

“MOAB WAS EXCEEDINGLY AFRAID” NUMBERS 22:3

Text: Numbers 22:1-21

THE DREAD THAT WAS KEENLY FELT BY THE MOABITES NUMBERS 22:1-4

1. The people of Israel had camped in the plains of Moab
2. They had been victorious against King Sihon and King Og
3. The dread was deeply felt by the Moabites as they heard of these great defeats
4. This fear was prophesied earlier
 - a. Fear and dread would fall on them Exodus 15:14-16
 - b. The Lord would send His dread before them Exodus 23:27
5. They were so fearful that the Moabites did not dare to attack Israel

THE REQUEST BY THE KING OF MOAB TO CURSE THE PEOPLE OF ISRAEL NUMBERS 22:4-8

1. King Balak's request to Balaam to curse the people of Israel
 - a. He sent his messengers all the way to the River Euphrates... the land of the Mesopotamians
 - b. He sent the elders of Moab and Midian to Balaam
2. King Balak believed that through curses, he may defeat Israel
3. And he can drive them out of the land

THE LORD'S BLESSING OF PROTECTION ON ISRAEL NUMBERS 22:9-13

1. The Lord's special protection over the people of Israel
 - a. Curses cannot affect those who belong to the Lord
 - b. Those who have faith in the Lord would be protected by the Lord
 - c. The Lord's covenant to Abraham Genesis 12:1-3
 - d. The Lord God had hedged His people Psalms 139:5
2. The Lord instructed Balaam that he was not to go with the elders
3. There was the Lord's special blessing of protection upon the people of Israel
4. He refused to let Balaam pronounce a curse on His people

THE COMPROMISE OF BALAAM NUMBERS 22:14-21

1. Balak sent even more honourable princes to Balaam with a greater offer of reward
2. Balaam knew that he could not go beyond what the Lord had told him
3. Yet, because of the lure of money and great worldly honour, he was willing to compromise

PERSONAL APPLICATION

1. Trusting in the Lord's protection
 - a. There is the Lord's hand of protection
 - i. He hedges us
 - ii. He protects us in ways we don't even know
 - b. He blesses and protects us because He loves us Deuteronomy 23:5
2. Not compromising on our faith
 - a. We should never compromise on our faith for anything
 - b. We can end up compromising like Balaam
 - i. For the sake of money
 - ii. For worldly honour
 - c. Let's make sure that we will never compromise on our faith