

Brit Milah Ceremony

THE CEREMONY

We rejoice with gratitude for the privilege of bringing this child into our ancestral covenant. We pray that God will grant this newborn son in the House of Israel the blessings of health, fulfillment and peace. We pray that he will find beauty in his heritage which will strengthen and sustain him throughout life.

*[As the child is brought into the room,
all rise and say:]*

בְּרוּךְ הַבָּא

Blessed be the child who comes to enter the covenant.

[The parents of the child say:]

הִנְנִי מוֹכֵן וּמְזַמֵּן לְקִיּוֹם מִצְוַת עֲשֵׂה שְׂצֻנָּנוּ
הַבוֹרֵא יִתְבָּרֵךְ לְמוֹל אֶת-בְּנֵי, בְּכָתוּב בַּתּוֹרָה:
וּבֶן-שְׁמֹנֶת יָמִים יְמוֹל לָכֶם כָּל-זָכָר לְדֹרֹתֵיכֶם.

I am ready to fulfill the *mitzvah* of having my son circumcised, as the praiseworthy Creator has commanded us in the Torah: "Throughout your generations, every male among you shall be circumcised when he is eight days old."

[The rabbi or מוהל continues:]

At every מילה ברית, we invoke the presence of the prophet Elijah, recalling his commitment to Your covenant, even during difficult times. We rekindle our faith that Elijah will come to announce the advent of the Messiah, and we reaffirm our belief that every human being has the potential to bring redemption to the world.

[The child is placed upon a special seat.

The מוהל continues:]

זֶה הַכֵּסֵּא שֶׁל אֱלִיהוּ זְכוֹר לְטוֹב. לִישׁוּעַתְךָ קִנִּיתִי יְהוּדָה, שִׁבְרִיתִי לִישׁוּעַתְךָ יְהוּדָה, וּמִצְוֹתֶיךָ עָשִׂיתִי. שִׁבְרִיתִי לִישׁוּעַתְךָ יְהוּדָה. שֶׁשׁ אָנֹכִי עַל אִמְרָתְךָ כְּמוֹצֵא שָׁלָל רַב. שְׁלוֹם רַב לְאַהֲבֵי תוֹרָתְךָ, וְאִין לָמוּ מִכְשׁוֹל. אֲשֶׁרִי תִבְחָר וּתִקָּרֵב יִשְׁכּוֹן חֲצִירְךָ.

[This is the seat of *Eliyahu Hanavi*, Elijah the prophet, of blessed memory.]

I wait for Your deliverance, Adonai. I hope for Your deliverance and I fulfill Your *mitzvot*. I hope for Your deliverance, Adonai. I rejoice over Your promise as one who finds great treasure. Great peace have they who love Your Torah; nothing makes them stumble. Happy is the one You choose to bring near, who will enjoy the goodness of Your house and the sanctity of Your temple. [Genesis 49:18; Psalm 119:116, 162, 165; Psalm 65:5a]