Midrash Balak ("Balak")
Numbers 22:2 – 25:9

Last Week: Israel Defeated Amorites (descendants of Ham / Canaan) Gen 10:6 & 16

Introduction of Balak

Balak ("Devastator") is King of Moab

Balak's father is Zippor .. where have we heard that name before?

Moab & Midian are allies

Moab was "in dread" of Israel ..... so were the Egyptians Exodus 1:12

Balak Sends for Balaam Numbers 22:5-20

Balaam בָּלָאָם ("Not of the People") is from Pethor

Shortened form of בָּלָאָם ba'al ha'ahm "lord of the people"

On the Euphrates River .. in Mesopotamia

Same general area as Abram

Balaam is an "Enchanter"

Tradition says he was a descendant of Laban

He knows God as יהוה ... but also knows all the other gods

Balak wants Balaam to curse Israel so he can defeat them in battle

God initially forbids Balaam to go to Balak,

but later allows him to "arise" מֵעִיד (koom) and go with (accompany) them ....

and later is angry because he goes לָכַח (halach) with them (intending to curse)

Balaam can speak only that which God permits

God Appears to other Gentiles:

Abimelech King of Gerar (Abram & Sarai) Genesis 20:6-7

Pharaoh in dreams Genesis 41:25

Nebuchadnezzar in dreams & visions Dan 2 & 4:1-18

Witch at Endor (King Saul) I Samuel 28:7-20

The Magi Matthew 2:15

Balaam’s Donkey Numbers 22:21-35

Balaam is not disturbed when the donkey talks .....?

As a pagan, accustomed to demonic possession of animals:

Satan in the serpent Genesis 3

Swine of Gadera Matthew 8:28-34

Balaam is spiritually blind .. but the donkey is not!

If he can’t see the angel, how can he hear from God?

He is actually a sorcerer, not a prophet!

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Balaam

Balak pushed Balaam 3X to curse Israel until stopped by God.

Caught between God’s & Balak’s commands.

God opened Balaam’s mouth

Similarity between Balaam striking his donkey & Moses striking the rock!

Donkey

Balaam pushed donkey 3X until stopped by God.

Caught between Angel’s sword and Balaam’s stick.

God opened Balaam’s mouth

Balak Greets Balaam Numbers 22:36-41
**Balaam’s “Curses”**

_Balaam_ offers Burnt & Sin Offerings… but did he offer them in the proper location?

**Oracle #1:** _Israel will be Innumerable_

_“Who can count the dust of Jacob…”_

_“…they shall be as ‘the sands of the shore…”’_

_Doctrine: Genesis 13:16_

_Doctrine: Numbers 23:7-10_

_Doctrine: Genesis 22:17_

**Oracle #2:** _God Dwells among His People_

_Israel will rise up as a Lion & devour its prey_

_Jacob’s prophecy for Judah_

_Doctrine: Numbers 23:18-24_

_Doctrine: Genesis 49:8-12_

**Oracle #3:** _Israel will Inherit The Land_

_This time it’s different; his eyes are open_

_“How goodly are thy tents, O Jacob…”_

_Greater than Agag, King of Amelekites; They shall prevail over all nations_


**Oracle #4:** _Israel’s King would Possess Moab & Edom_

_Still different this time:_

_Heard God’s Words (El) Had Knowledge of the Most High (El Elyon) Saw the Vision of the Almighty (El Shaddai)_

_Doctrine: Numbers 24:15-19_

**A Messianic Prophecy: The Star Out of Jacob**

_“I see Him ..”_ _Yeshua appears at His 1st Coming_
_“.. but not now..”_ _Yeshua disappears at His Ascension_
_“I behold Him ...”_ _Yeshua re-appears at His 2nd Coming_
_“..but not near…”_ _Another 3,500 years from 1,500 BC_
_“A Star out of Jacob..”_ _A light to the Nations at His 1st Coming_
_“A Scepter shall rise out of Israel…”_ _To rule all Tribes & Nations at His 2nd Coming_

_The Bright and Morning Star…”_ _Revelation 22:16_

_Ultimate victory (at His 2nd Coming) over:_

_Edom_ Jordan
_Amalek_ “Palestinians”
_Kenites_ (Midian) N. Saudi Arabia
_Asshur & Eber_ (Assyria) Syria, N. Iraq & N. Iran

_Doctrine: Numbers 24:17_

_Doctrine: Psalm 83_

_Doctrine: Oracle #5_

_Doctrine: Oracle #6_

_Doctrine: Oracle #7_

**The Sin of Ba’al Peor**

_Israel “mingled” with the pagan Moabites (Doctrine of Balaam) …bringing a plague that killed 24,000!_

_Phineas’ Zealousness stopped the plague — to be continued next week!_

**The Doctrine of Balaam**

_Balaam_ couldn’t curse Israel, but he did give _Balak_ some advice.

_Doctrine: Numbers 31:16_ 
_Doctrine: Revelation 2:14_ 
_Doctrine: II Peter 2:15_ 
_Doctrine: Jude 11 & Num 22:12_ 
_Doctrine: Revelation 2:14_

**Balaam’s Fate**

_God has spoken through Gentiles in the past_

_……. and He will again thru Antichrist_

_Doctrine: Joshua 13:22_
_Doctrine: Daniel 7:8 & 25: 11:36_
_Doctrine: Revelation 13:5 & 13_

**Haftarah:** Micah 5:6-6:8 _The Coming Messiah & Israel’s Ultimate Victory_

**Brit Chadashah:** Revelation 2:13-17 _Yeshua Warns of the Teaching of Balaam_