

Deliverance: Balaam – Satan’s Invitations Can Kill

Benjamin Franklin: “*The heart of a fool is in his mouth, but the mouth of a wise man is in his heart*”

(Part 9) (June 12, 2022) (Numbers 24:25-25:1 KJV; Matthew 23:28 KJV)

Balaam – Wise man or fool: Matthew 23:28 KJV *Even so ye also outwardly appear righteous unto men, but within ye are full of hypocrisy and iniquity.*

- Spoke the words of God: Numbers 23:26 KJV *All that the LORD speaketh, that I must do?*
- Knew what pleased the Lord: Numbers 24:1 KJV *And when Balaam saw that it pleased the LORD to bless Israel, he went not, as at other times, to seek for enchantments, but he set his face toward the wilderness.*
- Knew of God’s blessing and cursing: Numbers 24:9 KJV *Blessed [is] he that blesseth thee, and cursed [is] he that curseth thee.*
- Seemed “all in for the Lord”: Numbers 24:10-11 KJV *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.*
- Balaam left in peace – we end with Numbers 24 KJV: Numbers 24:25 KJV *And Balaam rose up, and went and returned to his place: and Balak also went his way.*
- Next verse: Numbers 25:1-2 KJV *And Israel abode in Shittim, and the people began to commit whoredom with the daughters of Moab. (2) And they called the people unto the sacrifices of their gods: and the people did eat, and bowed down to their gods.*

What did we miss:

- Balaam willing to advertise: Numbers 24:14 KJV *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.*
- Moses places blame on Balaam: Numbers 31:15-16 KJV *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.*
 - 24,000 killed before the plague stayed because of actions by Phinehas (Numbers 25:6-9 KJV)
- Ammonites & Moabites forbidden to enter into Israel: Deuteronomy 23:4 KJV *because they hired against thee Balaam the son of Beor of Pethor of Mesopotamia, to curse thee.*
- BUT: Still not direct scripture about Balaam’s consultation with Balak

Outside sources – What was the “way of Balaam”:

- Jude about evil men: Jude 11 KJV *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.*
- Jesus about Pergamos: Revelation 2:14 KJV *But I have a few things against thee, because thou hast there them that hold the doctrine of Balaam, who taught Balac to cast a before the children of Israel, to eat things sacrificed unto idols, and to commit fornication.*
- Peter about forsaking the right way – gone astray: 2 Peter 2:15 KJV *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;*
 - Balaam was personally moral but made money off of unrighteous men
- Balaam spoke God’s words BUT secretly was in iniquity: 2 Peter 2:16-22 KJV *But was rebuked for his iniquity: the dumb ass speaking with man’s voice forbad the madness of the prophet.*
- Error of Balaam: Sold out God’s reward for man’s reward (Judas?)
- Error of Balaam casts a “*stumblingblock before the children of Israel*” and the children of God
- Error of Balaam was done by invitation – not explosion BUT implosion
 - Remember all the invitations of Balak – Balaam counseled Balak to continue invitations/lust

Untouchable becomes touchable – unbreached becomes breached by invitation:

- James about yielding to invitation/lust: **James 1:15 KJV** *Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death.*
 - Protection (by example) is for those that yield not – As Jesus says focus on ***“do always those things that please him”*** (**John 8:29 KJV** – Part 6 of Deliverance series)
- God’s instruction of **Numbers 33:51-53 KJV** is paralleled in **2 Corinthians 10:3-5 KJV**:
 - ***“pulling down of strong holds”; “casting down imaginations”; casting down “every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God”; “and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ”***
- We need to be vigilant & diligent

Peter expounds – beware of false prophets (Parallel to Jude):

- Beware: **2 Peter 2:1-2 KJV** *But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction. (2) And many shall follow their pernicious ways; by reason of whom the way of truth shall be evil spoken of.*
- The strategy and destiny of false teachers (verse 3); The ungodly will be judged (verse 4-6); **The righteous will be delivered (verse 7-9)**; They are fleshly and proud (verse 10-11); Their spiritual doom is sealed (verse 12-13a); Begins a list of the sins of false teachers (verse 13b-14)
- Sin of Balaam: **2 Peter 2:15 KJV** *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; (16) But was rebuked for his iniquity: the dumb ass speaking with man's voice forbad the madness of the prophet.*
 - Biggest word is “forsaken” – especially as a “prophet”
 - Parable of Sower and the Seed – among the thorns (**Matthew 13: 1–9, 18–23 KJV**)
- They speak great swelling words of emptiness (verse 17); allure through the lusts of the flesh (verse 18); promise liberty yet themselves are slaves, he brought in bondage (verse 19)

The danger of – following false teachers:

- **1 Timothy 6:10 KJV** *For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.*
- **Romans 6:23 KJV** *For the wages of sin [is] death; but the gift of God [is] eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.*
- **Hebrews 10:26 KJV** *For if we sin wilfully after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins,*
 - Check to outcome of Korah, Cain, Esau, Saul, Demas, Gehazi, Balaam or Judas
- **Hebrews 10:38 KJV** *Now the just shall live by faith: but if [any man] draw back, my soul shall have no pleasure in him.*
- **2 Peter 2:20-22 KJV** *For if after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, they are again entangled therein, and overcome, the latter end is worse with them than the beginning. (21) For it had been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than, after they have known [it], to turn from the holy commandment delivered unto them.*
- Legacy of Balaam finalized: **Numbers 31:8 KJV** *And they slew the kings of Midian, beside the rest of them that were slain; [namely], Evi, and Rekem, and Zur, and Hur, and Reba, five kings of Midian: Balaam also the son of Beor they slew with the sword.*

Hebrews 10:39 KJV

***But we are not of them who draw back unto perdition;
but of them that believe to the saving of the soul.***