

Marshall County

DEVOTIONAL PAGE

“And God said unto Balaam, Thou shalt not go with them; thou shalt not curse the people: for they are blessed.”
– Numbers 22:12

There was a king in Moab named Balak. He saw the great army of Israel and knew that his army could not defeat them. So king Balak had the idea to hire this prophet named Balaam to curse Israel so that perhaps his army could defeat Israel and drive them away.

King Balak sent word to Balaam the prophet to come to him and curse Israel and he would reward him with money. However God told Balaam not to go, and that he could not curse Israel because He has blessed them. However, king Balak again sent more

noble messengers. Then the prophet wavered by asking God again. Even though God’s word was clear the first time, God gave the greedy prophet what he wanted. (Let me say, it’s never good for God to give us what we want that’s against His will.) So God told Balaam to go, but He also reminded him that he would not be able to curse Israel. So the dumb prophet went anyway - riding on his donkey. In fact, Balaam was so eager to get to king Balak for the money it angered God. So, He sent the Angel of the LORD to withstand him in the way, but Balaam was so blind with greed that he did not see the Angel, but the donkey did. Three times the Angel stood in the way and the donkey moved out of fear. However Balaam

Dumb and dumber!

he saw the Angel of the LORD standing with His sword drawn, and he bowed his head face down. The Angel of the LORD rebuked him for striking his donkey, and reminded him that he could not curse Israel.

Understand God is Sovereign! He is the Almighty and can use anyone to be his spokesman, and so God opened the mouth of this dumb donkey to speak to this dumb prophet. We could call it Dumb and Dumber – Right? However, we see that the dumb prophet was the dumbest of all because He did not listen to the word of God at the beginning.

David C. Hale, pastor

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