

CCF 4 Feb 2018



Num 21:21-26,
33-35
King Sihon
(Amorites)
defeated at Jahaz.
Israel occupies
land between
Arnon & Jabbok.
King Og (Bashan)
defeated at Edrei.
King Balak (Moab)
next?

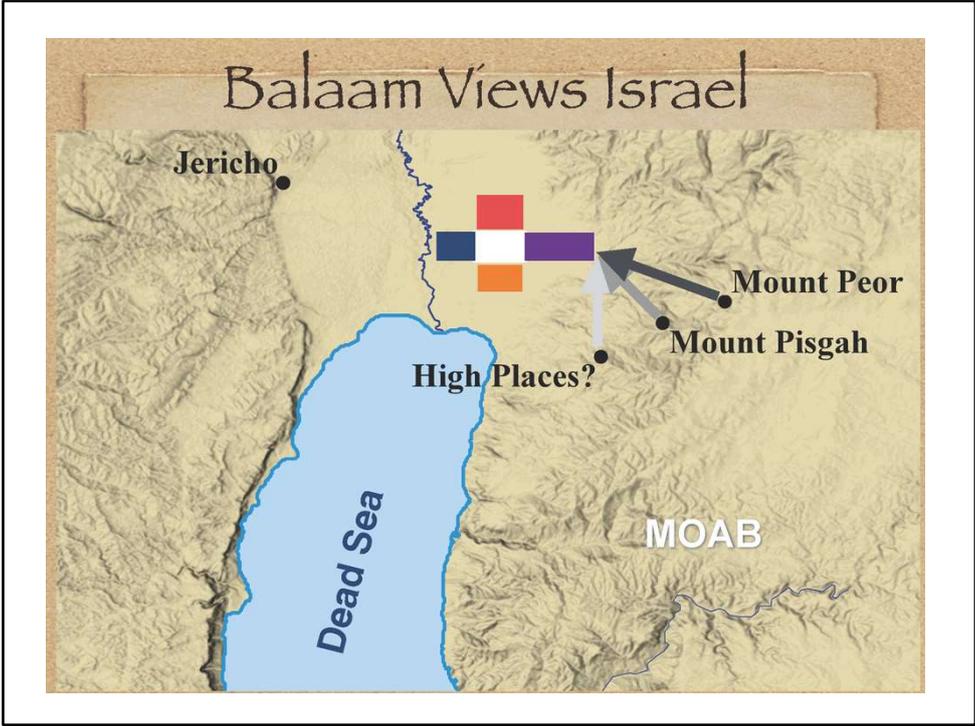
Num 22: 1-22, 35

Balak did not want to fight with Israel so he sent for Balaam to curse them.

Balak recognised Israel's spiritual strength and was very frightened.

Balaam was one of 7 gentile prophets and was reckoned to be of a similar standing to Moses.

Other gentile prophets Beor (Balaam's father), Job and Job's friends.



Num 22:36 – 24:10

Why couldn't Balaam curse Israel?

They were not good! (Ex 32:9-10)

They didn't deserve to be protected (Nu 14:22,23)

BUT

They are under the protection of God's covenant (Ex 32:13)

Num 24:25 – 25:3

Balaam loved the reward of wickedness (2 Pe 2:15)

Balaam taught Balak how to entice the Israelites (Rev 2:14)

Israel could not be cursed, but could be tempted to break their covenant with God. The only way that they could be overcome was if they stopped the blessings by rejecting their own covenant.

It started very small with the young Moabite women hanging around the Israelite camp (Josephus)...

Even though Balaam had not been able to curse Israel, his advice caused God to be angry with them (Num 25:3)

24000 Israelites died as a result of the plague that came on them after this.

Revelation 2:14 New King James Version (NKJV)

14 But I have a few things against you, because you have there those who hold the doctrine of Balaam, who taught Balak to put a stumbling block before the children of Israel, to eat things sacrificed to idols, and to commit sexual immorality.

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord
Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every
spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in
Christ (Eph 1:3 – NKJV)

God is our refuge and strength,
A very present help in trouble.
Therefore we will not fear,
Even though the earth be removed,
And though the mountains be carried into
the midst of the sea (Ps 46:1,2 NKJV)

We are already blessed.

The enemy knows that we are blessed and knows that we have the authority of Jesus, so the enemy has no authority over us and cannot defeat us.

But

The enemy wants us to deny God's blessings and to become fearful so that we make ourselves vulnerable to him, like the Israelites did at BaalPeor.

He intends to steal, kill and destroy.

Time for us to be aware of this, to repent of these wrong attitudes and resist him – he will flee from us.

“In returning and rest you shall be saved;
In quietness and confidence shall be your
strength.” Isa 30:15 (NKJV)

Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to
you; not as the world gives do I give to you.
Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it
be afraid. John 14:27 (NKJV)

And the Lord, He is the One who goes
before you. He will be with you, He will not
leave you nor forsake you; do not fear nor
be dismayed. Dt 31:8 (NKJV)

Trust in the Lord with all your heart,
And lean not on your own understanding;
In all your ways acknowledge Him,
And He shall direct your paths.
Do not be wise in your own eyes;
Fear the Lord and depart from evil. Pr 3:5-7 (NKJV)

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace,
longsuffering, kindness, goodness,
faithfulness, gentleness, self-control.
Against such there is no law. Gal 5:22-23 (NKJV)

My children you are limiting Me by your own perceptions.

I AM able to do much more than you can ask or think.

There is no situation that you face that I have not already overcome.

Yet you continue to try to resolve these situations yourselves with your own understanding.

Bring each area of your life to Me.
Know that I AM more than able to bring
you through in victory.
Put aside your own understanding and your
own solutions to these issues.
I know all of the detail and I have prepared
a way for you.
This way may not be how you would solve
the issue, but it will lead to My blessings for
you and for others.
Trust Me, I AM totally trustworthy and I will
not let you down.