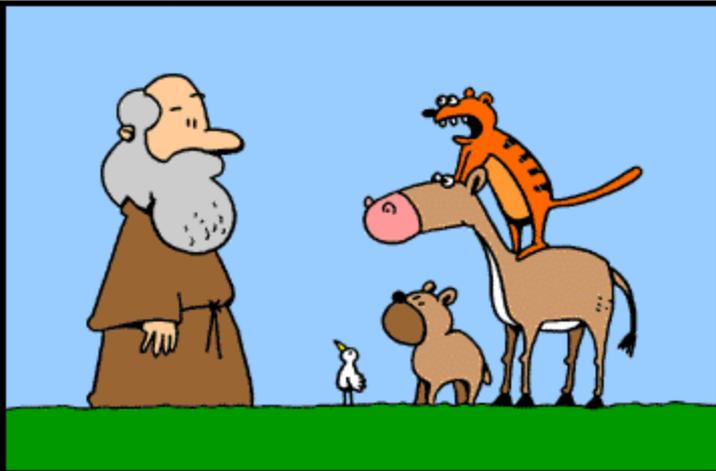


Who was Balaam?

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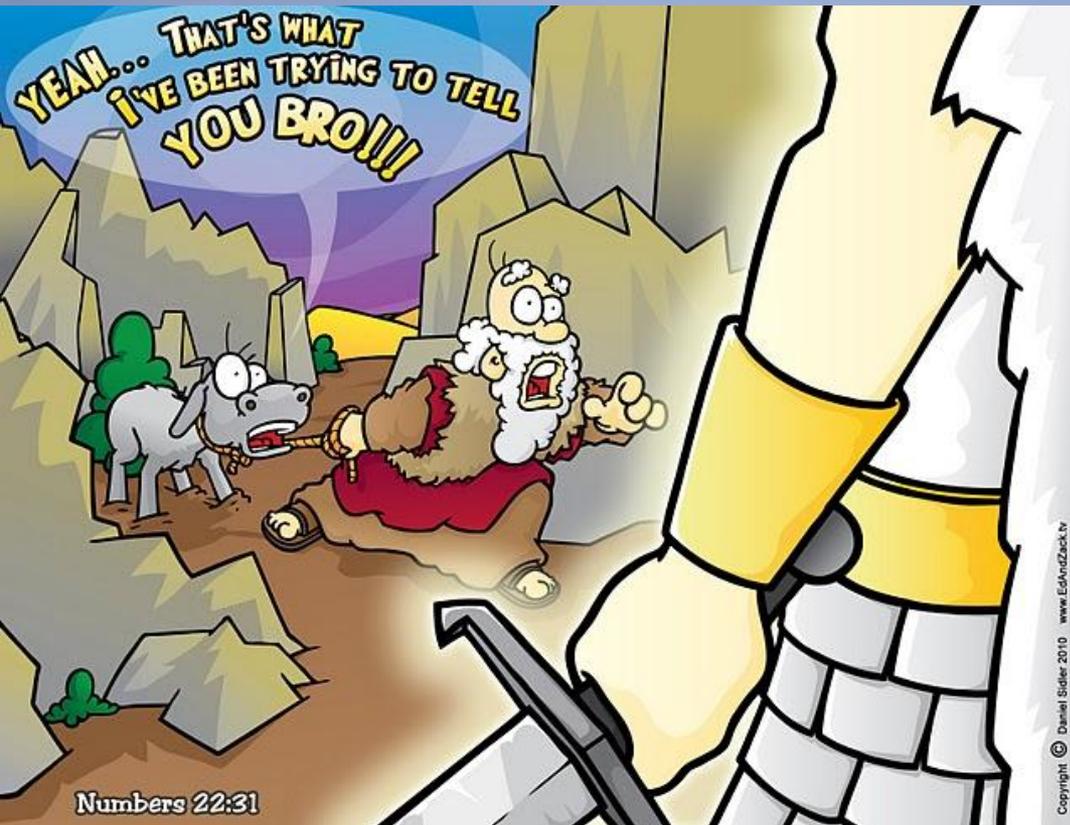
(See Numbers 22:22-34) 07-13-1998

YO BALAAM, US ANIMALS WERE JUST WONDERING WHY YOU DON'T GET FREAKED OUT WHEN ANIMALS TALK TO YOU

**Out of the eater came something to eat
(Judges 14:14)**

- As the people were getting close to entering the promised land, the devil devised a new war not through leaders and kings, but through Balaam the prophet. He asked that a curse befall them just like Balak, king of Moab, requested.
- Balaam did not belong to the children of Israel, neither was he a member of the people of Balak.
- Some historians believe that he was a true prophet for a temporary period of time because of his good natured relationship with God
 - Then God came to Balaam and said, “Who are these men with you? (22:9).”
 - He uttered some very deep prophecies. “I see Him, but not now; I behold Him, but not near; A Star shall come out of Jacob; A Scepter shall rise out of Israel, And batter the brow of Moab, And destroy all the sons of tumult (Seth).” (24:17).
- The early Church believed that he was a sorcerer and fortune-teller. God used him to accomplish His objective. He accepted the rewards of divination, and asked for altars for Baal to be built (22:41; 23:1).

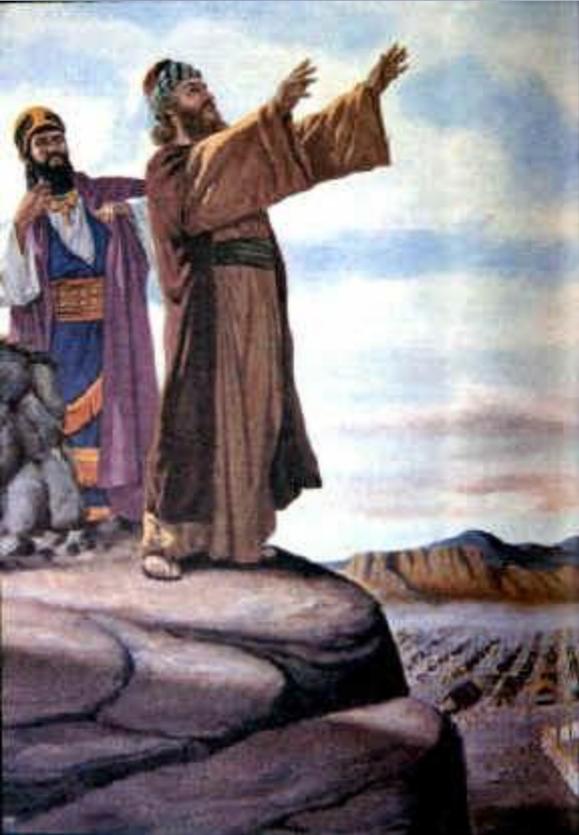
Who was Balaam?



Then the Lord opened Balaam's eyes, and he saw the Angel of the Lord standing in the way with His drawn sword in His hand; and he bowed his head and fell flat on his face. 32 And the Angel of the Lord said to him, Why have you struck your donkey these three times? Behold, I have come out to stand against you, because your way is perverse before Me. (Num 22:32)

The ox knows its owner and the donkey its master's crib; But Israel does not know, My people do not consider. (Isaiah 1:3)

Curse & Blessing



Therefore please come at once, curse this people for me, for they are too mighty for me. Perhaps I shall be able to defeat them and drive them out of the land, for **I know that he whom you bless is blessed, and he whom you curse is cursed.** (Num 22:6) – *Balak telling his messengers what to say to Balaam.*

Now the Lord had said to Abram: Get out of your country, From your family And from your father's house, To a land that I will show you. 2 I will make you a great nation; I will bless you And make your name great; And you shall be a blessing. 3 **I will bless those who bless you, And I will curse him who curses you; And in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.** (Gen 12:1-3) – *God to Abraham*

Love of Money

Then Balaam answered and said to the servants of Balak, Though Balak were to give me his house **full of silver and gold**, I could not go beyond the word of the Lord **my** God, to do less or more. (Num 22:18)

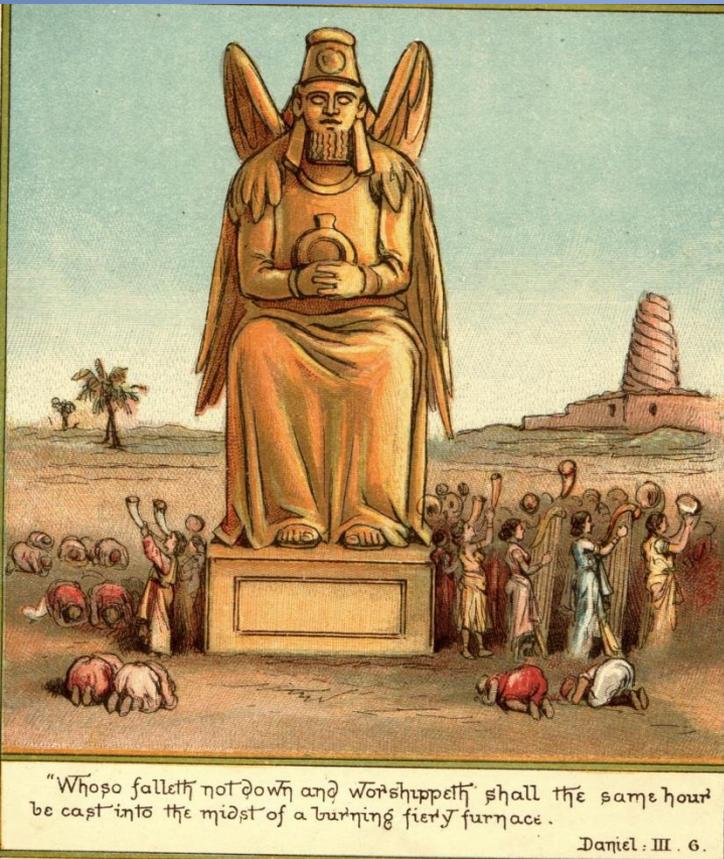
They have forsaken the right way and gone astray, following the way of Balaam the son of Beor, who **loved the wages of unrighteousness**; but he was rebuked for his iniquity: a dumb donkey speaking with a man's voice restrained the madness of the prophet. (2 Pet 2:15-16)

Woe to them! For they have gone in the way of Cain, **have run greedily in the error of Balaam for profit**, and perished in the rebellion of Korah. (Jude 11)

Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven. 22 Many will say to Me in that day, 'Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?' 23 And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!' (Matt 7:21-23)



Ch 25: Idolatry & Harlotry



Now Israel remained in Acacia Grove, and the people began to commit harlotry with the women of Moab. They invited the people to the sacrifices of their gods, and the people ate and bowed down to their gods. So Israel was joined to Baal of Peor, and the anger of the Lord was aroused against Israel. (Num 25:1-3)

Look, these women caused the children of Israel, through the counsel of Balaam, to trespass against the Lord in the incident of Peor, and there was a plague among the congregation of the Lord. (Num 31:16)

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. (Rev 2:14)