

Brit Bat for Baby Ashar

Baby is walked in and passed around to singing of the words with which Isaac blessed Ephraim and Mennasheh (Gen 48:16):

May the angel who has delivered, me from all harm	<i>Hamalach hagoel oti mikol ra yevarech et han'arim vikareh</i>	הַמַּלְאָךְ הַנִּזְאֵל אֶתִּי מִכָּל-רָע, יְבָרֵךְ אֶת-הַנְּעָרִים,
bless these youth. May they be called by my name and the names of my fathers,	<i>bahem sh'mi V'shem avotai Avraham v'Yizchak v'yidgu larov b'kerev</i>	וַיִּקְרָא בָהֶם שְׁמִי, וְשֵׁם אֲבֹתַי אֲבָרְהָם וַיְצַחֵק,
Abraham and Isaac, and may they multiply abundantly on earth.	<i>ha'aretz.</i>	וַיְדַגּוּ לָרֹב בְּקִרְבֵּי הָאָרֶץ.

Hannah recites a blessing after childbirth:

Blessed are you, Adonai our God, ruler of the universe, who graciously bestows favor upon the indebted, who bestowed favor upon me.	<i>ברוך אתה ה' אלהינו מלך העולם הנומל לתובים טובות שגמלני כל טוב:</i>
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All answer:

May the One who is gracious to you continue to favor you with all that is good.	<i>Amen. Mi she-g'maleikh kol tov, hu yigmaleikh kol tov, selah.</i>	אָמֵן. מִי שְׁגִמְלֵךְ כָּל טוֹב. הוּא יְגִמְלֵךְ כָּל טוֹב סְלָה
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Yoni shares thoughts on significance of brit

Exodus 24 7:8

Then he [Moses] took the book of the covenant and read it aloud to the people. And they said, All that YHVH has spoken we will do and obey. Moses took the blood and dashed it on the people and said, This is the blood of the covenant that YHVH now makes with you concerning all these commands.

שמות פרק כד

וַיִּקַּח סֵפֶר הַבְּרִית, וַיִּקְרָא בְּאָזְנֵי הָעָם; וַיֹּאמְרוּ, כָּל אֲשֶׁר-דִּבֶּר יְהוָה נַעֲשֶׂה וְנִשְׁמָע. וַיִּקַּח מֹשֶׁה אֶת-הַדָּם, וַיִּזְרֹק עַל-הָעָם; וַיֹּאמֶר, הִנֵּה דַם-הַבְּרִית אֲשֶׁר כָּרַת יְהוָה עִמָּכֶם, עַל כָּל-הַדְּבָרִים, הָאֵלֶּה

We substitute the blood for another covenantal life substance, as in the *midrash*:

Midrash Tanhuma Ki Tisa 9

At the moment that Israel stood before Mount Sinai and said, All that YHVH has spoken we will do and obey, at that moment, the Holy Blessed One said to them, Honey and milk are under your tongue.

מדרש תנחומא כי תשא ט

בשעה

שעמדו לפני הר סיני ואמרו כל אשר דבר ה' נעשה ונשמע, באותה שעה אמר להם הקבה דבש וחלב תחת לשונך

Blessed are You, Adonai our God, ruler of the universe, who has sanctified us with God's commandments, and commanded us to enter her into the covenant of Abraham and Sarah.

ברוך אתה ה' אלהינו מלך העולם, אשר קדשנו במצוותיו וצונו להכניסה לברית של אברהם אבינו ושרה אִמֵנו

Maternal grandmother, Deanne, holds her while Hannah places milk under baby's tongue

All answer:

Amen. Just as she has entered into the covenant, so may she enter into a life of Torah, *chuppa* (marriage canopy), and acts of goodness!

Amen. K'shem she-nich-n'sa la-brit, kein tikaneis l'torah, l'chupah, ul'ma-asim tovim.

אָמֵן. כְּשֵׁם שֶׁנִּכְנְסָה לְבְרִית, בֵּין תִּכְנֶס לְתוֹרָה לְחֻפָּה וּלְמַעֲשֵׂים טוֹבִים.

We sing:

May good fortune be ours, and blessing for the whole House of Israel.

Siman tov u'mazel tov yehei lanu ul'chol yisrael amen.

סִמָּן טוֹב וּמַזָּל טוֹב יִהְיֶה לָנוּ וּלְכָל יִשְׂרָאֵל אָמֵן

We say a blessing of thanksgiving:

Blessed are You, Adonai our God, ruler of the universe, who has kept us and sustained us and brought us to this moment.

Baruch ata Adonai, Eloheinu melech ha-olam, she-hecheyanu, v'kiymanu, v'higianu laz'man ha-ze.

בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה ה' אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, שֶׁהַחַיָּנוּ וְקִיָּמָנוּ וְהִגִּיעָנוּ לְזֶמַן הַזֶּה.

Blessing over the wine:

Blessed are You, Adonai our God, ruler of the universe, creator of the fruit of the vine.

בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה יי אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם. בּוֹרֵא פְרֵי הַגֶּפֶן.

And now, the moment you've all been waiting for.... The baby's name!

Our God and God of our ancestors, sustain this child for her mother and her father, and let her name be called in Israel: [.....]

אֱלֹהֵינוּ וְאֱלֹהֵי אֲבוֹתֵינוּ, קַיִם אֶת הַיְלָדָה
הַזֹּאת לְאֲבִיהָ וּלְאִמָּהּ, וַיִּקְרָא שְׁמָהּ בְּיִשְׂרָאֵל
[.....]

May her father be glad, and may her mother rejoice in the fruit of her womb, as it is written, "May your father and mother rejoice, and may the One Who bore you exult." And it is said, "God is ever mindful of God's covenant, the promise given for a thousand generations, which God made with Abraham, and swore to Isaac, and confirmed for Jacob – for Israel, an everlasting covenant."

יִשְׂמַח הָאָב בְּיוֹצֵא תִלְצִיּוֹ וְתִגַּל אִמָּהּ בְּפָרִי
בְטָנָהּ, כַּכְתוּב: יִשְׂמַח אָבִיךָ וְאִמָּךְ, וְתִגַּל
יְוָדְתְּךָ: וְנֹאמַר: זָכַר לְעוֹלָם בְּרִיתוֹ; דְּבָר
צְנִיָּה, לְאֵלֶיךָ דוֹר, אֲשֶׁר כָּרַת, אֶת-אַבְרָהָם;
וּשְׁבוּעָתוֹ לְיִשְׁחָק, וַיַּעֲמִידָהּ לְיַעֲקֹב לְחֵק;
לְיִשְׂרָאֵל, בְּרִית עוֹלָם.

All say together:

Praised is God, for God is good.
God's kindness endures forever.
Praised is God, for God is good.
God's kindness endures forever.

*Hodu l'adonai ki tov, ki l'olam chasdo
Hodu l'adonai ki tov, ki l'olam chasdo*

הוֹדוּ לַיהוָה כִּי טוֹב, כִּי
לְעוֹלָם חַסְדּוֹ:
הוֹדוּ לַיהוָה כִּי טוֹב, כִּי
לְעוֹלָם חַסְדּוֹ:

Grandfather Stephen:

[.....] זוּ הַקְטָנָה גְדוּלָה תִהְיֶה. כְּשֵׁם שְׁנִכְנְסָה לְבְרִית, בֶּן תִּפְגַּס לְתוֹרָה וּלְחֻפָּה וּלְמַעֲשִׂים
טוֹבִים, וְנֹאמַר אָמֵן.

Great-grandmother, Merrily Wallach:

May this little one become great. Just as she has entered into the Covenant, so too may she enter into a life of Torah, chuppah, and good deeds.

Hannah gives an explanation of the name

May the One who blessed our ancestors Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, Sarah, Rebecca, Rachel, and Leah, bless this tender child [.....] and send her and her mother, Hannah Kapnik Ashar, complete healing, as she has entered into the Covenant. And just as she has entered into the Covenant, so may she enter into a life of Torah, personal happiness, and good deeds.

מִשְׁבְּרַךְ אֲבוֹתֵינוּ אַבְרָהָם יִצְחָק וַיַּעֲקֹב שָׂרָה
רֵבֶקָה רָחֵל וְלֵאָה, הוּא יְבָרַךְ אֶת הַיְלָדָה רַךְ
[.....] וְתִשְׁלַח לָהּ וּלְאִמָּהּ חֲנָה מִיכָאֵלָה בַּת
דְּבוּרָה רְפוּאָה שְׁלָמָה, בְּעֵבוּר שְׁנִכְנְסָה לְבְרִית.
וּכְשֵׁם שְׁנִכְנְסָה לְבְרִית, בֶּן תִּפְגַּס לְתוֹרָה וּלְחֻפָּה
וּלְמַעֲשִׂים טוֹבִים, וְנֹאמַר אָמֵן.

Hannah and Yoni want to thank David Andorsky and Joanna Arch, David and Susan Bernat, Lisa Exler and Elie Kaunfer for sharing their daughter-welcoming ceremonies

honors

walking baby in: Matt and Melina

bracha before "brit" and putting milk in mouth: Hannah

holding the baby during "brit": Deanne

shechianu: HanHan and Yoncakes

borei pri hagafen: Daph

naming paragraph Heb: Reb Zalman

naming paragraph Eng: mora yehudis OR R' Z

zo haktana Heb: Ben

zo haktana Eng: Merrily

misheberach: Steve