

BAR/BAT MITZVAH BLESSING - 1

For a boy:

Barukh shep'tarani mei-onsho shel zeh.

בְּרוּךְ שֶׁפָּטַרְנִי מֵעֲנֹשׁוֹ שֶׁל זֶה.

*Blessed be the One Who has made my/our son responsible for himself.*

For a girl:

Barukh shep'tarani mei-onshah shel zot.

בְּרוּךְ שֶׁפָּטַרְנִי מֵעֲנֹשָׁהּ שֶׁל זֹאת.

*Blessed be the One Who has made my/our daughter responsible for herself.*

For boys and girls:

May you live to see your world fulfilled, may you be our link to future worlds, and your hope encompass all the generations yet to be. May your heart conceive with understanding, may your mouth speak wisdom, and your tongue be stirred with sounds of joy. May your gaze be straight and sure, your eyes be lit with *Torah's* lamp, your face aglow with heaven's radiance, your lips expressing words of knowledge, and may your inner-self be alive with righteousness. May you always rush in eagerness to hear the words of the One more ancient than all time. Amen.

—Talmud: Berakhot 17a

BAR/BAT MITZVAH BLESSING - 2

For a boy:

Barukh shep'tarani mei-onsho shel zeh.

בָּרוּךְ שֶׁפָּטַרְנִי מֵעֲנֹשׁוֹ שֶׁל זֶה.

*Blessed be the One Who has made my/our son responsible for himself.*

For a girl:

Barukh shep'tarani mei-onshah shel zot.

בָּרוּךְ שֶׁפָּטַרְנִי מֵעֲנֹשָׁהּ שֶׁל זֹאת.

*Blessed be the One Who has made my/our daughter responsible for herself.*

For boys and girls:

Into our hands, O God, You have placed your Torah, to be held high by parents and children and taught by one generation to the next. Whatever has befallen us, our people have remained steadfast in loyalty to the Torah. It was carried into exile in the arms of parents that their children might not be deprived of their birthright. And now, we pray that you, \_\_\_\_\_, will always be worthy of this inheritance. Take its teaching into your heart, and in turn pass it on to your children and those who come after you. May you be a faithful Jew, searching for wisdom and truth, working for justice and peace. May the One who has always been our guide inspire you to bring honor to our family and to the house of Israel. Amen.

—Gates of Prayer, The Union Prayerbook

BAR/BAT MITZVAH BLESSING - 3

For a boy:

Barukh shep'tarani mei-onsho shel zeh.

בָּרוּךְ שֶׁפָּטַרְנִי מֵעֲנֹשׁוֹ שֶׁל זֶה.

*Blessed be the One Who has made my/our son responsible for himself.*

For a girl:

Barukh shep'tarani mei-onshah shel zot.

בָּרוּךְ שֶׁפָּטַרְנִי מֵעֲנֹשָׁהּ שֶׁל זֹאת.

*Blessed be the One Who has made my/our daughter responsible for herself.*

For boys and girls:

\_\_\_\_\_, our special prayer is for all people, but on this most important day, it is especially for you. Though our particular paths may be different, our hearts are one in search for what is right. We are all committed to the promise of what is good. You have chosen a path of wisdom, on a journey that leads to justice and peace. We pray that you will grow each day, filling your time with what truly matters: compassion for the needy, the embrace of the stranger and the love of all people. May the One who blessed our shared ancestors, Abraham and Sarah, Isaac and Rebecca, Jacob and Rachel and Leah, bless you on becoming Bar/Bat Mitzvah. May you grow with strength and courage, with vision and sensitivity. May you always have good health, and may you always be certain of our love. Amen.

—Rabbi Elyse Frishman