

PERSONAL "SINS" ARE A TATTLE TALE

TEXT: *Numbers 32:23: But if ye will not do so, behold, ye have sinned against the LORD: and be sure your sin will find you out.*

INTRODUCTION

The JEWISH PEOPLE — commonly referred to as THE ISRAELITES — are THE LORD'S PEOPLE. They were REDEEMED by the BLOOD of the PASSOVER LAMB. God told them that night to go out of Egypt and start their journey to the PROMISED LAND, THE Holy Land. They are given this Holy Land by God for an EVERLASTING POSSESSION.

Genesis 13:14: *And the LORD said unto Abram, after that Lot was separated from him, Lift up now thine eyes, and look from the place where thou art northward, and southward, and eastward, and westward:*

Genesis 48:4: *And [God] said unto me [Abram], Behold, I will make thee fruitful, and multiply thee, and I will make of thee a multitude of people; and will give this land to thy seed [children] after thee for an everlasting possession.*



Isaiah 60:21: *Thy people also shall be all righteous: they shall inherit the land for ever, the branch of My planting, the work of My hands, that I may be glorified.*

Jeremiah 7:7: *Then will I cause you to dwell in this place, in the land that I gave to your fathers, for ever and ever.*

Jeremiah 25:5: *They said, Turn ye again now every one from his evil way, and from the evil of your doings, and dwell in the land that the LORD hath given unto you and to your fathers for ever and ever:*

This promise was first given to ABRAHAM, then from him to ISAAC, then on to JACOB and to his heirs.

God provided a DIVINE COMPASS for them to travel by since they had no

roadmaps and no tour guides. THE LORD HIMSELF would guide them by a PILLAR OF CLOUD by day, and by a PILLAR OF FIRE by night. When they finally arrived near to the HOLY LAND, they ran into some stiff opposition from the MOABITES. The Moabites were descendants of Abraham's nephew, Lot. They came into existence by illegal incest when Lot's two daughters got him drunk at night and had sex with him. This took place some time after they had to flee from Sodom and Gomorrah which God was about to destroy because of its wickedness.



Genesis 19:30-38:

30 And Lot went up out of Zoar, and dwelt in the mountain, and his two daughters with him; for he feared to dwell in Zoar: and he dwelt in a cave, he and his two daughters.

31 And the firstborn said unto the younger, Our father is old, and there is not a man in the earth to come in unto us after the manner of all the earth:

32 Come, let us make our father drink wine, and we will lie with him, that we may preserve seed of our father.

33 And they made their father drink wine that night: and the firstborn went in, and lay with her father; and he perceived not when she lay down, nor when she arose.

34 And it came to pass on the morrow, that the firstborn said unto the younger, Behold, I lay yesternight with my father: let us make him drink wine this night also; and go thou in, and lie with him, that we may preserve seed of our father.

35 And they made their father drink wine that night also: and the younger arose, and lay with him; and he perceived not when she lay down, nor when she arose.

36 Thus were both the daughters of Lot with child by their father.

37 And the firstborn bare a son, and called his name Moab: the same is the father of the Moabites unto this day.

38 And the younger, she also bare a son, and called his name Benammi: the same is the father of the children of Ammon unto this day.

Lot's daughters represent those in the LORD JESUS' PARABLE OF THE TARES which the devil sowed amongst the WHEAT.

Matthew 13:24-30:

24 Another parable put He forth unto them, saying, The Kingdom of Heaven is likened unto a Man [Christ Jesus] which sowed good seed in

his field:

25 But while men slept, His [Christ's] enemy [satan] came and sowed tares [apostates] among the wheat [true Christians], and went his way.

26 But when the blade was sprung up, and brought forth fruit, then appeared the tares also.



27 So the servants of the householder came and said unto him, Sir, didst not thou sow good seed in thy field? from whence then hath it tares?

28 He said unto them, An enemy hath done this. The servants said unto him, Wilt thou then that we go and gather them up?

29 But he said, Nay; lest while ye gather up the tares, ye root up also the wheat with them.

30 Let both grow together until the harvest: and in the time of harvest I will say to the reapers, Gather ye together first the tares, and bind them in bundles to burn them: but gather the wheat into my barn.

Matthew 13:36-43:

36 Then Jesus sent the multitude away, and went into the house: and His Disciples came unto Him, saying, Declare unto us the Parable of the Tares of the field.

37 He answered and said unto them, He that soweth the good seed is the Son of Man [Christ];

38 The field is the world; the good seed are the children of the Kingdom; but the tares are the children of the wicked one;

39 The enemy that sowed them [bad seed] is the devil; the harvest is the end of the world; and the reapers are the angels.

40 As therefore the tares are gathered and burned in the fire; so shall it be in the end of this world.

41 The Son of Man shall send forth His Angels, and they shall gather out of His Kingdom all things that offend, and them which do iniquity;

42 And shall cast them into a furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth.

43 Then shall the Righteous shine forth as the sun in the Kingdom of their Father. Who hath ears to hear, let him hear.



So it is today. Those who are not truly born-again of the SPIRIT, yet are brought or come into the church, are a constant source of troublemaking as long as they stay. This is what the MOABITES became to the children of Israel, as did the AMMONITES.

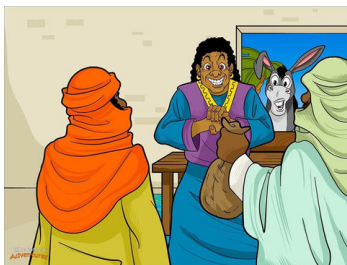
These MOABITES have just learned that the ISRAELITES have arrived in their territory and are headed for the PROMISED LAND. They are afraid of God's people, having heard of all the miracles which GOD PERFORMED DELIVERING THEM out of their bondage to the Egyptians. Therefore, they want to HIRE the sorcerer BALAAM to come to Moab and CURSE the people of God by witchcraft means and measures. Balaam was a rather interesting character in the Old Testament in that while he knew of the mighty power of God, he did not believe that He was the One and Only True God.



King Balak sent a delegation to Balaam's home to see if they could obtain his consent to come and do this DIRTY DEED. Balaam told them that he could not go with them unless he got GOD'S PERMISSION. So he requested them to stay overnight while he inquired of the Lord as to GOD'S WILL in this matter. God told Balaam that he could not go with them nor CURSE THESE PEOPLE, FOR "THEY ARE BLESSED".

Numbers 22:12: And God said unto Balaam, "Thou shalt not go with them; thou shalt not curse the people: for they are blessed."

Balaam, the next morning, told this delegation that GOD REFUSED to allow him to go with them. So they arose and returned to their homeland after an unfruitful mission. After telling King Balak what Balaam said, Balak refused to take "NO" for an answer. An Idea popped into his mind that inspired him to send much nobler PRINCES the next time to try and twist Balaam's arm. For Balaam did not say that HE REFUSED TO COME, but that GOD REFUSED to allow him to come. King Balak thought that if he offered Balaam more money, perhaps he would accept his offer.



Balak acted on that old premise: EVERY MAN HAS HIS OWN PRICE. Just keep making the offers of rewards more attractive, and finally he will bend and bow. So the second delegation of PRINCES were sent to Balaam's home. They told Balaam of the NEW OFFER of being promoted to very great honor, and of the king's words — "I will do whatsoever you say unto me".

Balaam responded in this most honorable manner, which is most commendable:

Numbers 22:18: And Balaam answered and said unto the servants of

Balak, “If Balak would give me his house full of silver and gold, I cannot go beyond the THE WORD OF THE LORD MY GOD, to do less or more.”

Balak said unto Balaam:

Numbers 22:37-38:

37 And Balak said unto Balaam, “Did I not earnestly send unto thee to call thee? wherefore camest thou not unto me? am I not able indeed to promote thee to honour?”

38 And Balaam said unto Balak, “Lo, I am come unto thee: have I now any power at all to say any thing? the WORD THAT GOD PUTTETH IN MY MOUTH, THAT SHALL I SPEAK.”

Balak said unto Balaam:

Numbers 23:11-12:

11 And Balak said unto Balaam, “What hast thou done unto me? I took thee to CURSE mine enemies, and, behold, thou hast BLESSED them altogether.”

12 And he answered and said, “MUST I NOT TAKE HEED TO SPEAK THAT WHICH THE LORD HATH PUT IN MY MOUTH?”

Balak said unto Balaam:

Numbers 23:25-26:

25 And Balak said unto Balaam, “NEITHER CURSE THEM AT ALL, NOR BLESS THEM AT ALL.”

26 But Balaam answered and said unto Balak, “TOLD NOT I THEE, SAYING, ALL THAT THE LORD SPEAKETH, THAT I MUST DO?”

Balak’s anger was kindled against Balaam:

Numbers 24:10-13:

10 And Balak’s anger was kindled against Balaam, and he smote his hands together: and Balak said unto Balaam, “I called thee to CURSE mine enemies, and, behold, thou hast altogether blessed them these three times.

11 Therefore now flee thou to thy place: I thought to promote thee unto GREAT HONOUR; but, lo, the LORD hath kept thee back from honour.”

12 And Balaam said unto Balak, “Spake I not



*also to thy messengers which thou sentest unto me, saying,
13 'If Balak would give me his house full of SILVER and GOLD, I cannot go beyond the commandment of the LORD, to do either good or bad of mine own mind; but WHAT THE LORD SAITH, THAT WILL I SPEAK.'"*

I was just thinking: If all our preachers would put this principle into operation in our pulpits, there would surely come a great revival to this nation. Also, If we didn't speak unless GOD GAVE THE MESSAGE TO US, HOW MANY SERMONS WOULD BE PREACHED this coming Sunday. All I know is this: We're supposed to be getting MESSAGES from THE LORD. When we do, they are far more effective than any we put together out of our own minds and personal Bible study. Several Scriptures will bear this out.

Exodus 4:10-12:

10 And Moses said unto the LORD, "O my LORD, I am not eloquent, neither heretofore, nor since Thou hast spoken unto Thy servant: but I am slow of speech, and of a slow tongue."

11 And the LORD said unto him, "Who hath made man's mouth? or who maketh the dumb, or deaf, or the seeing, or the blind? have not I the LORD?"

12 Now therefore go, and I will be with thy mouth, and teach thee what thou shalt say."



Exodus 6:29: *That the LORD spake unto Moses, saying, "I am the LORD: speak thou unto Pharaoh king of Egypt all that I say unto thee."*

Deuteronomy 18:18: *I will raise them up a Prophet from among their brethren, like unto thee, and will put My words in His mouth; and He shall speak unto them all that I shall command Him.*

1 Kings 22:14: *And Micaiah said, As the LORD liveth, what the LORD saith unto me, that will I speak.*

Psalm 81:10: *I am the LORD thy God, which brought thee out of the land of Egypt: open thy mouth wide, and I will fill it.*

Isaiah 59:21: *As for Me, this is My Covenant with them, saith the LORD; My Spirit that is upon thee, and My Words which I have put in thy mouth, shall not depart out of thy mouth, nor out of the mouth of thy seed, nor out of the mouth of thy seed's seed, saith the LORD, from henceforth and forever.*

Jeremiah 1:9: Then the LORD put forth His hand, and touched my mouth. And the LORD said unto me, Behold, I have put My words in thy mouth.

Jeremiah 26:2: Thus saith the LORD; Stand in the court of the LORD's house, and speak unto all the cities of Judah, which come to worship in the LORD's house, all the words that I command thee to speak unto them; diminish not a word:

Matthew 10:19: But when they deliver you up, take no thought how or what ye shall speak: for it shall be given you in that same hour what ye shall speak.

Mark 13:11: But when they shall lead you, and deliver you up, take no thought beforehand what ye shall speak, neither do ye premeditate: but whatsoever shall be given you in that hour, that speak ye: for it is not ye that speak, but the Holy Spirit.

Luke 12:12: For the Holy Spirit shall teach you in the same hour what ye ought to say.

Luke 21:12-15:

¹² But before all these, they shall lay their hands on you, and persecute you, delivering you up to the synagogues, and into prisons, being brought before kings and rulers for My Name's sake.

¹³ And it shall turn to you for a testimony.

¹⁴ Settle it therefore in your hearts, not to meditate before what ye shall answer:

¹⁵ For I will give you a mouth and wisdom, which all your adversaries shall not be able to gainsay nor resist.

John 8:28: Then said Jesus unto them, When ye have lifted up the Son of Man, then shall ye know that I am He, and that I do nothing of Myself; but as My Father hath taught Me, I speak these things.

John 12:49: For I have not spoken of Myself; but the Father Who sent Me, He gave Me a Commandment, what I should say, and what I should speak.

John 15:15: Henceforth I call you not servants; for the servant knoweth not what his lord doeth: but I have called you friends; for all things that I have heard of My Father I have made known unto you.



Galatians 1:11-12:

11 But I certify you, brethren, that the Gospel which was preached of me is not after man.

12 For I neither received it of man, neither was I taught it, but by the Revelation of Jesus Christ.

When BALAAM SAID IN NUMBERS, “If Balak would give me his house full of SILVER & GOLD, I cannot go beyond THE WORD of THE LORD MY GOD, to do less or more,” he was mighty tall in God’s eyes. It is no wonder that GOD ALMIGHTY appeared unto him so often and spoke HIS WORDS to him. God tells us in His Word [the Bible] that he thinks SOOOO MUCH of HIS WORD that HE has magnified it above all HIS GREAT NAME.

Psalms 138:2: I will worship toward Thy holy temple, and praise Thy Name for Thy loving kindness and for Thy truth: for Thou hast magnified Thy Word above all Thy Name.

He is willing to give divine ILLUMINATION and GUIDANCE TO THOSE WHO WILL PROCLAIM IT FAITHFULLY. Up to this point, BALAAM appears to be a very honorable and commendable man having very HIGH PRINCIPLES in his heart, and so far is living by them. He does not play FAST and LOOSE with THE HOLY SCRIPTURES. He is not into “ear-tickling” at this point in time. God desires to use a person that will not bend the SCRIPTURES to please those who desire some watering down of the WORD. God does not dilute the TRUTH.

God does not dilute the TRUTH.

Balaam also seems to have a REMARKABLE UNDERSTANDING of the RIGHTEOUSNESS AND HOLINESS STANDARDS of the BIBLE. We learn this when we turn to **Micah**. It is too good to pass up, so let’s turn to it and see what it says.

Micah 6:5: O My people, remember now what Balak king of Moab consulted, and what Balaam the son of Beor answered him from Shittim unto Gilgal; that ye may know the RIGHTEOUSNESS OF THE LORD.

Micah 6:6-8:

6 Wherewith shall I come before the LORD, and bow myself before the HIGH GOD? shall I come before HIM with Burnt Offerings, with calves of a year old?

7 Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams, or with ten thousands of rivers of oil? shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the SIN of my soul?

8 He hath shewed thee, O man, what is good; and what doth the LORD require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk

humbly with thy God?

BALAAM HAD A REMARKABLE INSIGHT INTO THE KNOWLEDGE OF GOD ALMIGHTY.

Numbers 23:19: God is not a man, that He should lie; neither the son of man, that He should repent: hath He said, and shall He not do it? or hath He spoken, and shall He not make it good?

Numbers 24:16: He hath said, which heard the Words of God, and knew the knowledge of the Most High, which saw the vision of the Almighty, falling into a trance, but having his eyes open:

BALAAM ALSO HAD THE GIFT OF PROPHECY

Numbers 24:14-24:

14 And now, behold, I go unto my people: come therefore, and I will advertise thee what this people shall do to thy people in the latter days.

15 And he took up his parable, and said, Balaam the son of Beor hath said, and the man whose eyes are open hath said:

16 He hath said, which heard the Words of God, and knew the knowledge of the Most High, which saw the vision of the Almighty, falling into a trance, but having his eyes open:

17 I shall see Him, but not now: I shall behold Him, but not nigh: there shall come a Star out of Jacob, and a Sceptre shall rise out of Israel, and shall smite the corners of Moab, and destroy all the children of Sheth.

18 And Edom shall be a possession, Seir also shall be a possession for His enemies; and Israel shall do valiantly.

19 Out of Jacob shall come He Who shall have dominion [The Lord Jesus Christ], and shall destroy him that remaineth of the city.

20 And when he looked on Amalek, he took up his parable, and said, Amalek was the first of the nations; but his latter end shall be that he perish for ever.

21 And he looked on the Kenites, and took up his parable, and said, Strong is thy dwelling place, and thou puttest thy nest in a rock.

22 Nevertheless the Kenite shall be wasted, until Asshur shall carry thee away captive.

23 And he took up his parable, and said, Alas, who shall live when God doeth this!

24 And ships shall come from the coast of Chittim, and shall afflict Asshur, and shall afflict Eber, and he also shall perish for ever.

BALAAM HAD AN UNDERSTANDING OF THE FUTURE DESTINY OF THE RIGHTEOUS AND DESIRED TO BE A SHARER IN THEIR FUTURE

Numbers 23:10: Who can count the dust of Jacob, and the number of the fourth part of Israel? Let me die the death of the righteous, and let my last end be like his!

BALAAM SOUGHT THE LORD FOR DIVINE GUIDANCE

Numbers 22:8: And he said unto them, Lodge here this night, and I will bring you word again, as the LORD shall speak unto me: and the princes of Moab abode with Balaam.

Numbers 22:19: Now therefore, I pray you, tarry ye also here this night, that I may know what the LORD will say unto me more.

BALAAM RECEIVED DIVINE “VISIONS”

Numbers 24:4: He hath said, which heard the Words of God, which saw the vision of the Almighty, falling into a trance, but having his eyes open:

Numbers 24:16: He hath said, which heard the Words of God, and knew the knowledge of the Most High, which saw the vision of the Almighty, falling into a trance, but having his eyes open:

A SECOND GROUP OF VISITORS WERE SENT TO BALAAM FROM BALAK

Numbers 22:19-20:

19 Now therefore, I pray you, tarry ye also here this night, that I may know what the LORD will say unto me more.

20 And God came unto Balaam at night, and said unto him, If the men come to call thee, rise up, and go with them; but yet the word which I shall say unto thee, that shalt thou do.

Remember, GOD'S INSTRUCTIONS the first time were simple and plain. For Balaam to ask again reveals that he is seeking to walk a TIGHT ROPE, not wanting to displease THE LORD, but desiring also to please himself. GOD SAID NO the first time, and Balaam is hoping this time that God will change His mind and give him permission to go.

Here was BALAAM'S great moment to retain his high STANDARDS OF RIGHT LIVING. This man who appeared to be so eloquent and princely should have reared back on his hind legs and nobly said: *“Do you think that your HIGH UP DELEGATION with more fancy offers of rewards is going to make what is WRONG, RIGHT, that the larger the reward will make it right for me to CURSE*

ISRAEL when GOD ALMIGHTY HAS BLESSED THEM?"

But no, Balaam wanted to go with them for the PROMOTION and MONEY involved — he wanted his divination fee.

Ministers are not to be GREEDY OF FILTHY LUCRE according to:

1 Timothy 3:3: Not given to wine, no striker, not greedy of filthy lucre; but patient, not a brawler, not covetous;

1 Timothy 3:8: Likewise must the deacons be grave, not double tongued, not given to much wine, not greedy of filthy lucre;

We learn more about Balaam's inner thoughts and desires in:

1 Peter 2:15: Which have forsaken the right way, and are gone astray, following the way of Balaam the son of Bosor, who loved the wages of unrighteousness;

Jude 11: Woe unto them! for they have gone in the way of Cain, and ran greedily after the error of Balaam for reward, and perished in the gainsaying of Core.

BALAAM GOES WITH THE PRINCES OF MOAB

Numbers 22:11: Behold, there is a people come out of Egypt, which covereth the face of the earth: come now, curse me them; peradventure I shall be able to overcome them, and drive them out.

GOD ALMIGHTY gave us a sacred and privileged ability: THE POWER OF CHOICE — A FREE WILL. He will not deny us this, even if we go contrary to HIS WILL for our lives. The Bible says:

Psalms 106:15: And He gave them their request; but sent leanness into their soul.

Psalms 78:29-31:

29 So they did eat, and were well filled: for He gave them their own desire;

30 They were not estranged from their lust. But while their meat was yet in their mouths,

31 The wrath of God came upon them, and slew the fattest of them, and smote down the chosen men of Israel.

Israel asked the prophet Samuel for a King so they could be like the other nations around them, rather than having The Lord Himself as their King. Samuel prayed to the Lord:

1 Samuel 8:7: And the LORD said unto Samuel, Hearken unto the voice of the people in all that they say unto thee: for they have not rejected thee, but they have rejected Me, that I should not reign over them.

BALAAM was allowed to go, but with strict reservations. He may go, but at his own peril. He may go, but not with GOD'S BLESSINGS on him. In fact, God placed OBSTACLES in Balaam's way three times, but Balaam did not see them nor the CAUSE for them. The DONKEY on which Balaam was riding saw the ANGEL in the way with a DRAWN SWORD, but Balaam didn't see him at all. The animal swerved out of the way off the road, and Balaam's anger was stirred up. He smite the donkey, forcing her back again onto the highway.



Then, the ANGEL removed His Presence to another position still further up the road to a part of it that was narrow, and the donkey tried to duck out of the way of the angel, thereby crushing Balaam's foot against the wall. Balaam lost his temper after being hurt due to his ignoring GOD'S ROADBLOCKS on the way to DESTRUCTION.

The ANGEL of the LORD didn't give up in his efforts to BLOCK BALAAM from going on a wrong course and in the wrong direction. He now proceeded far up the road to a very narrow pass, where there was no way for the DONKEY to duck or dodge HIM. It is there that the BEAST JUST PLOPPED DOWN ON THE GROUND. Balaam was now really hot under the collar and beat his beast unmercifully.

THE DONKEY TURNS PREACHER

Numbers 22:30-31:

30 And the ass said unto Balaam, "Am not I thine ass, upon which thou hast ridden ever since I was thine unto this day: Was I ever wont to do so unto thee?" and he said, "Nay."

31 Then the Lord opened the eyes of Balaam, and he saw THE ANGEL OF THE LORD standing in the way, and his SWORD DRAWN in his hand: and he bowed down his head, and FELL FLAT on his FACE.

THE ANGEL TURNS PREACHER

Numbers 22:32-33:

32 And the Angel of the Lord said unto him, "Wherefore hast thou smitten thine ass these three times? Behold, I went out to withstand thee, because thy WAY IS PERVERSE BEFORE ME:

33 And the ass saw Me, and turned from Me these three times: unless

she had turned from Me, surely now also I HAD SLAIN THEE, and saved her alive.”

BALAAM’S CONFESSION AND HALF-HEARTED REPENTANCE

Numbers 22:34: *And Balaam said unto the ANGEL OF THE LORD, “I have SINNED; for I knew not that Thou stoodest in the way against me: now therefore, “IF” it displease Thee, I will get me back again.”*

QUESTION: What is that “IF” in there, Balaam?

ANSWER: Balaam had the ESCAPED DEATH barely by the skin of his teeth, only because the DONKEY saw the ANGEL with the DRAWN SWORD when Balaam didn’t SEE or KNOW of this DIVINE PRESENCE. Take NOTICE of what the HOLY SPIRIT is saying in:

2 Peter 2:16: *But was rebuked for his iniquity: the dumb ass speaking with man’s voice forbad the madness of the prophet.*

Balaam was rebuked. The ANGEL had just told Balaam that his way was “*PERVERSE before ME*”. That ought to have settled the matter of his changing directions and going back to his home. But it didn’t, for in his SPIRITUAL BLINDNESS, he couldn’t see the ANGEL, nor could he see or perceive that he was doing anything wrong. So, the ANGEL told him to go ahead, and he does.

ARRIVAL AT THE MOABITE KING’S PALACE

Balak meets Balaam and scolds him for not coming sooner. Balaam’s response:

Numbers 22:38: *And Balaam said unto Balak, “Lo, I am come unto thee: have I now any power at all to say any thing? the word that God putteth in my mouth, that shall I speak.”*

After a big banquet feast, the next day Balak takes Balaam into the high places of Baal from where he might see the utmost part of the Israelites. Balaam ordered him to prepare SEVEN ALTARS, placing on each a bullock and a ram. Then he suggested that the king remain by the altar while he went yonder to seek the LORD as what to PROPHECY. Balaam ought to have been near to the PROPHET SAMUEL to hear the words he once spoke to king Saul:



1 Samuel 15:22: *And Samuel said, “Hath the LORD as great delight in Burnt Offerings and Sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of*

rams.”

GOD MET BALAAM and gave him his first point of a three-point sermon. Balaam returned to Balak and began the first point of His sermon in the form of a PARABLE:

Numbers 23:8: How shall I curse, whom God hath not cursed? Or how shall I defy, whom the Lord hath not defied.

Numbers 23:9: For from the top of the rocks I see him, and from the hills I behold him: lo, the people shall dwell alone, and shall not be reckoned among the nations.

Numbers 23:10: Who can count the dust of Jacob, and the number of the fourth part of Israel? Let me die the death of the righteous, and let my last end be like his!

Balak was insulted and scolded Balaam for not doing what he had called him to do. Balaam's integrity was still intact, and he nobly spoke these words:

Numbers 23:12b: “Must I not take heed to speak that which THE LORD hath put in my mouth?”

Balak decided to give him another chance to redeem himself. He took Balaam to another location where he would see only a portion of the Children of Israel. It was on top of Mt. Pisgah where they came, and Balaam told Balak to once again build seven altars and offer the same kind of sacrifices as before. It is done, and Balaam went yonder again to get the second part of his sermon from the LORD. GOD gave it to him, he returned to the ALTAR, and this is what he said:

Numbers 23:18-19:

¹⁸ Rise up, Balak, and hear; hearken unto me, thou son of Zippor;

¹⁹ God is not a man that He should lie; neither the SON OF MAN that HE should repent. Hath HE said, and shall HE not do it? Or Hath HE spoken, and shall HE not make it good?

Numbers 23:20-21:

²⁰ Behold, I've received a commandment to BLESS; and He hath BLESSED; and I can't reverse it.

²¹ He hath not beheld INIQUITY in Jacob, neither hath he seen perverseness in Israel: the LORD HIS God is WITH him, and the shout of a king is among them.

Numbers 23:22, 23a, 24a:

²² God brought them [Israel] out of Egypt. He hath as it were the strength of an UNICORN (bull or buffalo).

23a Surely there is no enchantment against Jacob, neither is there any divination against Israel:

24a Behold, the people shall rise up as a great lion, and lift up himself as a young lion: he shall not lie down until he eat of the prey,

Balak was now as MAD AS A HORNET. He cut loose with a fiery tongue, lashing on Balaam. After he finally cooled off, he decided to give Balaam just one LAST CHANCE to curse the Israelites.

This time they went to another location, namely to the top of Mt. Peor, and there Balaam ordered him to offer the same sacrifices on seven more altars. This time, however, he did not go away to seek the LORD to get the last part of His sermon because The SPIRIT OF THE LORD came upon him and he began to prophesy.

Numbers 24:5-9:

5 How goodly are thy tents, O Jacob, and thy tabernacles, O Israel!

6 As the valleys are they spread forth, as gardens by the river's side, as the trees of lign aloes which the LORD hath planted, and as cedar trees beside the waters.

7 He shall pour the water out of His Buckets, and His Seed shall be in many waters, and His King [The Lord Jesus Christ] shall be higher than Agag, and His Kingdom shall be exalted.

8 God brought him forth out of Egypt; he hath as it were the strength of an unicorn: he shall eat up the nations his enemies, and shall break their bones, and pierce them through with his arrows.

9 He couched, he lay down as a lion, and as a great lion: who shall stir him up? Blessed is he that blesseth thee, and cursed is he that curseth thee.



Numbers 24:17: I shall see him, but not now: I shall behold him, but not nigh: there shall come a Star out of Jacob, and a Sceptre shall rise out of Israel, and shall smite the corners of Moab, and destroy all the children of Sheth.

Balak is so disgusted with Balaam that he orders him to GET LOST — to FLEE TO THY PLACE.

Numbers 24:11: Therefore now flee thou to thy place: I thought to promote thee unto great honour; but, lo, the LORD hath kept thee back from honour.

So Balaam departs, but he doesn't go very far. As he is leaving, his mind is on

the GOLD and SILVER which he had to leave behind with all those other promotions. He grieved over all that, for his covetous and greedy heart loved GOLD above GOD until he made it his god. He was looking for some way he can still come out ahead and get what he came all the way out there for. The devil is ready to plant in his mind one of the DIRTIEST and LOW-DOWN SCHEMES that ever could be played on the PEOPLE OF GOD. We do not learn all about it until many chapters later on. Now we come up to my next TEXT:



BE SURE YOUR SINS WILL FIND YOU OUT.

Numbers 32:23: But if ye will not do so, behold, ye have sinned against the LORD: and be sure your sin will find you out.

It did look like Balaam was willing to go home empty handed. The only consolation he could have is that he had at least done what God Willed. He started home, but do you know that HE NEVER ARRIVED AT HOME. More will be told to you later on what happened to him.

QUESTION: THE BIG QUESTION IS: What did Balaam do that was so terrible?

ANSWER: We learn about it in:

Numbers 31:15-16:

15 And Moses said unto them, Have ye saved all the women alive?

16 Behold, these caused the Children of Israel, through the counsel of Balaam, to commit trespass against the LORD in the matter of Peor, and there was a plague among the congregation of the LORD.

In these verses, Moses was scolding the top generals of Israel's army for not carrying out God's orders to PUNISH these MOABITES for casting a SNARE before the Children of God and causing them to commit several gross SINS. Balaam had counseled Balak to get all the pretty women of his nation and all the handsome men to seduce and tempt the Children of Israel to have SEX with them, outside of the MARRIAGE BOND. Balaam knew that this SIN would bring God's judgment upon the Israelites, and he would then accomplish what he couldn't do by PROPHESYING.

The 25th chapter of Numbers reveals what happened, but we did not know the why until now in this 31st chapter. Balaam ended up losing his life, for the Israelites slew him with a sword!

Romans 6:23: For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

You will see what God's WORD means in just a few more minutes. For SIN MULTIPLIES itself, and becomes LARGER than the SINNER. Instead of the SINNER HIDING HIS SINS, which most sinners prefer to do, those SINS EXPOSE him or her.

ILLUSTRATIONS

We find this among other people in the Bible such as Adam, Cain, Joseph's brothers, Achan, and King David. In every case, their sins were eventually exposed.

BALAAM — Let us see what became of Balaam, the man who said:

Numbers 23:10b: "Let me die the death of the righteous, and let my last end be like his."

His bags of money were left behind, and his position of honor all disappeared when this man chose to run through all GOD'S ROADBLOCKS on the ROAD TO HELL. His PIOUS TALK but CROOKED WALK caught up with him. JESUS SAID:

Luke 12:2-3:

² For there is nothing covered, that shall not be revealed; neither hid, that shall not be known.

³ Therefore whatsoever ye have spoken in darkness shall be heard in the light; and that which ye have spoken in the ear in closets shall be proclaimed upon the housetops.

QUESTION: IS THERE ANYTHING COVERED IN YOUR LIFE?

Proverbs 28:13: He that covereth his sins shall not prosper: but whoso confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy.

Many children have laughed at their mother's or father's prayers for them. Others have scoffed at the thoughts of a JUDGMENT DAY. But God has placed a special ALARM SYSTEM CALLED **CONSCIENCE** INTO EVERY LIFE. When we sin, that alarm system will trouble us for doing wrong. When we persist in those wrongs, ignore our conscience, try to drown it with drink, drugs, and worldly pleasures, or brainwash ourselves with so called psychotherapy, we are doing eternal damage to the conscience:

THE BIBLE SAYS:

Ecclesiastes 12:14: For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil.

Revelation 20:11-12:

¹¹ And I saw a Great White Throne, and Him Who sat on it, from Whose

face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them.

¹² And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the Books were opened: and another Book was opened, which is the Book of Life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the Books, according to their works.

HOW TO BE SAVED FROM YOUR SINS and have a clean record when you stand before GOD ALMIGHTY:

1. REPENT

Matthew 9:13: [Jesus says to His Disciples and us] **But go ye and learn what that meaneth, I will have mercy, and not sacrifice: for I am not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.**

Mark 1:15: [Jesus Preaching the Good News of the Kingdom of God] **And saying, The time is fulfilled, and the Kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe the Gospel.**

Acts 17:30: **And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men everywhere to repent:**

Acts 20:21: **Testifying both to the Jews, and also to the Greeks, repentance toward God, and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ.**

Matthew 21:32: **For John came unto you in the way of righteousness, and ye believed him not: but the publicans and the harlots believed him: and ye, when ye had seen it, repented not afterward, that ye might believe him.**

2. BELIEVE

Acts 16:31: **And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house.**

John 3:16: **For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.**

Acts 10:43: **To Him give all the Prophets witness, that through His Name whosoever believeth in Him shall receive remission of sins.**

Acts 13:39: **And by Him all that believe are justified from all things, from which ye could not be justified by the Law of Moses.**

Ephesians 2:8-9:

⁸ For by Grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the Gift of God:

⁹ Not of works, lest any man should boast.

3. CALL

Acts 2:21: And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the Name of the Lord shall be saved.

Romans 10:13: For whosoever shall call upon the Name of the Lord shall be saved.

4. RECEIVE

John 1:12: But as many as received Him, to them gave He power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on His Name:

5. CONFESS

Romans 10:9: That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised Him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.

May I invite you to pray this simple prayer so you, too, can be saved, and can have a clean record when you stand before God on the Day of Judgment?

“Father in Heaven, I come to YOU now. I confess that I am a sinner. I know that I have done many wrong and sinful things. I cannot change myself, but YOU can change me. I ask YOU to help me. Thank YOU, Jesus, for dying for my sins. Thank YOU for taking my punishment for me. Please forgive me now. Please take my sins away. Make me a Child of God. I accept YOU now as my own Saviour. I will love YOU, and All my life I will live for YOU, and if necessary I will die for YOU. Change my life and make me pure and holy as YOU are, in Jesus’ Name.” Amen

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