

YOUTH WORSHIP

2 August 2025

Text: Numbers 23:13-26

Title: "God is not a man, that He should lie" Numbers 23:19

INTRODUCTION

1. Balaam uttered three Oracles (sayings)
2. The First Oracle concerns Israel primarily Numbers 23:1-12
3. The Second Oracle focuses on the Person of the LORD Numbers 23:13-26

THE SECOND ATTEMPT TO CURSE ISRAEL

¹³Then Balak said to him, "Please come with me to another place from which you may see them; you shall see only the outer part of them, and shall not see them all; curse them for me from there."

¹⁴So he brought him to the field of Zophim, to the top of Pisgah, and built seven altars, and offered a bull and a ram on *each* altar.

Numbers 23:13-14

1. Balak's attempt to reach out to God
 - a) He thought that if he were to offer a grand sacrifice it would bring good results
 - b) Seven altars were built
 - c) A bull and a ram were offered as a burnt offering
2. Balak's knowledge of God
 - a) Erroneous
 - b) Reflected popular religious thoughts of his time

BALAAM'S PERVERSITY FURTHER DEMONSTRATED

¹⁵ And he said to Balak, "Stand here by your burnt offering while I meet *the LORD* over there."

¹⁶ Then the LORD met Balaam, and put a word in his mouth, and said, "Go back to Balak, and thus you shall speak."

¹⁷ So he came to him, and there he was, standing by his burnt offering, and the princes of Moab were with him. And Balak said to him, "What has the LORD spoken?"

Numbers 23:15-17

1. Balaam had already been

- a) Instructed by God
- b) Instrumental in pronouncing a blessing on Israel
- c) Yet he was still seeking a way to earn his reward from Balak

2. Both Balaam and Balak were in for a surprise

- a) God did not give Balaam a word immediately
- b) He would use Balaam as His mouthpiece shortly

THE SECOND ORACLE OF BALAAM

¹⁸ Then he took up his oracle and said:

"Rise up, Balak, and hear!
Listen to me, son of Zippor!

¹⁹ "God *is* not a man, that He should lie,
Nor a son of man, that He should repent.
Has He said, and will He not do?
Or has He spoken, and will He not make it good?

²⁰ Behold, I have received *a command* to bless;
He has blessed, and I cannot reverse it.

²¹ "He has not observed iniquity in Jacob,
Nor has He seen wickedness in Israel.
The LORD his God *is* with him,
And the shout of a King *is* among them.

²² God brings them out of Egypt;
He has strength like a wild ox.

Numbers 23:18-22

1. What God is NOT

- a) He is not a mere man
- b) He is not a whimsical human being

2. What God IS

- a) He is a God who speaks
- b) Every word He speaks will be fulfilled
- c) His power and majesty are beyond human comprehension

ANOTHER BLESSING PRONOUNCED ON ISRAEL

²³ “For *there is* no sorcery against Jacob,
Nor any divination against Israel.
It now must be said of Jacob
And of Israel, ‘Oh, what God has done!’

²⁴ Look, a people rises like a lioness,
And lifts itself up like a lion;
It shall not lie down until it devours the prey,
And drinks the blood of the slain.”

²⁵ Then Balak said to Balaam, “Neither curse them at all, nor bless them at all!”

²⁶ So Balaam answered and said to Balak, “Did I not tell you, saying, ‘All that the LORD speaks, that I must do’?”

Numbers 23:23-26

1. No sorcery or divination will be effective against Israel
2. Israel is compared to a pride of lions
3. God Himself will protect and bless Israel

CONCLUSION

1. Balak's response

a) Frustration

b) Fury

2. Balaam's reply

a) He is only a mouthpiece

b) He is but a man

3. What is your response?