

## Numbers 22

King James Version (KJV)

**22** And the children of Israel set forward, and pitched in the plains of Moab on this side Jordan by Jericho. (On the east side of Jordan)

<sup>2</sup>And Balak the son of Zippor saw all that Israel had done to the Amorites. (Balak = spoiler) (The Amorites were known to be fierce warriors)

<sup>3</sup>And Moab was sore afraid of the people, because they were many: and Moab was distressed because of the children of Israel. (Israel was now approx 2.5 million people)

Deuteronomy-2:28 (Israel offered to pay Moab for any water that they used)

<sup>4</sup>And Moab said unto the elders of Midian, Now shall this company lick up all that are round about us, as the ox licketh up the grass of the field. And Balak the son of Zippor was king of the Moabites at that time. Genesis-25:1-3 (Midianites were also Adamic people: like Moab, Ammon, and Edom) (Moab goes to Midian for help against Israel)

<sup>5</sup>He sent messengers therefore unto Balaam the son of Beor to Pethor, which is by the river of the land of the children of his people, to call him, saying, Behold, there is a people come out from Egypt: behold, they cover the face of the earth, and they abide over against me: (Pethor- thought to be in or near Mesopotamia) (Balaam= not of the people) (He was a soothsayer or false prophet) Joshua-13:22 (God sees soothsayers as an abomination) Deuteronomy-18:10-12

<sup>6</sup>Come now therefore, I pray thee, curse me this people; for they are too mighty for me: peradventure I shall prevail, that we may smite them, and that I may drive them out of the land: for I wot that he whom thou blessest is blessed, and he whom thou cursest is cursed. (I wot = I know)

See Acts-8 (Simon used drugs to soothsay and prophecy. He was a con man. Balaam is not much different. He pretends to be a man of God and fools people into paying him to do "magic")

<sup>7</sup>And the elders of Moab and the elders of Midian departed with the rewards of divination in their hand; and they came unto Balaam, and spake unto him the words of Balak.

<sup>8</sup> And he said unto them, Lodge here this night, and I will bring you word again, as the LORD shall speak unto me: and the princes of Moab abode with Balaam. (Balaam is no holy man. He is a mercenary in religious terms – God will try to set him right)

<sup>9</sup> And God came unto Balaam, and said, What men are these with thee? (Since Balaam pretends to be a man of God, God will address him directly)

<sup>10</sup> And Balaam said unto God, Balak the son of Zippor, king of Moab, hath sent unto me, saying,

<sup>11</sup> Behold, there is a people come out of Egypt, which covereth the face of the earth: come now, curse me them; peradventure I shall be able to overcome them, and drive them out. (He makes no mention of the payment that he'll receive)

<sup>12</sup> And God said unto Balaam, Thou shalt not go with them; thou shalt not curse the people: for they are blessed. (This is a warning. Balaam would be wise to listen)

<sup>13</sup> And Balaam rose up in the morning, and said unto the princes of Balak, Get you into your land: for the LORD refuseth to give me leave to go with you. (He is not mentioning that God blesses Israel)

<sup>14</sup> And the princes of Moab rose up, and they went unto Balak, and said, Balaam refuseth to come with us. (They aren't saying that God forbade Balaam)

<sup>15</sup> And Balak sent yet again princes, more, and more honourable than they. (Balak is upping the stakes, and no doubt, the payment)

<sup>16</sup> And they came to Balaam, and said to him, Thus saith Balak the son of Zippor, Let nothing, I pray thee, hinder thee from coming unto me:

<sup>17</sup> For I will promote thee unto very great honour, and I will do whatsoever thou sayest unto me: come therefore, I pray thee, curse me this people. ("Name your price". He is offering him more payment)

<sup>18</sup> And Balaam answered and said unto the servants of Balak, If Balak would give me his house full of silver and gold, I cannot go beyond the word of the LORD my God, to do less or more. (He is calling the Lord his God)

<sup>19</sup> Now therefore, I pray you, tarry ye also here this night, that I may know what the LORD will say unto me more.

<sup>20</sup> And God came unto Balaam at night, and said unto him, If the men come to call thee, rise up, and go with them; but yet the word which I shall say unto thee, that shalt thou do. (God is telling him to go if they force him to; but say what God told him)

<sup>21</sup> And Balaam rose up in the morning, and saddled his ass, and went with the princes of Moab. (Balaam didn't wait for the men to come and call him. He's going to see them. He thinks he's going to get rich)

<sup>22</sup> And God's anger was kindled because he went: and the angel of the LORD stood in the way for an adversary against him. Now he was riding upon his ass, and his two servants were with him. 2Peter-2:15, Jude-1:11 Revelation-2:14 – (Balaam was recognized for what he really was)

<sup>23</sup> And the ass saw the angel of the LORD standing in the way, and his sword drawn in his hand: and the ass turned aside out of the way, and went into the field: and Balaam smote the ass, to turn her into the way. (The Angel of the Lord <God in angelic form> was waiting to kill Balaam)

(There is one God. HE has many offices – the Fater, Jesus, the Holy Spirit, the Angel of the Lord, Melshizedek, etc)

<sup>24</sup> But the angel of the LORD stood in a path of the vineyards, a wall being on this side, and a wall on that side. (God has him cornered. HE intends to kill Balaam)

<sup>25</sup> And when the ass saw the angel of the LORD, she thrust herself unto the wall, and crushed Balaam's foot against the wall: and he smote her again.

<sup>26</sup> And the angel of the LORD went further, and stood in a narrow place, where was no way to turn either to the right hand or to the left.

<sup>27</sup> And when the ass saw the angel of the LORD, she fell down under Balaam: and Balaam's anger was kindled, and he smote the ass with a staff. (The ass is smarter than a purported "seer" of God. Balaam was no seer. He was a money man, just like so many preachers today)

<sup>28</sup> And the LORD opened the mouth of the ass, and she said unto Balaam, What have I done unto thee, that thou hast smitten me these three times? (God is mocking Balaam. HE sees Balaam as a fool)

<sup>29</sup> And Balaam said unto the ass, Because thou hast mocked me: I would there were a sword in mine hand, for now would I kill thee. (Balaam is too stupid to realize that donkeys don't speak)

<sup>30</sup> And the ass said unto Balaam, Am not I thine ass, upon which thou hast ridden ever since I was thine unto this day? was I ever wont to do so unto thee? and he said, Nay. (God is using the ass to set Balaam straight)

<sup>31</sup> Then the LORD opened the eyes of Balaam, and he saw the angel of the LORD standing in the way, and his sword drawn in his hand: and he bowed down his head, and fell flat on his face.

<sup>32</sup> And the angel of the LORD said unto him, Wherefore hast thou smitten thine ass these three times? behold, I went out to withstand thee, because thy way is perverse before me: (Balaam is an idiot to even try to fool God) 2Peter-2:15

<sup>33</sup> And the ass saw me, and turned from me these three times: unless she had turned from me, surely now also I had slain thee, and saved her alive. (God didn't want to kill the ass; that's why Balaam is still breathing)

<sup>34</sup> And Balaam said unto the angel of the LORD, I have sinned; for I knew not that thou stoodest in the way against me: now therefore, if it displease thee, I will get me back again. (I didn't know that taking bribes to cast spells in your name would displease you. This is so typical, when a con man gets caught in the act)

<sup>35</sup> And the angel of the LORD said unto Balaam, Go with the men: but only the word that I shall speak unto thee, that thou shalt speak. So Balaam went with the princes of Balak.

<sup>36</sup> And when Balak heard that Balaam was come, he went out to meet him unto a city of Moab, which is in the border of Arnon, which is in the utmost coast. (On the border)

<sup>37</sup> And Balak said unto Balaam, Did I not earnestly send unto thee to call thee? wherefore camest thou not unto me? am I not able indeed

to promote thee to honour? (I'm the king. Don't you know that I can pay you? Balaam's reputation preceded him)

<sup>38</sup> And Balaam said unto Balak, Lo, I am come unto thee: have I now any power at all to say any thing? the word that God putteth in my mouth, that shall I speak. (Balaam is not willing to die for these guys. He's putting it all back on God)

<sup>39</sup> And Balaam went with Balak, and they came unto Kirjathhuzoth. (Kirjathhuzoth= city of streets; the location is unknown)

<sup>40</sup> And Balak offered oxen and sheep, and sent to Balaam, and to the princes that were with him.

<sup>41</sup> And it came to pass on the morrow, that Balak took Balaam, and brought him up into the high places of Baal, that thence he might see the utmost part of the people. (As if Baal could stand against God. These people are pathetic)