

IN A VOICE

DISOBEDIENCE



- Read Numbers 22
- Verses 1 - 7 tell us a lot about Balaam's reputation. How does Balak reveal back-story about Balaam that may be significant to Balaam's mindset? How did the elders of Moab and Midian plan to motivate Balaam to curse the Israelites?
- It is important to take notice of Balaam's familiarity and conversation with the LORD(YHWH, Yahweh, see Exodus 3:14-15), the God of the Israelites. In light of verses 12 and 13, how should this encounter between Balaam and Israel's enemies have ended? What does Balaam's response to Balak's counteroffer, especially in verse 19, say about his intentions?
- Verse 22 is the most revealing statement we have that tells us God's thoughts about Balaam and his decision making. After we see the interaction between Balaam, his donkey, and the Angel of the LORD; what is our understanding of God opening the mouth of Balaam's donkey? Have you ever had a time in your life when you went against God and He used unconventional means to bring your attention back to His will for you?
- We must take verse 34 to heart. Even after confessing his sin, Balaam is still looking for a reason to continue on and meet with Balak. Read Exodus 15:25-26 and 20:20; does God test the motives of our hearts? Why? What could this test be revealing about Balaam's heart and his allegiance to the one true God of Israel? Where might Balaam's allegiance actually be?
- Ask yourself these questions: Where is my allegiance? Do I follow Jesus Christ as a response to the love He has shown me? Or do I follow Him because of the benefits I hope to gain while in this life?

APPLICATION

The Apostle Paul, in 1 Corinthians 13:5, instructs us to test and examine ourselves to make sure that we are truly of the faith of Jesus Christ. Do we recognize this about ourselves, that Jesus Christ truly dwells in us? What if we fail this test? Balaam's desire for riches and prestige clouded his devotion and obedience to the one true God. As we move forward with this lesson in hand, how do we better guard our heart and mind so that we hear God speak to us? So that we obey His voice alone?

S.O.A.P. (Scripture|Observation|Application|Prayer)

Monday . . . Numbers 23 & 24

Thursday . . . 2 Peter 2:9-19

Tuesday . . . Numbers 31:1-24

Friday Jude 5-16

Wednesday Deuteronomy 23:3-6;
Joshua 13:22; 24:9-10

Revelation 2:14-17

NOTES

