bless

בָּרַךְ *barakh* (H1288) comes from a root word which means “to kneel” (cf. Psalms 95:6) in the sense of bending at the knee to drink (cf. Genesis 24:11) or bending in homage (cf. Genesis 24:48) or bending down to present a tangible gift to another (cf. Deuteronomy 8:10). בָּרַךְ *barakh* is most translated (over 300 times) as bless, to blessed, blessed, or to be blessed in the Bible. However, since the root of בָּרַךְ *barakh* is neutrally applied to kneeling before another to present a gift, whether the gift is good or bad, the word has also been translated as “blaspheme” (cf. 1 Kings 21:10,13) and “curse” (cf. Job 1:5; Job 1:11; Job 2:5).