



MATTHEW 6

The Lilies of The Valley

Balak - Balaam

Often in life, people fall into a bad situation and later found that in it YHVH came through for them in the midst of what seemed a darkened place. In this we find the gift of discernment.

People of faith sometimes speak of YHVH opening the impossible doors. This is an idiom that refers to YHVH's divine direction in life. What seems impossible for us is certainly possible for Him. Turning a curse into a blessing.

Though we have not yet heard the shofar blast that will herald the coming of our King Messiah, His trumpets are already resounding in our midst. We all await that wonderful day of Salvation that we see the King of Kings rule over all the enemies.

As the Israelites made their way up the Transjordan region en route to their entrance into Canaan, they defeated the Amorite kings, Sihon and Og (Numbers. 21:21–35).

The Israelites moved further north and camped in the plains of Moab on the eastern side of Jordan across from Jericho.

Accordingly, the pagan ruler sent for a prophet at Pethor by the Euphrates River. His name was Balaam, a man who would live for millennia in prophetic infamy (2 Peter. 2:15; Jude 11; Revelations. 2:14).

Balaam was a master curser with the power of life and death in his mouth. He hated the Israelites; in his estimation, they presented a mortal threat to him.

It was Balak's intention that the covetous Balaam could be bribed to pronounce a devastating curse upon the Israelite. But YHVH nullified that plan. Instead, Balaam was forced to bless the Israelites. Numbers. 22–23

Balak the King of Moab was so threatened by the Amazing victories Israel had over their mighty enemies of Sihon and Og that he felt the desire to have Israel cursed.

And Balak [בַּלָּק] the son of Zippor saw all that Israel had done to the Amorites." (Numbers 22:2)

Balak decided that it would be too risky to fight Israel directly, so they hired a "spiritual mercenary," Balaam.

Balaam, who was a heathen sorcerer and believed in the ancient superstition of magic, was commissioned to put a "curse" on Israel. Instead Balaam found that he could only issue a blessing instead, saying:

"How shall I curse whom YHVH has not cursed?" (*Numbers 23:8*)

On the way, Balaam is berated by his donkey, who sees, before Balaam does, the angel that YHVH sends to block their way. Three times, from three different vantage points, Balaam attempts to pronounce his curses; each time, blessings issue forth instead.

What is the meaning of our faith in a Messiah, and why is the Messianic vision given to a gentile prophet, Balaam?

It contains a series of prophecies uttered by Balaam as “the Spirit of YHVH came upon him” (Numbers. 24:2). He tells of a people (Israel) who will achieve victory and prosperity because of their relationship with the Almighty. He then looks to the distant future and amazingly declares.

Balaam also prophesies on the end of the days and the coming of Messiah.

Numbers. 24:17

I see him, but not now; I behold him, but not near. There shall come a star out of Jacob, and a scepter shall rise out of Israel. And it shall crush the forehead of Moab and break down all the sons of tumult.

In Genesis 49, in foretelling the destiny of his sons just before his death, Jacob announced: Genesis. 49:10

“The scepter shall not depart from Judah, nor the ruler’s staff from between his feet, until Shiloh come; and unto him shall the obedience of the peoples be”

Psalm 1:8. "Your throne, O YHVH, is forever and ever; and the scepter of uprightness is the scepter of your kingdom"

Scripture strictly forbids people of YHVH to practice sorcery; neither to seek guidance from astrologers, sorcerers, psychics, or even consult with the dead.

Having failed to curse them, he eventually schemes a plan that worked. He suggested that Moabite women seduce Israelite men and then invite them to take part in their idolatrous worship.

In an effort to ensnare the Israelites, the Midianites and Moabites had sent their daughters to use sexual seduction to entice the men of Israel into worshipping Baal of Peor. The plan worked.

Many Israelite men were led away by the seductive allure of the Moabite and Midianite women. They committed fornication with them and worshipped idols. Their wickedness incited the wrath of YHVH, who struck Israel with a devastating plague.

In the subsequent plague that struck the people, 24,000 people died.

Pinchas (Phinehas), the son of Eleazar the priest, put a stop to the plague when he killed the degenerate Israelite Zimri and the Midianitess Cozbi with a single spear thrust.

I believe with complete faith in the coming of our Messiah; and even though he may tarry, nevertheless we anxiously await him every day.

Despite the history of exiles and persecutions, believing in our Redeemer and Messiah remains one of our deepest sources.

Our mission is to illuminate the world with compassionate righteousness, morality and peace that prevented us from being crushed by despair. Giving hope to those who are lost and help the blind to see the truth being revealed in the Salvation plan of YHVH our Almighty.

YHVH's election of Abraham; Jacob's final blessings to his sons; and perhaps most specifically in the words of the gentile prophet Balaam.

YHVH initially promises Abraham that He "will make you a great nation... He will bless those who bless you and those who curse you shall be cursed, and all the families of the Earth shall be blessed through you" Genesis 12:1-3

The descendants of Abraham will pass on His ethical, compassionate righteousness and moral justice. Judah, the anointed leader (the Hebrew word Messiah refers to a king anointed with sacred oil) of his brothers, will wield the "scepter" of rulership into the period of Shiloh (Messiahship), when all the nations will surround him (Genesis. 49:8-11).

Balaam then declares to Balak what Israel will do to Moab “at the end of the days... a star shall shoot forth from Jacob and the Judean scepter from Israel, who shall crush the nobles of Moab. Israel will emerge victorious.... Amalek’s end shall be eternal destruction” (Numbers. 24:17-20).

Balaam’s prophecy is that it is preceded by his assessment of the Israelite encampment: “How excellent are your tents, O Jacob, your dwelling places, O Israel” (Numbers 24:5, 6).

He clearly sees their cleanliness, modesty and sanctity. As long as they are worthy, they must be blessed by YHVH; this is Balaam’s unmistakable message to Balak, as well as to subsequent world history.

Edom will become a possession, Seir a possession of its enemies, while Israel does valiantly Numbers. 24:17-20

The essence of our faith in the Messiah is our “anxious anticipation of his coming,” preparing by making ourselves more worthy.

Be blessed and stay blessed 🌷