



# Prophet For Sale or Rent

Numbers 22:7-21

# Balaam's Request



- God's appearance came to Balaam in the form of a dream.
- God knew these men were seeking to persuade Balaam to curse the very people He had blessed.
- To invite someone to be a guest in your home was to grant them the highest level of intimacy and fellowship.
- Balaam withheld information from God and the delegation.
- God's will was not only crystal clear; it was emphatically stated.
- To be refused permission to go is quite different from being forbidden to go.

# Permission Granted—Sort Of

The background of the slide is a painting. It depicts a scene with several figures. In the center, a man with long, light-colored hair is looking down, possibly in a state of distress or contemplation. He is surrounded by other figures, some of whom appear to be in a state of conflict or struggle. The overall tone of the painting is somber and dramatic, with a focus on the central figure's expression and the surrounding action.

- Balak was determined to have Israel cursed.
- Balak sent a larger, more noble delegation with a hint of increased payment.
- Balaam's response to Balak's enhanced offer seemed commendable but he was banking on God changing His mind.
- Balaam had an inadequate grasp of who God was.
- When God said Balaam could go, it appears that God had change His mind.

# God's Permissive Will

A painting depicting Balaam riding a donkey. Balaam is shown from the side, wearing a brown tunic and a turban, holding a long staff. The donkey is also brown and appears to be in motion. In the background, a white bull is visible, and the overall scene is set in a dark, textured environment.

- Balaam was forbidden to curse the people God had blessed.
- It was not that Balaam did not know the will of God; he just did not want to do it.
- God does not approve of everything He allows.
- When God allows men to do what He has forbidden, it is because it will fulfill His purposes.
- Divine punishment for sin is often delayed in order for us to see its consequences and repent.

# Conclusion

A painting depicting Balaam riding a donkey. Balaam is in the foreground, wearing a brown robe and a turban, holding a staff. The donkey is in the middle ground, looking towards the right. In the background, another figure is visible, possibly Balak, in a similar attire. The scene is set in a desert landscape with a dark, moody atmosphere.

- Apart from God's grace, Balaam would have died on the way to meet Balak.
- Many believe that God will not condemn them eternally for their sins.
- Balaam is a reminder that there is a "payday," someday.
- Anyone who curses those whom God has blessed will be cursed.
- The Pentateuch is foundational to our understanding of God's dealings with Israel and with the Gentiles.
- The Pentateuch is also foundational to our understanding of the gospel.