



Benjamin's Blessing

THE SECRETS OF GOD'S SACRED PROMISE

A book by Stephanie McKenna

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Benjamin's Blessing

The Secrets of God's Sacred Promise

Out of all the blessings Moses gave the children of Israel before entering the promised land, the beauty of Benjamin's Blessing has always tugged at the secret clefts in my heart.

Benjamin's brothers were blessed with earth's exuberant gifts, treasures from the beaches, the strength of a lion, and help against their foes. However, Benjamin's Blessing offered refreshment that infuses my soul and connects me to God's heart.

Benjamin's Blessing (Continued)

The Secrets of God's Sacred Promise

For over 20 years now, I've been praying "Benjamin's Blessing" over my life. Its God-breathed inspiration has lifted me to heights unimaginable, and drawn me into God's sacred presence.

One evening as my spirit was enwrapped in God's embrace, Benjamin's Blessing spilled over into a song and this book. I pray that you will be taken to new levels of freedom through this glorious yet tender promise, "Benjamin's Blessing."





Benjamin's Blessing (Continued)

The Secrets of God's Sacred Promise

Prayer:

***Great God of shimmering beauty,
open my eyes to see beyond my
natural ability and help me to rest
in the great inheritance of
Benjamin's Blessing!***

Deuteronomy 33:12 (The Message)

Benjamin;

God's Beloved;

God's permanent residence;

Encircled by God all day long;

Within whom God is at home.



Benjamin: ben'-ja-min (Benoni)

Benjamin was the youngest of Jacob's sons and his mother Rachel died giving birth to him. As she felt death looming in the distance, she called him Benoni, "son of my sorrow." Have you ever felt the agonizing darkness of sorrow, the kind of sorrow that twists inside and leaves you aching in your innermost being? You may feel sorrow so ominous, it makes the air feel too thick to breathe.

Like Benoni, we all need hope that God can return beauty to our lives, and give us a new name. Jacob, Benoni's father changed his name to Benjamin, meaning "son of my right hand."


Benjamin: ben'-ja-min (Benoni)

(Continued)

The right and left hand play a significant role in Scripture and especially to Jacob. In his final blessing to his grandsons, Ephraim and Manasseh (Gen. 48: 12-20), everyone was expecting Jacob to place his right hand on Manasseh (the firstborn), and his left on Ephraim, and then bless them.

But Jacob crossed his hands, placed his right hand on Ephraim and his left on Manasseh, explaining that Ephraim will be greater than Manasseh. The right hand of God in scripture is a symbol for strength, so when Jacob called him Benjamin “son of my right hand” he was giving Benjamin a position of honor.



A dramatic landscape photograph. In the foreground, a lush green field slopes upwards. Above the field, a thick layer of white and grey clouds is illuminated from below by a bright sunburst that breaks through the clouds in the center-left. The sunburst creates a strong vertical beam of light and radiating rays. The sky above the clouds is a deep blue with some wispy clouds. The overall mood is one of hope and divine light.

Benjamin: ben'-ja-min (Benoni)

(Continued)

God is also weaving you a name of great significance, through the tapestry of your life. I pray that everyone reading this book would receive Benjamin's Blessing, and that God would come during the dark night of your soul and birth a new name out of your pain.



Benjamin: ben'-ja-min (Benoni)

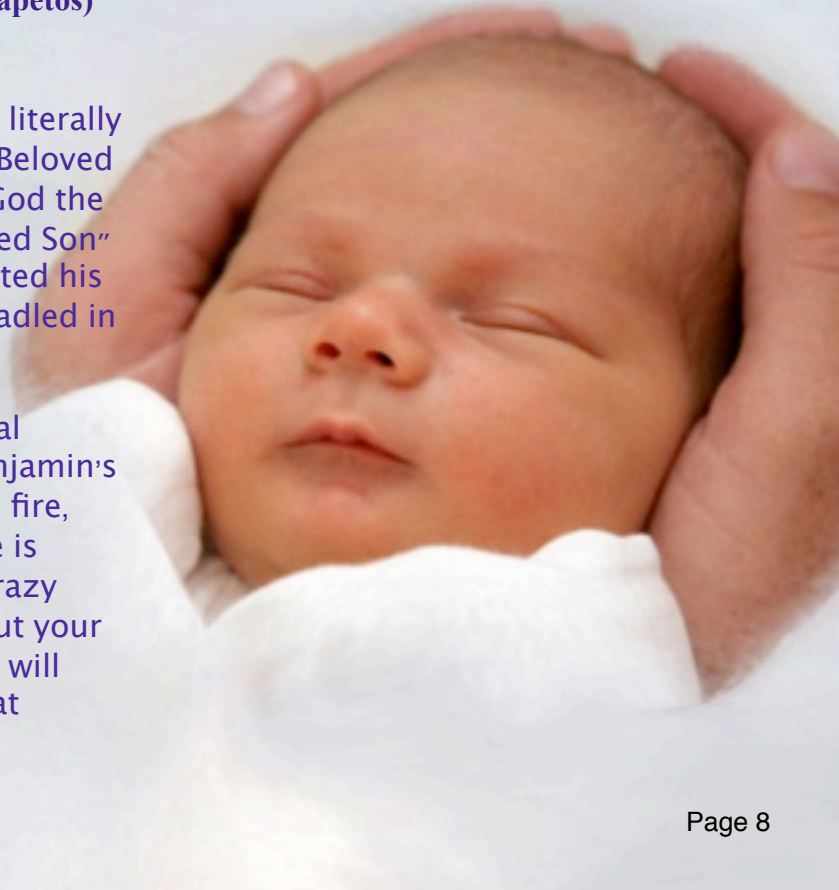
Prayer:

God of abundance, I believe You are a redeeming God. Help me have the faith to believe You can turn mistakes into miracles, and pain into prosperity. I pray that You would take every wounding experience and turn it into a treasure for my good. Draw ever near and reveal my special name that belongs only to me.

God's beloved: be-luv'-ed, be-luv'-d' (agapetos) ἀγαπητός, (ἡ, ἀγαπάω)

A term of affectionate endearment, beloved literally means loved, beloved, esteemed, and dear. Beloved is the word used over and over to express God the Father's infinite affection toward His "beloved Son" Jesus. John, called "the beloved" apostle, rested his head on the King of the universe. He was cradled in one truth, the living God loved him.

Wouldn't you love to breathe in the continual assurance that you are "God's beloved"? Benjamin's Blessing offers this assurance. Like a sea on fire, God's love for you is unfathomable. His love is boundless, reaching to the heavens. He is crazy about you. If the enemy has tried to snuff out your precious petals of flowering love, I pray you will bloom as you rest in His passion for you that surpasses all knowledge.





God's beloved: be-luv'-ed, be-luv'd'
(agapetos) ἀγαπητός, (ἡ, (ἀγαπάω)

(Continued)

You are God's Beloved. He adores you. He has run a million miles, breaking through the barriers of time and space to call you His own and hold you near.

Sometimes it's difficult to believe in the promises of God, without knowing in your heart you are deeply loved. Love is Satan's kryptonite. Knowing you are God's beloved can help you withstand the onslaught of lies that come from living in a harsh world. When you feel frail and insecure, I pray that His quiet confidence will well up in your innermost being. You are His Pearl of Great Price. Beloved of God, bask in the light of his love.



God's beloved: be-luv'-ed, be-luv'-d' (agapetos) ἀγαπητός, (ἡ, (ἀγαπάω)

Prayer:

Almighty God, it's hard for me to comprehend how much You delight in me. Help me to tune out other voices, and relax in Your free gift of acceptance and love. Help me trust that You rejoice over me with gladness and that Your steady eye is always upon me. Free my mind of anxiety and help me to rest, secure in the knowledge that You rise to show me compassion and I am Your beloved child.

God's Permanent Residence

We all know the familiar line, "There's no place like home," but what would it feel like to have eternal union with perfect love in the center of your being? Benjamin's Blessing promises his permanent presence, Christ in us, our hope of glory. Being exposed to the occult as a child, I knew darkness deep within me. So living continually in the light of God's presence has been my heart's cry.





God's Permanent Residence

(Continued)

God wants to make you his permanent residence. Permanent is a powerful word! It means everlasting, without change. Even though God's permanent presence is your birthright, sometimes even the most spiritually developed person has a hard time training their mind to bask in God's continuing companionship. If you are struggling today, let your mind drift on the luxury of His abiding love.

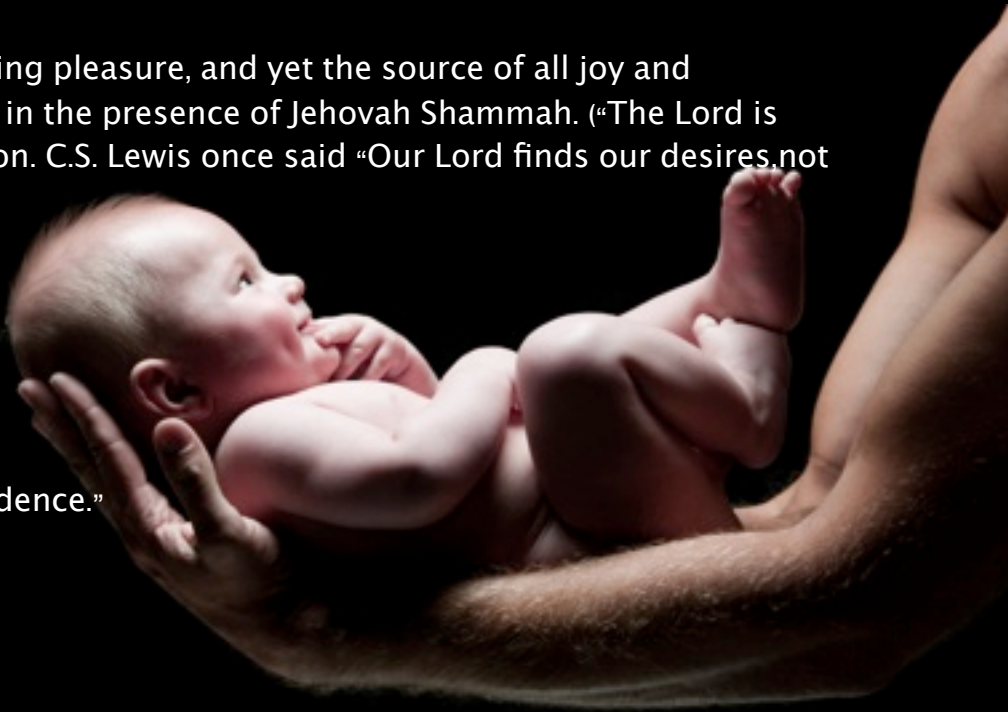
The Psalmist knew the unlimited riches of spending time in His Presence. "In your presence there is fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures forevermore." (Psalm 16:11)

God's Permanent Residence

(Continued)

The world is obsessed with finding pleasure, and yet the source of all joy and happiness lies in spending time in the presence of Jehovah Shammah. ("The Lord is there"). God made us with passion. C.S. Lewis once said "Our Lord finds our desires not too strong, but too weak."

As your desires are intensified and purified, attachment to him will bring more pleasure than anything you've experienced on planet earth. What an amazing blessing, "God's permanent residence." May you experience this wholly, and be satisfied.



A glowing white cross stands on a dark, rocky island. The sky is a deep blue and purple, filled with many small, bright stars. A faint rainbow is visible in the background. The foreground shows dark, silhouetted hills and a body of water.

God's Permanent Residence

Prayer:

God of tender mercies, I pray that You will give me the faith to believe in the benefits that come from drawing near the dazzling light of Your presence. I invite You to come and quiet me with Your love. Help me experience You in my midst. Build me into Your permanent residence, and bring me home to Your heart.



Encircled by God all day long

Imagine your heart enveloped in the very womb of God. Isaiah 40:11: KJV “He shall gather the lambs in His arms and carry them in His Bosom.” A baby in the womb is encompassed and encircled in a rich pool of love. Scientists have discovered the womb to be a virtual sensory playground for the baby.

Enveloped by the mother, the baby tastes rich and savory foods, experiences the Mother's joy and laughter, even her anxious feelings are detected by this tender new life. The baby is in tune with every nuance and distinction of mood or tone. The baby and Mother literally share the same blood supply.

Encircled by God all day long

(Continued)

Beloved, even though we have the royal blood of the King of Kings coursing through our veins, sometimes we still feel the abandonment and loneliness of an orphan. Don't be ashamed of your emptiness, He wants to cradle you in His arms and whisper:

You are encircled in My mercy. You are bordered by My peace. You are sealed by My promises and enveloped by My power. You are hemmed in by My protection and steadied by My strength. You are encompassed by My grace, and most importantly, you are surrounded by My love. Psalms 125:2 (NKJV): "As the mountains surround Jerusalem, so the LORD surrounds His people from this time forth and forever."





Encircled by God all day long

(Continued)

Can you imagine the sense of wellbeing you could have if you truly comprehended that every fiber of your being was surrounded by unspeakable love and power? I want this kind of peace for you and for me.

Precious child of the King, God takes pleasure in you leaning on Him. He wants to encircle you as you take refuge under the shelter of His wings. May you enjoy his perfect peace and be comforted knowing He encircles you in his rich abiding love.



Encircled by God all day long

Prayer:

Lover of my soul, I pray to receive in full measure, all that You have for me. Guide me in truth and help me accept that I am encircled by Your perfect love every second of every day. Let me feel Your everlasting arms around me. Give me the assurance that I am surrounded by all of Your precious promises, and at all times, You are closer than my breath.



Within whom God is at home

Have you ever grabbed a few things and stayed at a friend's house for a night? There's not a lot of thought needed. You just grab pajamas and a toothbrush and off you go. Moving into a new home is a whole different story.

One of the first things you do to prepare for a new home is to rid your old home of the clutter. That can be painful. Sometimes you have to let go of things that are difficult to part with. "Within whom God is at home" implies that you have made room for God in the home of your heart.

Within whom God is at home

(Continued)

I know in my own life, this process of preparing my heart for God has not been easy. He's had to clean out the debris of lies to make room for His truth. This hurts! It has meant allowing Him to open old wounds where heart breaking memories were formed and show me the false beliefs lurking in the dark corners of my mind.

I can honestly say the rewards of this beautiful promise have been worth the pain. After cleaning out the rubble in my heart, this earthen vessel gets to be filled with love, joy and peace. He replaces lies with truth, and pain with healing.





Within whom God is at home

(Continued)

Have you ever been on a “Parade of Homes” or had a guest come to your house? It can be a joy to give them the “grand tour.” Everything is open and bright, the kitchen shining like a sparkling jewel. You may have aromatherapy candles burning in the living room, the beds are made and pillows fluffed.

But if someone comes and the rooms are messy and cluttered, having a guest could be uncomfortable. It’s likely you would close the door to a dirty room in disarray and skip that part of the tour.

Within whom God is at home

(Continued)

But oh, how God longs for you to let Him in. If you feel shame, He speaks tenderly: “Precious one, I want to move into your whole heart, and I already know what is there. Don’t be afraid. I will go with you to each room in your soul. I promise there is no condemnation.

I will gently move in. I will replace the paltry scraps of false security with true vibrant living. As you let go of the old, lesser things that have occupied space in your soul, I will give you more than you can ask or imagine.”

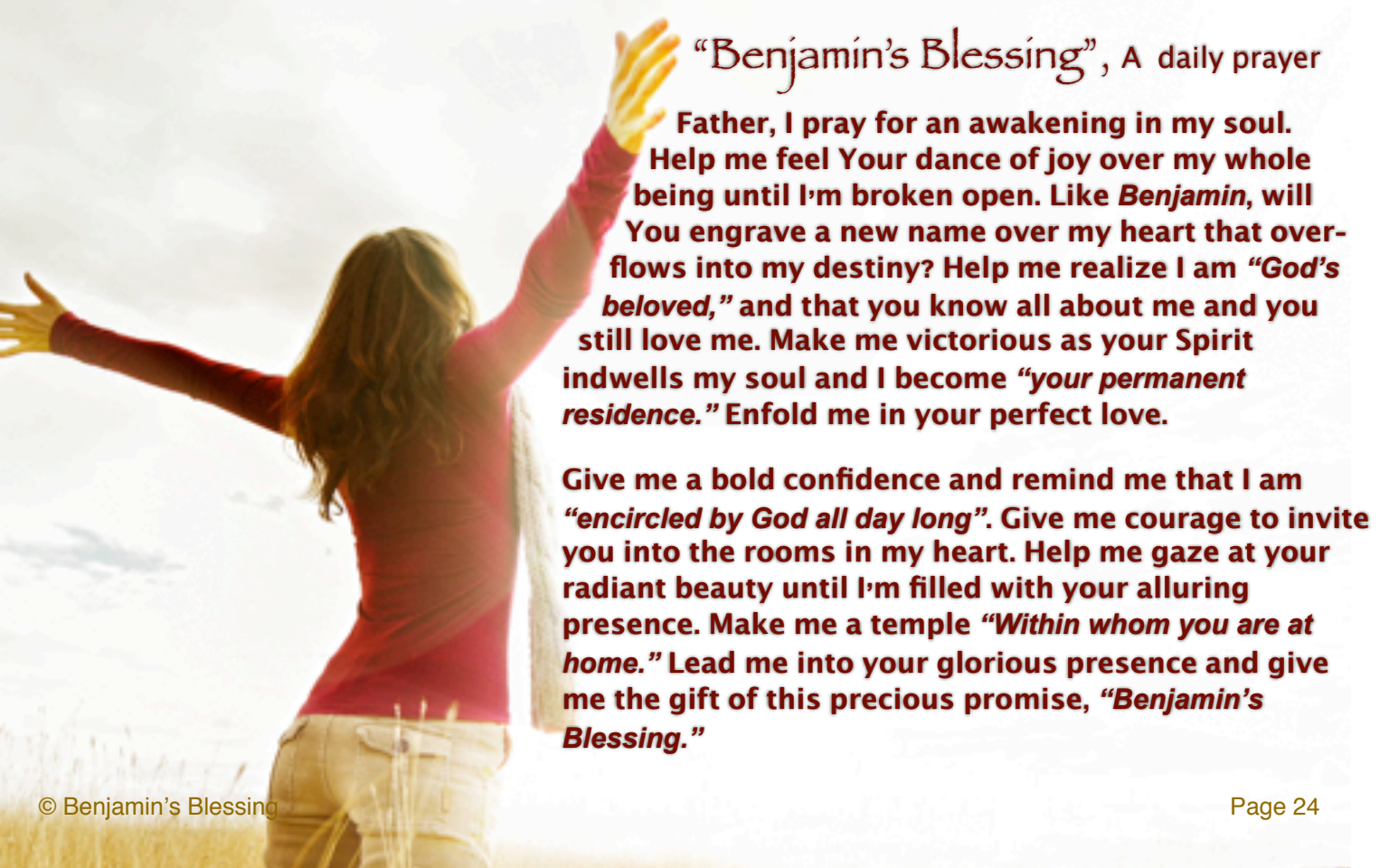




Within whom God is at home

Prayer:

King of glory, I invite You in. I want You to be at home in my heart. Give me courage to break through the shell that has protected my heart. I give You permission to remove the clutter that keeps You from fully permeating my being. I want to be a place “within whom You are at home.”



“Benjamin’s Blessing”, A daily prayer

Father, I pray for an awakening in my soul. Help me feel Your dance of joy over my whole being until I’m broken open. Like *Benjamin*, will You engrave a new name over my heart that overflows into my destiny? Help me realize I am “God’s beloved,” and that you know all about me and you still love me. Make me victorious as your Spirit indwells my soul and I become “*your permanent residence*.” Enfold me in your perfect love.

Give me a bold confidence and remind me that I am “*encircled by God all day long*”. Give me courage to invite you into the rooms in my heart. Help me gaze at your radiant beauty until I’m filled with your alluring presence. Make me a temple “*Within whom you are at home*.” Lead me into your glorious presence and give me the gift of this precious promise, “*Benjamin’s Blessing*.”