

## PELE YOETZ

When I bless my sons, or anyone else who comes for a *brachah*, I put my hand on his head and say:

May the Name of the Holy One, blessed is He, be blessed. May He in His mercy guard you from any evil, guard your soul, and bring you to enhancement through good judgment. May you be perfect in your character traits and outlooks, and in all other ways. May no misfortune come about through you, nor anything improper. May you not be the medium for anything detrimental. May you find grace and good sense **THAT IS A POOR TRANSLATION. COPY WHAT ARTSCROLL HAS TOWARD THE END OF BENTCHING** in the eyes of God and man. May no aspect of the worship of God be burdensome to you.

May Hashem bless you and guard you. May Hashem illuminate His countenance to you and show you favor. May Hashem raise His countenance to you and grant you peace. May your mother and father be happy, and those who bore you rejoice. May God make you as Ephraim and Menashe.

I bless my daughters as follows:

May the Name of the Holy One, blessed is He, be blessed. May He in His mercy guard you from any evil, guard your soul, and bring you to enhancement through good judgment. May you be a God-fearing woman of valor (if unmarried, the father should say: May you marry a God-fearing man in the lifetime of your parents.) May you not

miscarry, nor be barren, nor a widow. Rather, may you be a joyous mother of children throughout a long lifetime. May you be perfect in your character traits and outlooks, and in all other ways. May you find grace and good sense **AS ABOVE** in the eyes of God and in the eyes of your husband. May Hashem bless you and guard you. May Hashem illuminate His countenance to you and show you favor. May Hashem raise His countenance to you and grant you peace.

While giving the blessing, one should tremble over the fact the people are not aware of his flaws, and consider him and his blessings of significance. He should say to himself: I know that I am unworthy of my blessing being effective, but I give a blessing for it may be a time in which God shows His goodwill, and He Who hears the prayer of every mouth will accept my blessing.