



Balak's Persistence

Numbers 22:36-24:25

Balak's Persistence



- Balak was both “persistent” and “consistent.”
- Balak learned absolutely nothing from his encounter with the God of Israel.
- Balak looked upon God as being weak-willed.
- Balak was willing to unite himself with other prophets and other gods, as long as he got his way.
- Balak did not grasp how offensive his “worship” was to the God of Israel.

Balaam's Progress



- Balak and Balaam were both pagans, but each responded differently to divine revelation.
- Balaam made a great deal of progress in his understanding of God.
 - Balaam learned that those whom Balak merely called “a people” were “God’s people.”
 - Balaam admitted his sin in going with Balak’s emissaries and offered to go back.
 - Balaam learned that those whom Balak wanted him to curse were those whom God had blessed.

Balaam Speaks for God

A painting depicting Balaam on a donkey, holding a staff, with a landscape background. The scene is set in a rugged, mountainous area with a river or stream in the foreground. The colors are muted and earthy, with a focus on the figures and the landscape.

- Balaam's words to Balak indicated some movement in the right direction.
- Balaam began to identify himself with God and with the nation Israel.
- Balaam came to grasp that the God of Israel was God alone.
- When Balaam learned how God's will was supposed to be sought, he ceased to employ his pagan methods.
- In the end, Balaam spoke the words of God to Balak.

Conclusion



- Throughout Israel's history, the kings of the neighboring nations have sought to bring about Israel's downfall.
- As they trusted in God, He protected them and gave them prosperity.
- The blessings of God are ultimately realized through one person—the Messiah.
- Israel's future, as well as ours today, rests in our response to Jesus Christ.