



*Congregation Notes Torah Portion Balak
In Days of Deception, Who Do You Trust?
July 20, 2024 - 14 Tammuz, 5784
Numbers 22:2-25:9; Micah 5:6-6:8; Matthew 21:1-11*

***Isaiah 26:3-4** You will keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on You, because he trusts in You. Trust in the LORD forever for to YAH, the LORD, is everlasting strength.

***Numbers 20:14-21** Now Moses sent messengers from Kadesh to the king of Edom. **"Thus says your brother Israel:** 'You know all the hardship that has befallen us, ¹⁵ how our fathers went down to Egypt, and we dwelt in Egypt a long time, and the Egyptians afflicted us and our fathers. ¹⁶ When we cried out to the Lord, He heard our voice and sent the Angel and brought us up out of Egypt; now here we are in Kadesh, a city on the edge of your border. ¹⁷ **Please let us pass through your country. We will not pass through fields or vineyards, nor will we drink water from wells; we will go along the King's Highway; we will not turn aside to the right hand or to the left until we have passed through your territory.**' ¹⁸ Then Edom said to him, **"You shall not pass through my land, lest I come out against you with the sword."** ¹⁹ So the children of Israel said to him, "We will go by the Highway, and if I or my livestock drink any of your water, then I will pay for it; let me only pass through on foot, nothing more."

²⁰ Then he said, **"You shall not pass through."** **So Edom came out against them with many men and with a strong hand.** ²¹ **Thus Edom refused to give Israel passage through his territory; so Israel turned away from him.**

***Numbers 21:1-3** The king of Arad, the Canaanite, who dwelt in the South, heard that Israel was coming on the road to Atharim. Then he fought against Israel and took some of them prisoners. So Israel made a vow to the Lord, and said, "If You will indeed deliver this people into my hand, then I will utterly destroy their cities." And the Lord listened to the voice of Israel and delivered up the Canaanites, and they utterly destroyed them and their cities. So the name of that place was called Hormah.

***Numbers 21:21-25** ²¹ Then Israel sent messengers to Sihon king of the Amorites, saying, ²² "Let me pass through your land. We will not turn aside into fields or vineyards; we will not drink water from wells. We will go by the King's Highway until we have passed through your territory." ²³ **But Sihon would not allow Israel to pass through his territory.** So Sihon gathered all his people together and ^[h]went out against Israel in the wilderness, and he came to Jahaz and fought against Israel. ²⁴ **Then Israel defeated him with the edge of the sword, and took possession of his land** from the Arnon to the Jabbok, as far as the people of

Ammon; for the border of the people of Ammon was fortified. ²⁵ **So Israel took all these cities, and Israel dwelt in all the cities of the Amorites, in Heshbon and in all its villages.**

***Numbers 22:1-4** Then the children of Israel moved, and camped in the plains of Moab on the side of the Jordan *across from* Jericho. Now Balak the son of Zippor saw all that Israel had done to the Amorites. And Moab was exceedingly afraid of the people because they were many, and Moab was disgusted because of the children of Israel. So Moab said to the elders of Midian, Now this company will lick up everything around us, as an ox licks up the grass of the field. And Balak the son of Zippor was king of the Moabites at that time.

***Numbers 22:5-6** Then **he sent messengers to Bilaam** the son of Beor at Pethor, which is near the River in the land of the sons of his people, to call him, saying: **Look, a people has come from Egypt. See, they cover the face of the earth, and are settling next to me!** Therefore, please come at once, **curse this people for me, for they are too mighty for me.** Perhaps I shall be able to defeat them and drive them out of the land, **for I know that he whom you bless is blessed, and he whom you curse is cursed.**

***Numbers 22:7** They went, the **elders of Moab** and the **elders of Midian** went with magical devices in their hand; and they came to Bilaam and they spoke to him the words of Balak.

***Numbers 22:8** He (Bilaam) said to them, Spend the night here, and I shall respond to you with an answer as HASHEM shall speak to me. So they stayed, the officers of Moab did with Bilaam.

***Numbers 22:12** God said to Bilaam, **You shall not go** with them! **You shall not curse** the people, **for blessed are they!**

***Genesis 26:3** Dwell in this land, and **I will be with you, and will bless you:** for to you, and to your seed I will give all these countries: and **I will perform the oath which I swore to Abraham thy father.**

***Psalm 29:11** The Lord shall give strength to his people: the Lord shall blesse his people with peace.

***Numbers 22:17...** for I shall certainly honor you greatly, and everything that you say to me I shall do; so, go please and curse this people for me.

***Numbers 22:18** Bilaam answered and said to the servants of Balak, If he were to give me such as fills his house with silver and gold; I am not able to transgress the word of HASHEM my God, to do anything small or great.

***I Peter 3:10** For, Whoever would love life and see good days must **keep their tongue from evil and their lips from deceitful speech.**

***Matthew 15:11** What goes into someone's mouth does not defile them, but what comes out of their mouth, that is what defiles them.

***Numbers 22:19** And now, please stay here all of you, for the night, and I will know what additional things HASHEM will speak with me.

***Genesis 3:1** Now the serpent was more crafty than any beast of the field that the LORD God had made. And he said to the woman, Did God really say, You must not eat from any tree in the garden?

***Numbers 22:20-21** And God came to Balaam at night and said to him, If the men come to call you, rise and go with them; **וַיִּקַּח** but only the word which I speak to you--that you shall do. So Balaam rose in the morning, saddled his donkey, and went with the princes of Moab.

***Numbers 22:18** Balaam answered and said to the servants of Balak, If Balak were to give me silver and gold such as fills his house, I am not able to transgress the work of HASHEM my God.

II Peter 2:14-15.....having eyes full of adultery and that cannot cease from sin, enticing unstable souls. They have a heart trained in covetous practices, and are accursed children. They have forsaken the right way and gone astray, following the way of Balaam the son of Beor, who loved the wages of unrighteousness; but he was rebuked for his iniquity:

***Jude 1:11** Woe to them! They have traveled the path of Cain; they have rushed headlong into the error of Balaam; they have perished in Korah's rebellion.

***Numbers 22:21** Balaam got up in the morning and saddled his she-donkey and with the officers of Moab.

***Numbers 22:22** Flare did the anger of God because he was going, and there stood an angel of HASHEM on the road as an impediment to him. He was riding on his she-donkey and his two attendants were with him.

***Numbers 22:23-34** ²³ Now the donkey saw the Angel of the Lord standing in the way with His drawn sword in His hand, (THIS SWORD REPRESENTS JUDGMENT) and the donkey turned aside out of the way and went into the field. So Balaam struck the donkey to turn her back onto the road. ²⁴ Then the Angel of the Lord stood in a narrow path between the vineyards, with a wall on this side and a wall on that side. ²⁵ And when the donkey saw the Angel of the Lord, she pushed herself against the wall and crushed Balaam's foot against the wall; so he struck her again. ²⁶ Then the Angel of the Lord went further, and stood in a narrow place where there was no way to turn either to the right hand or to the left. ²⁷ And when the donkey saw the Angel of the Lord, she lay down under Balaam; so Balaam's anger was aroused, and he struck the donkey with his staff. **28 Then the Lord opened the mouth of the donkey**, and she said to Balaam, "What have I done to you, that you have struck me these three times?"

²⁹ And Balaam said to the donkey, "Because you have abused me. I wish there were a sword in my hand, for now I would kill you!"

³⁰ **So the donkey said to Balaam,** "Am I not your donkey on which you have ridden, ever since I became yours, to this day? Was I ever disposed to do this to you?"

And he said, "No."

31 Then the Lord opened Balaam's eyes, and he saw the Angel of the Lord standing in the way with His drawn sword in His hand; and he bowed his head and fell flat on his face. ³² And the Angel of the Lord said to him, "Why have you struck your donkey these three times? Behold, I have come out to stand against you, because your way is perverse before Me. ³³ The donkey saw Me and turned aside from Me these three times. **If she had not turned aside from Me, surely I would also have killed you by now, and let her live.** ³⁴ And Balaam said to the Angel of the Lord, "**I have sinned, for I did not know You stood in the way against me. Now therefore, if it displeases You, I will turn back.**"

***Numbers 23:7-8,19-20,23** Balak the king of Moab has brought me from Aram, From the mountains of the east. 'Come, curse Jacob for me, And come, denounce Israel! ' "How shall I curse whom God has not cursed? And how shall I denounce whom the LORD has not denounced?..... 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? (23) **For there is no sorcery against Jacob -**

***Numbers 24:1-2** Now when Balaam saw that it pleased the Lord to bless Israel, **he did not go as at other times, to seek to use sorcery,** but he set his face toward the wilderness. And Balaam raised his eyes, and saw Israel. encamped according to their tribes; and

***Psalm 119:158** I see the treacherous, and am disgusted, because they do not keep Your word.

***Numbers 24:2** And Balaam raised his eyes, and saw Israel encamped according to their tribes; and **the Spirit of God came upon him.**

***Numbers 24:5-6,7b** How lovely are your tents, O Jacob!
Your dwellings, O Israel! Like valleys that stretch out, like gardens by the riverside,
Like aloes planted by the Lord, like cedars beside the waters..... and his kingdom shall be exalted.

***Numbers 24:9b** Blessed is he who blesses you, and cursed is he who curses you.

***Numbers 24:17** I see him, but not now; I behold him, but not near. A star will come out of Jacob; a scepter will rise out of Israel.

***Numbers 23:7-8** Balak brought me from Aram, the king of Moab from the eastern mountains. Come, he said, Curse Jacob for me; come, denounce Israel. How can I curse those whom God has not cursed? How can I denounce those whom the Lord has not denounced?

***Isaiah 54:17** No weapon formed against you shall prosper, And every tongue which rises against you in judgment you shall condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of the LORD, And their righteousness is from Me, Says the LORD.

***Deuteronomy 23:5** Nevertheless, the LORD your God was not willing to listen to Balaam, but the LORD your God turned the curse into a blessing for you because the LORD your God has loved you.

***Numbers 31:16** Look, these women caused the children of Israel, through the counsel of Balaam, to trespass against the LORD in the incident of Peor, and there was a. plague among the congregation of the Lord.

***Revelation 2:14** But I have a few things against you, because you have there those who hold the teaching of Balaam, who taught Balak to put a stumbling block before the children of Israel, to eat things sacrificed to idols, and to commit sexual immorality.

***Psalm 28:7** The Lord is my strength and my shield; in Him my heart trusts, and I am helped; my heart exults, and with my song I give thanks to him.