



July 19, 2026
Worship Service
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Questions God Asks: How Will You Respond?

Lesson Eight • Numbers 22:1-41

Who Are These Men with You?

God's Question: "Who are these men with you?"

Are we someone who merely PRETENDS to serve the Lord
or someone who truly serves the Lord?

If we are someone who truly serves the Lord, when faced with a choice of obeying God's word or pursuing earthly gain, we will choose to serve the Lord.

Balaam: Hero or Villain?

Although God used Balaam to bestow blessing on Israel, God WARNS against the "way of Balaam," who loved Balak's silver and gold more than the Lord.

Forsaking the right way, they have gone astray. They have followed the way of Balaam, the son of Beor, who loved gain from wrongdoing, but was rebuked for his own transgression; a speechless donkey spoke with human voice and restrained the prophet's madness. 2 Peter 2:15-16

Beware of the Way of Balaam

Scene 1: Balak's Scheme to CURSE Israel

Balak's Scheme and God's Question

- Balak summons Balaam with MONEY to curse Israel and he responds with an answer that sounds spiritual (v. 1-8).
- God asks Balaam about Balak's MEN and tells him not to go with them to curse Israel because they are blessed (v. 9-14).
- Balak summons Balaam again with MORE MONEY to curse Israel and he responds in a way that appears spiritual (v. 15-21).

Scene 2: God's Stand to STOP Balaam from Cursing Israel

God's Anger Kindled Against Balaam

God was angry not simply because Balaam WENT with Balak's men, but rather because of his lack of submission and pursuit of profit (v. 21-22).

Balaam's Lesson in Humility

The Lord used Balaam's DONKEY to confront his lack of submission and teach him a lesson in humility (v. 22-35).

Scene 3: Balaam's Reluctant Obedience to BLESS Israel

Lesson Learned? Yes and No

- Despite his initial reluctance, Balaam SPOKE only the words the Lord commanded him to speak (v. 36-41; Num. 23-24).
- Despite his oracles of blessing on Israel, Balaam remained BLIND to God's goodness and grace (Num. 31:8, Rev. 2:14)).

Takeaway from Balaam

Don't follow the way of BALAAM; follow the way of CHRIST.

The way of Balaam leads to curse but the way of Christ leads to blessing.

"And if it is evil in your eyes to serve the LORD, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your fathers served in the region beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD."
Joshua 24:15