## "Smarter than a Donkey?"

Numbers 22:21-38

What does the Bible say about Balaam?

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

<u>Jude 11</u> Woe to them! For they walked in the way of Cain and abandoned themselves for the sake of gain to <u>Balaam's</u> error and perished in Korah's rebellion.

<u>Numbers 31:16</u> Behold, these, on **Balaam's** advice, caused the people of Israel to act treacherously against the LORD in the incident of Peor, and so the plague came among the congregation of the LORD.

**Revelation 2:14** But I have a few things against you: you have some there who hold the teaching of **Balaam**, who taught Balak to put a stumbling block before the sons of Israel, so that they might eat food sacrificed to idols and practice sexual immorality.

<u>Deuteronomy 23:5</u> But the LORD your God would not listen to **Balaam**; instead the LORD your God turned the curse into a blessing for you, because the LORD your God loved you.

<u>Joshua 13:22</u> Balaam also, the son of Beor, the one who practiced divination, was killed with the sword by the people of Israel among the rest of their slain.

## God gave us free will

<u>Proverbs 16:9</u> The heart of man plans his way, but the Lord establishes his steps. <u>Joshua 24:15</u> 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."

<u>John 7:17</u> If anyone's will is to do God's will, he will know whether the teaching is from God or whether I am speaking on my own authority.

<u>Revelation 3:20</u> Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and eat with him, and he with me.

- <u>1 Corinthians 10:13</u> No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it. <u>John 1:12-13</u> But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.
- <u>2 Timothy 2:26</u> And they may come to their senses and escape from the snare of the devil, after being captured by him to do his will.

<u>Deuteronomy 30:19-20</u> I call heaven and earth to witness against you today, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and curse. Therefore choose life, that you and your offspring may live, loving the Lord your God, obeying his voice and holding fast to him, for he is your life and length of days, that you may dwell in the land that the Lord swore to your fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give them."

<u>Genesis 2:16-17</u> And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, "You may surely eat of every tree of the garden, but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die."

<u>Psalm 37:23</u> The steps of a man are established by the Lord, when he delights in his way;

<u>Romans 10:9-10</u> Because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved.

Galatians 5:16-17 But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit

are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do.

<u>James 1:13-16</u> Let no one say when he is tempted, "I am being tempted by God," for God cannot be tempted with evil, and he himself tempts no one. But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire. Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin, and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death. Do not be deceived, my beloved brothers.

Mark 8:34 And calling the crowd to him with his disciples, he said to them, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. 1 Timothy 2:4 Who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.

<u>Proverbs 16:1</u> The plans of the heart belong to man, but the answer of the tongue is from the Lord.

<u>Ezekiel 18:30-32</u> "Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, every one according to his ways, declares the Lord God. Repent and turn from all your transgressions, lest iniquity be your ruin. Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed, and make yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, declares the Lord God; so turn, and live."

<u>John 10:18</u> No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down, and I have authority to take it up again. This charge I have received from my Father."

<u>Deuteronomy 11:26-28</u> "See, I am setting before you today a blessing and a curse: the blessing, if you obey the commandments of the Lord your God, which I command you today, and the curse, if you do not obey the commandments of the Lord your God, but turn aside from the way that I am commanding you today, to go after other gods that you have not known.

Romans 13:2 Therefore whoever resists the authorities resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment.

<u>Genesis 4:6-7</u> The Lord said to Cain, "Why are you angry, and why has your face fallen? If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin is crouching at the door. Its desire is for you, but you must rule over it."

<u>James 4:7</u> Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

<u>2 Corinthians 9:7</u> Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

<u>Ephesians 2:8-9</u> For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast.

<u>Isaiah 55:6-7</u> "Seek the Lord while he may be found; call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the Lord, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

<u>All above verses ESV</u>

## NOTES: