution! This is not to be used to arrive at certain "answers" such as those achieved through astrological means. It is a method to understand God's Word and plan better, and is divinely inspired and understood.

- The number six is used repeatedly as a symbol for man. Six literally means "less than complete." Seven means "perfectly complete." So six is one less than seven, one less than perfectly complete.
- In Hebrew, six considered "insidious" number. It is despised. In fact, no Kosher foods packaged in 6's.
- Jews avoid 6, used so often in scripture as negative allusion to incompleteness of man. Considered an evil number, representative of fallen, sinful, unregenerate man.

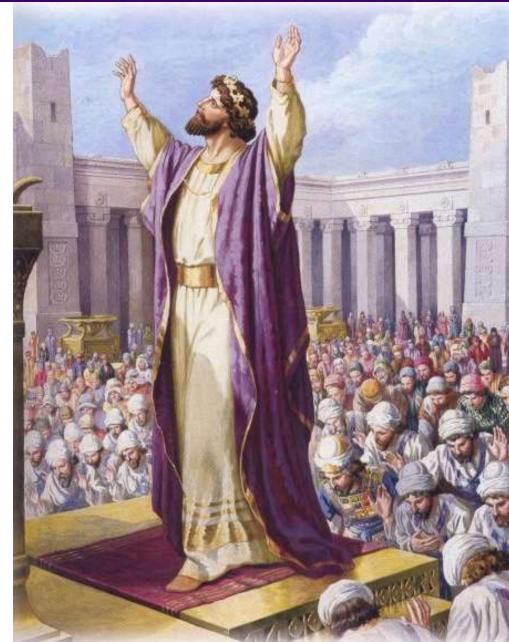
- Several scriptural allusions to number
 6, chiefly in three areas:
 - Goliath (6 fingers, 6 toes, height of 6 cubits, 6-sheckel spear, 6 pieces of armor, etc. thought to be part of new wave of "nephilim" after flood),



• Nebuchadnezzar (statue 60 cubits high, 6 cubits wide, 6 musical instruments).

Both Goliath and Nebuchadnezzar were enemies of Israel.

- Solomon (6 steps to his throne, yearly revenue of 666 talents of gold, 600 sheckels of gold in each of his shields, etc.)
- Solomon was one of her greatest kings, but <u>even he</u> <u>is a type for</u> <u>antichrist</u>.



- Solomon started off well, asking for wisdom to rule God's people, but his many foreign wives turned his head and heart away from God.
- He sinned repeatedly and introduced idolatry into the land. He was a hard taskmaster requiring very heavy taxes from the people.
- Could have been a type for a deliverer, but instead became an oppressor to feed his own lusts and desires.
- Multiple uses of number SIX remind us of Solomon's incompleteness, and to provide another piece of information in the whole plan.

- Six always refers to something or someone that is <u>less than complete</u>, something human.
- We are incomplete until we are "in the Messiah."
- The beautiful picture of the menorah in the tabernacle, and the vine and the branches in John 14 are examples of this completion in Yeshua.



Incomplete branches (6) find their completion in the Vine (7)

- Interesting: if you add up all the numbers between 1 and 36, you will get the sum of 666.
- 1+2+3+4+5+6+7+8+9+10+11+12+13+1
 4+15+16+17+18+19+20+21+22+23+24
 +25+26+27+28+29+30+31+32+33+34+
 35+36 = 666
- And, the word "beast" in its evil sense, is used exactly 36 times in Revelation.
- **Don't know what this means**, but interesting to note how many layers of information there always are in scripture. It confirms itself.

- We could spend weeks discussing this number. There have been so many attempts to attach it to a person, which may or may not be possible, that it is now in the realm of being ridiculous.
- The most important thing we should see here is that six is the number of man, and the antichrist will be a man*.
 - *Some do not interpret beasts as literal persons, but as <u>worldly conditions in opposition to God</u>, (such as power-hungry, ferocious power and deceptive activity and propaganda that exist in the world today.)

- However, entirely too much evidence (in both testaments) to indicate these beasts are in fact man, human beings.
- May be why God states their number as 666, a number only assigned to sinful man in scripture. In Revelation 19 both beasts end up in lake of fire. Would seem odd if they weren't indeed human beings.
- 666 = number of complete imperfection, 777 = number of complete perfection. 888 is beyond perfection (8 is number of new beginnings, often associated with Jesus). 666 may indicate the unholy trinity, completely evil.

- Hebrew, Latin and Greek languages all have numeric values assigned to their alphabets. For English speakers, this is a foreign concept and we do not easily understand what is implied in a single word. For example, the Greek letters for the name Jesus, add up to the number 888. Jesus is beyond perfection.
- Perhaps at some future time, during tribulation, this "formula" will serve as a way to concretely identify the antichrist, if there is any question. For us today, speculation is a waste of time.

- We will not speculate on any of the literally thousands of ideas about what 666 could mean, who it might relate to, or possible theories.
- This has been done throughout the centuries and every time people have been wrong.
- The best explanation is that the triple six is the number of a man, each digit falling short of the perfect completion of the number 7. Three sixes mimics the holy triune nature of Elohim.
- Someday it may be possible to "calculate" this number to identify the antichrist.)

SUMMARIZING COMMENTARY ON THE 2ND BEAST...The Beast from the Land:

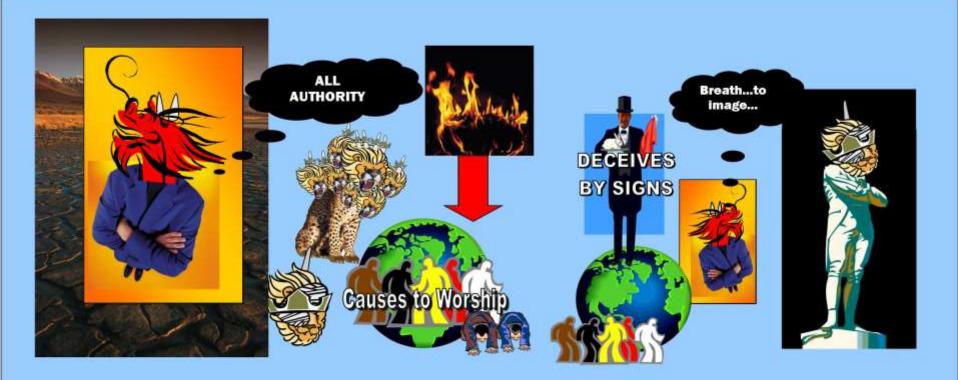
The Antichrist's right hand man, or the third person in the unholy trinity as many scholars refer to him, is known in the Bible as the False Prophet. It is easy to look past this figure in the Scriptures or let the magnitude of the Antichrist over shadow this other beast, but we mustn't gloss over this figure. Under and with the authority of the Antichrist, he will be the implementer and enforcer of much of the evil that will be brought about by Satan using these two men.

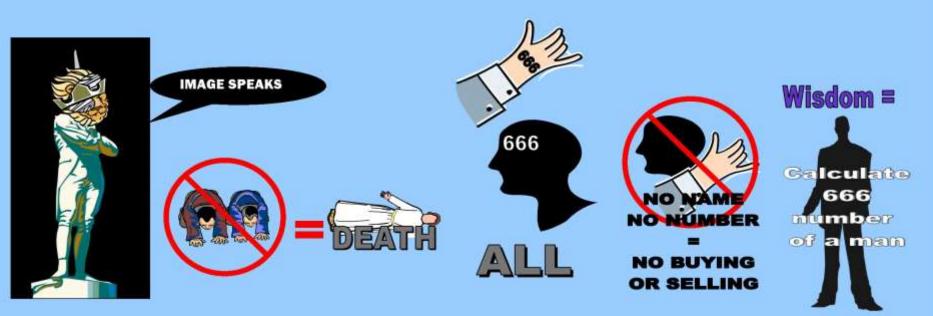
One commentator notes:

"His arguments will be subtle, convincing, and appealing. His oratory will be hypnotic, for he will be able to move the masses to tears or whip them into a frenzy. He will control the communication media of the world and will skillfully organize mass publicity to promote his ends. He will be the master of every promotional device and public relations gimmick. He will manage the truth with guile beyond words, bending it, twisting it, and distorting it. Public opinion will be his command. He will mold world thought and shape human opinion like so much potter's clay. His deadly appeal will lie in the fact that what he says will sound so right, so sensible, so exactly what unregenerate man has always wanted to hear."

In the midst of the world wide chaos, the false prophet will use his authority and power to perform unusual signs, deceiving people into false hope and into worshiping an image of the Antichrist. Those who refuse to worship the Antichrist will be killed. The False Prophet along with the Antichrist will stabilize a crashing world economy with strict control over who can buy and sell. Every man, woman, and child will receive a mark, without which one cannot participate. This will lead to great suffering [and potential *martyrdom*] for those who refuse it. The mark will either be "the name of the beast or the number of his name...666"

http://www.arewelivinginthelastdays.com/article/falseprophet/fal seprophet.htm

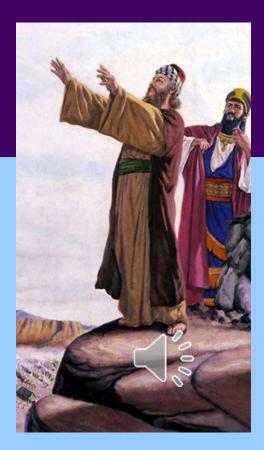




The Aaronic Blessing: Birkat Kohanim

May the LORD bless you and keep you יְבָרֶכְרָ יהוה, וְיִשְׁמְרֶרָ **Yevarekh-kha Adonai veyishmerekha**

May the LORD make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you יָאֵר יהוה פָּנָיו אֱלֶיךָ, וִיחֻנֶּךָ Ya er Adonai panav elekha viḥunneka



May the LORD lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace. יָשָּׂא יהוה פָּנָיו אֵלֶיךָ, וְיָשֵׂם לְךָ שָׁלוֹם Yissa Adonai panav elekha viyasem lekha shalom.