

## **Messianic Wedding Ceremony**

*Before the ceremony begins, the rabbi will welcome everyone and ask them to please turn off cell phones.*

*Have one glass goblet and a small bottle of wine placed on a small table. Have a linen napkin or a special bag for breaking the glass on the table. Have the Ketubah available. Have the microphones available.*

*The rabbi will be under the chuppah, and wait for the procession to begin.*

### **☆ Procession**

Grandparents of the Bride  
Grandparents of the Groom  
Best Man and Maid of Honor  
Bride's Maids and Groomsmen  
Parents of the Groom  
The Groom  
The Parents of the Bride  
Ring Bearer  
Flower Girl  
The Bride

### **☆ Giving Away The Bride**

**Rabbi:** Who gives this woman to be married to this man?

**The parents of the bride answer:** We do. Or the father says: Her mother and I do.

*The bride and parents kiss and the parents sit down. The groom escorts the bride to the chuppah.*

**Rabbi:** Baruch Ha-ba b'shem Adonai! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Baruch haba-ah b'shem Adonai! Blessed is she who comes in the name of the Lord!

Mee adir al ha-kol, mee baruch al ha-kol, mee gadol al ha-kol, y'varech chatan

v'kalah! May He who is supremely mighty, He who is supremely blessed, He who is supremely great, may He bless the bridegroom and the bride!

Ah-deer Elohaynu; seemahn tov u-mazal tov! Chatan baruch hu. Kalah b'ruchah v'na-ah! Mighty is our God! Auspicious signs and good fortune! Blessed is this groom. Blessed and beautiful is this bride!

### ☆ Hakafot - Circling Around The Groom

*At this point, the bride will circle the groom three times.*

Friends, we are gathered here, before the living God, and all these witnesses, to stand with XXX and YYY as they offer their marriage vows of love and commitment to each other. We are standing under this chuppah, which is a picture of the Jewish home and symbolizes God's faithful protection. Today we rejoice with XXX and YYY as they joyfully anticipate God's future provision and protection in their lives.

YYY has encircled her groom XXX three times. This is the Jewish tradition based on the verses in Hosea 2:21-22 which uses the word "betroth" three times. "Thus says the Lord, I will betroth you to Me forever. I will betroth you with righteousness, with justice, with love, and with compassion. I will betroth you to Me with faithfulness, and you shall love the Lord". Similarly, the bride expresses her faithfulness to her husband and promises to cover him with her love and compassion.

This is a day of gladness and cheer, of joy and celebration as XXX and YYY look forward to faithfulness and encouragement, friendship and love for one another. They invite you now to join in their celebration.

### ☆ Prayer

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם אֲשֶׁר קִדְּשָׁנוּ בְּיִשׁוּעַ  
הַמְּשִׁיחַ וְשָׂנְתָן לָנוּ נְשׂוֹאִים כִּדִּי שְׂנֵהִיָּה נְאֻמָּנִים זֶה לְזֶה כָּל יְמֵי

חַיֵּינוּ כְּפָתוּב: עַל כֵּן יַעֲזֹב אִישׁ אֶת אָבִיו וְאֶת אִמּוֹ וְדָבַק  
בְּאִשְׁתּוֹ וְהָיוּ לְבָשָׂר אֶחָד:

Blessed are You, O Lord our God, King of the universe, who has set us apart through Yeshua the Messiah and gave us marriage in order that we will be faithful one to another all the days of our lives, as it is written: Therefore and man will leave his father and his mother and cleave to his wife, and they will become one flesh.

### ★ The First Cup

Baruch Ata Adonai Elohaynu Melech HaOlam, Boray p'ree hagafen.

Blessed are you O Lord our God, King of the universe, Creator of the fruit of the vine.

*Drink the first cup of wine.*

**Rabbi:** XXX and YYY, as you have together shared the wine from this cup, so may you, in enduring union and devotion to each other, draw contentment, comfort, and happiness from the cup of life. May you find life's joy heightened, its bitterness sweetened, and all of life made holier by true companionship and love together in the Lord.

### ★ Statement of Faith

XXX and YYY want everyone here to know that they are followers of the Messiah. They believe that Yeshua - Jesus, is the promised Messiah of Israel and the Redeemer of the world. They are not turning their backs on their Jewishness or the Jewish people because of their faith in Messiah Yeshua. No, instead quite the opposite, their want their Jewish identity to be strengthened. They have personally placed their faith in Him, and believe that He has brought them together. They see their Jewish identities fulfilled in light of their faith in Israel's Messiah. That is why they have asked me, a Messianic Rabbi, to perform a Jewish wedding. They understand Yeshua to be the fulfillment of the Jewish messianic hope, and they intend to build their lives and their family and their home on Him, while maintaining Jewish tradition and culture. It is their heart-felt desire that everyone

here today come to know and love and serve the Three-In-One God of Israel- to know Him personally, and serve Him with their whole heart.

**Rabbi:** Let's pray. Our Father and Our King, we pray that our Messiah Yeshua would come by His Spirit to this marriage even as he came to that wedding in Cana long ago. And give to those that marry a deep and joyful commitment to the obligations they are now about to assume. With true intent and in utter unreserve of love may they unite together and from this time forward be supports for each other as long as they both shall live. In the name of Yeshua, the Messiah of Israel we pray, amen.

### **☆Affirmation of Marriage**

God created us male and female, and gave us marriage so that husband and wife may help and comfort each other, living faithfully together in plenty and in want, in joy and in sorrow, in sickness and in health, throughout all their days.

God gave us marriage for the full expression of the love between a man and a woman. In marriage a woman and a man belong to each other, and with affection and tenderness freely give of themselves to each other.

God gave us marriage for the well being of human society, for the ordering of family life, and for the birth and nurture of children.

God gave us marriage as a holy mystery in which a man and a woman are joined together, and become one - just as Messiah Yeshua is one with His congregation.

In marriage, husband and wife are called to a new way of life, created, ordered and blessed by God. This way of life must not be entered into carelessly, or for selfish motives, but responsibly, and prayerfully.

We rejoice that marriage is given by God, blessed by our Messiah Yeshua and sustained by His Spirit. Therefore, let marriage be held in honor among us.

### **☆ Declaration Of Intent**

*Affirmation by the Couple:*

XXX and YYY, having heard how God has created, ordered and blessed the covenant of marriage; do you affirm your desire and intention to enter this covenant?

**XXX and YYY:** We do.

*Affirmation by the parents:*

Parents of the bride and groom, do you give your blessing to XXX and YYY and promise to do everything in your power to uphold them in their marriage?

**Parents of the bride and groom respond:** We Do.

*Affirmation of the friends and relatives:*

All present, please rise. Will all of you witnessing these vows do everything in your power to uphold XXX and YYY in their marriage?

**Congregation:** We will.

### ✧ Exchange Of Vows

XXX and YYY, you will now exchange your vows.

XXX, do you of your own free will and consent take this woman, YYY, to be your wedded wife according to the laws of the God of Israel and in the name of Yeshua the Messiah? Please recite your vows to YYY: XXX, will you, from this day forward, for better, for worse, for richer, for poorer, in sickness and in health, live together a life consecrated by faith in the Messiah Yeshua? Will you love her sacrificially, comfort her, honor her, cherish her, and keep her; and forsaking all others be united only to her, so long as you both shall live, as is befitting of a faithful Jewish husband?

**Groom:** I do.

YYY, do you of your own free will and consent take this man, XXX, to be your wedded husband according to the laws of the God of Israel and in the name of Yeshua the Messiah? From this day forward, for better, for worse, for richer, for poorer, in sickness and in health; to live together a life consecrated by faith in the Messiah Yeshua? Will you love him, honor him, inspire him, and keep him; and

forsaking all others be united only to him, so long as you both shall live, as is befitting of a faithful Jewish wife?

**Bride:** I do.

To symbolize the serious vows you have just made, you will exchange wedding rings.

### ✧ Exchange Of Rings

A ring is made from a precious metal that is valuable. Serious commitment requires more than words - it is sealed with a costly gift.

XXX, what do you offer as a symbol of your love for and commitment to YYY?

XXX: This ring.

XXX, place the ring on her finger and repeat after me. With this ring, YYY, you are wed to me in accordance with the laws of the God of Israel and in the name of Yeshua the Messiah.

YYY, what do you offer as a symbol of your love for and commitment to XXX?

YYY: This ring.

YYY, place the ring on his finger and repeat after me. With this ring, XXX, you are wed to me, in accordance with the laws of the God of Israel and in the name of Yeshua the Messiah.

Now, both of you repeat these words from Shir HaShirim, the Song of Songs, as a reminder of the significance of your marital commitment.

XXX and YYY: Ani l'dodi v'dodi li. I am my beloved's and my beloved is mine.

### ✧ Reading The Ketubah

The Rabbi will read the Ketubah out loud and then XXX and YYY will sign it.

## ☆ Marriage Prayer

Let's pray. Eternal God, Creator and Preserver of all mankind, giver of all grace, Author of everlasting life, send your blessing upon this couple, this husband and this wife, that they may certainly keep and perform the vows now made between them and may they ever live faithfully in perfect love and peace together, according to your ways. In the name of Yeshua the Messiah. Amen.

## ☆ Sheva Brachot - The Seven Wedding Blessings

The number seven is the Biblical number of completion. Just as there are seven days that make up a full week, so there are seven wedding blessings. By using this sevenfold blessing we are praying that the fullness of God's blessings rest on this couple.

After the seven blessings, XXX and YYY will drink the second cup of wine. Then XXX will break the wine glass. The breaking of the wine glass reminds us of the destruction of the Temple, which we remember even at the most joyous of times. But also is a reminder of the permanence of marriage. Just as the glass can't be put together again after it is shattered, so may this couple will never be taken apart. When XXX breaks this glass, please feel free to express your joy and best wishes by shouting mazal tov in response.

Blessed are You, O Lord our God, King of the universe, who has created the fruit of the vine.

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם,  
בוֹרֵא פְרֵי הַגֶּפֶן.

This second prayer thanks God for everything in creation. Everything has a purpose.

Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of the universe, who created everything for Your glory.

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ נֹה אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם,  
שֶׁהַכֹּל בָּרָא לְכַבוֹדוֹ.

The third prayer is a more specific prayer thanking God for creating mankind, who is made in the very image of God.

Blessed are You, O Lord our God, King of the universe, Creator of man.

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ נֹה אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, יוֹצֵר הָאָדָם.

This is an even more specific prayer thanking God for making mankind male and female, appreciating the wonderful differences between the sexes, and how that makes life made more pleasurable and interesting.

Blessed are You, O Lord our God, King of the universe, who created man in Your image, and forever formed woman out of his frame to be beside him. Blessed are You, O Lord, Creator of man.

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ נֹה אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, אֲשֶׁר יָצַר אֶת הָאָדָם  
בְּצַלְמוֹ. בְּצִלְמוֹ דְּמוֹת תְּבַנְיָתוֹ, וְהִתְקִין לוֹ מִמֶּנּוּ בְּנֵי עַדִּי עַד.  
בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ נֹה יוֹצֵר הָאָדָם.

Marriage usually results in children. This is a prayer that XXX and YYY might be blessed with children. And, we also pray for all of the children of Israel, that they experience ultimate and lasting peace and joy.

May Zion exult at the joyful reunion of her children in Jerusalem. Blessed are You, O Lord, who causes Zion to rejoice in her children.

שׁוֹשׁ וְנִשְׂחַן תְּשִׁישׁ וְתִגַּל הָעֵקְרָה, בְּקִבוּץ בְּנֵיהָ לְתוֹכָהּ בְּשִׂמְחָה.  
בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ נֹה מְשַׂמֵּחַ צִיּוֹן בְּבִנְיָהּ.

This is a prayer for the couple's happiness - that they may experience the kind of happiness that Adam and Eve did before the Fall.

Give abundant joy to these loved companions, even as You gladdened your creation of old in the Garden of Eden. Blessed are You, O Lord, who gives joy to the groom and the bride.

שִׂמְחָה תִּשְׂמַח רַעִים הָאֱהוּבִים, כְּשִׂמְחַךְ יִצְיָרְךָ בְּגֵן עֵדֶן מִקֵּדָם.  
בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ נֹה מְשִׂימַח חֲתָן וְכַלָּה.

This is a final prayer for peace and joy, not just for this couple, but for the entire nation of Israel. This is happening to a small degree in now, but will be vastly increased when Messiah Yeshua returns to Earth, and rules for 1,000 years from Jerusalem over Israel and all the nations of the world!

Blessed are You, O Lord our God, King of the universe, who has created bridegroom and the bride, joy and gladness, delight and cheer, love and harmony, peace and companionship. Lord our God, may there soon be heard in the cities of Judah, and in the streets of Jerusalem, the sound of joy and gladness, the sound of joyous wedding celebrations, the sound of young people feasting and singing. Blessed are You, O Lord, who makes the groom rejoice with the bride.

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ נֹה אֵל הַיְנוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, אֲשֶׁר בָּרָא וְשָׂשׂוֹן  
וְשִׂמְחָה, חֲתָן וְכַלָּה, גִּילָה רִנָּה, דִּיצָה וְחֻדוּהָ, אֶהְבָּה וְאַחֲוָה,  
וְשִׁלּוּם וְרַעוּת. מְהֵרָה יְיָ נֹה אֵל הַיְנוּ יִשְׂמַע בְּעָרֵי יְהוּדָה  
וּבְחֻצוֹת יְרוּשָׁלַיִם, קוֹל וְשָׂשׂוֹן וְקוֹל וְשִׂמְחָה, קוֹל חֲתָן וְקוֹל  
כַּלָּה, קוֹל מְצַהֲלוֹת חֲתָנִים מִחֻפָּתָם וּנְעָרִים מִמְּשִׁתָּה נְגִינָתָם.  
בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ נֹה מְשִׂימַח חֲתָן עִם הַכַּלָּה.

Baruch Ata Adonai Elohaynu Melech HaOlam, Boray p'ree ha-gafen.

Baruch Ata Adonai Elohaynu Melech HaOlam, sheh-ha-kol barah leech-voh-doh.

Baruch Ata Adonai Elohaynu Melech HaOlam, yo-tzer ha-adam.

Baruch Ata Adonai Elohaynu Melech HaOlam, asher ya-tzar et ha-adam b'tzal-moh, b'tzeh-lem d'moot tav-nee-toh. V'heet-keen loh mee-meh-noo been-yahn ah-day ahd. Baruch Ata Adonai yoh-tzer ha-adam.

Sos ta-sees v'tah-gel ha-ah-kah-rah b'kee-bootz bah-neh-hah l'toh-chah b'seem-chah. Baruch Ata Adonai m'sa-meh-ach Tzee-yon b'vah-neh-ha.

Sah-me-ach t'sah-mach reh-eem ha-ah-hoo-veem k'sa-meh-chah-chah y'tzeer-cha b'gan ehden mee-keh-dehm. Baruch Ata Adonai m'sah-meh-ach chah-tahn v'chah-lah.

Baruch Ata Adonai Elohaynu Melech HaOlam, asher bah-ra sah-sohn v'seem-cha, chah-tahn v'chah-lah, gee-lah ree-nah, dee-tzah v'ched-vah, ah-ha-vah v'ah-cha-vah v'shalom v'reh-oot. M'he-rah Adonai Elohaynu yee-shah-mah b'ah-ray Y'hoo-dah oov-choo-tzot Y'roo-shah-la-yeem, kohl sah-sohn v'kohl seem-cha, kohl chah-tan v'kohl kah-lah, kohl meetz-hah-loht chah-tah-neem meh-choo-pah-tahm oo-n'ah-reem mee-meesh-teh n'gee-nah-tahm. Baruch Ata Adonai m'sah-meh-ach chah-tahn eem ha-kah-lah.

### ✧ **Drink The Second Cup Of Wine**

Break Glass/Shout Mazal Tov!

### ✧ **Declaration**

Since XXX and YYY have bound themselves together in marriage and have declared this before God and in the presence of their friends and relatives, they are now husband and wife. What God has joined together let no man separate.

### ✧ **Kiss the Bride**

XXX, you may now kiss the bride.

### ✧ **Final Prayers**

God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, You are the Holy One of Israel and the Creator of the whole world. Bless this bridegroom and his bride. May they always find grace and favor in Your eyes and in the eyes of all who meet them. May You prosper their marriage and cause them to establish a praiseworthy house among God's people. May peace reign in their home, and may contentment and happiness be in their hearts all the days of their lives.

O Lord God, Holy One of Israel, we thank You that you are the One that created us male and female. You are the One who created marriage, to meet our needs for friendship and companionship, and so that we will not be alone. May this marriage of XXX and YYY fulfill their needs for friendship and companionship. May they raise a blessed home together. May YYY be a helper suitable for XXX. May XXX be a husband suitable for YYY. May XXX and YYY be inseparable from this day forward, bone of bone and flesh of flesh. May they cleave to one another and become one flesh. I pray that You work Your perfect unity into their lives.

### ✧ **Benediction**

Yivarech'cha Adonai v'yeesh-marecha. Ya-ayr Adonai panav eylecha v'ee-chu-ne-cha. Yee-sa Adonai panav eylecha, v'ya-saym l'cha shalom. B'shem Yeshua Hamashiach, Sar Shalom.

May the Lord bless you and keep you. May the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you. May the Lord lift up his countenance upon you, and grant you peace. In the name of Yeshua the Messiah, the Prince of Peace.

### ✧ **Presentation**

I am so pleased to present to you for the first time, Mr. and Mrs. XXX.

### ✧ **Recession**