

Bible Devotions: Lock Stock & Barrel
Devotional Reading for Outdoorsmen (Old Testament)

Numbers 6:27

Christian Men: How To Pronounce a Blessing

So they shall put My name on the children of Israel, and I will bless them.

A number of years ago, several Colt revolvers came into my possession. A few were Single Action Army's chambered in .45 Colt, also known as Peacemakers. The others were modern Colt-manufactured blackpowder revolvers, to be specific: a 2nd Dragoon, a 3rd Dragoon, and a Walker.

I never did shoot the Dragoons or the Walker, but instead traded them off. I did shoot the Peacemakers. I eventually trading them off, too. I did a lot of silly things when I was younger.

I've also owned replica firearms. Here's the difference: Authentic firearms are made, or were made, by the original manufacturer of that model. The Colts mentioned above fall into this category. Replica firearms are made by another company, oftentimes to meet the demands of a specific market like Civil War reenactors or cowboy action shooters. The guns are usually not exact reproductions, especially in the areas of aesthetics and safety mechanisms.

This brings us to an authentic reproduction, that is, a firearm made by another maker to the same specifications as the original, authentic model. Almost all parts interchange between the real and the not-so-real. Hang on because now it gets interesting. For example, the Colt Model 1911 .45 Automatic Colt Pistol (ACP) was made in mass by several manufacturers besides Colt during World War II, including the Singer Sewing Machine Company which made 500. These are not reproductions but authentic originals, even if Colt didn't make them. Some are highly collectable, like the Singers. Today, other gun makers produce the M1911, updated and called the M1911A1, as either a custom shop or production line item. These are neither replicas nor reproductions. They're just really great guns.

We've all heard the saying, "You're just paying for the name." When it comes to firearms, or even knives, nothing beats the real thing. We do, indeed, pay for the name and sometimes we pay dearly. A Colt by any other name is just not a Colt. The same goes for Winchester, Remington, Hawken, Randall, Green River, or what have you.

In Numbers 6:23-27, God teaches Christian men how to pronounce a blessing. The model blessing in this Scripture totals three sentences, each of which begins with the Lord's name, thus eliciting God's favor. Because His name is stamped on it, the blessing is still alive and well today. Christian men can pronounce this blessing own their own children by observing three things.

Numbers 6:24 – *The Lord bless you and keep you.* God's blessing and safekeeping come from knowing His Son, Jesus Christ, as Lord. It is our duty as Christian men to teach our children about Jesus. Peter said in Acts 4:12, *"There is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved."* Christian men, let your children hear the name of Jesus often fall from your lips in a holy way.

Numbers 6:25 – *The Lord make His face shine upon you, and be gracious to you.* God's glory is reflected in the life of a courageous, bold, fearless Christian man. This man is unafraid to take a stand for Jesus and His name. This man has grit with grace. He teaches his children that God gives grace and glory to those who walk uprightly (Psalm 84:11). He teaches his children to be unashamed of God's name, to revere and respect it, and to let life be lit by it.

Numbers 6:26 – *The Lord lift up His countenance upon you, and give you peace.* The Christian man knows God's peace because he knows God – he has come into the presence of God through Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace. His children see him living in peace everyday. He faithfully teaches his children to enjoy the presence of God and to experience the peace of God.

There's power in the name of Jesus to save people from their sins, to give them glory and grace, and to lead them into the presence and peace of the Heavenly Father. These are the essential qualities of the blessing. May we as Christian men be found faithful pronouncing this blessing on our own children in the name of Lord.

After all, a blessing by any other name is just not a blessing at all.

Copyright © 2005, 2006 Don Hamlin. All rights reserved.

Scripture taken from the New King James Version. Copyright © 1979, 1980, 1982 by Thomas Nelson, Inc. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Bible Devotions: Hook Line & Sinker (study guide)

Numbers 6:27

Christian Men: How To Pronounce a Blessing

HOOK

1. What is your favorite firearm/cartridge combination (either handgun or long gun)?

2. Describe a historical period of time of interest to you, and the weapons used then.

3. What lasting legacy do you want to leave as an outdoorsman and how will you do it?

LINE

In Numbers 6:23-27, God teaches Christian men how to pronounce a blessing. The model blessing in this Scripture totals three sentences, each of which begins with the Lord's name, thus eliciting God's favor. Because His name is stamped on it, the blessing is still alive and well today. Christian men can pronounce this blessing on their own children by observing three things: Teach our children about Jesus. Teach our children that God gives grace and glory to those who walk uprightly. And teach our children to enjoy the presence of God and to experience the peace of God.

There's power in the name of Jesus to save people from their sins, to give them glory and grace, and to lead them into the presence and peace of the Heavenly Father. These are the essential qualities of the blessing. May we as Christian men be found faithfully pronouncing this blessing on our own children in the name of Lord.

What does the name of the Lord mean to you? How do you handle the name of the Lord around other people? How do you revere and respect it?

List three things about the Lord that you want to teach your children. How will you teach them these things? How do you model living these things?

SINKER

Take a few minutes to write your thoughts on this devotional. Reflect on your own experiences.

Key words: blessing name of the Lord Christian man

Copyright © 2005 Don Hamlin. Permission is granted to reproduce this page.