

## The Doctrine of Balaam Today: A Warning to the Bride

Balaam's motive was greed, but what he actually did was what almost got him killed!

Today, what Balaam did serves as a warning to all of YHWH's people. In this writing, we will summarise what Scripture reveals about what Balaam did. We will then see that what Balaam did is a warning for all Believers today.

The Reader is urged, however, to read the Scriptures for himself, and *cease* hearing the teaching that leads us astray (Prov 19:27). Thus as a preface the Reader is encouraged to study the Scriptures, to see exactly what Balaam did; and to notice why YHWH became angry with him, and stood in the Way, with sword drawn, intending to kill Balaam. (See Numbers chapters 22-25; Num 31:16; 2 Pet 2:15; Jude 1:11; Rev 2:14-16).

Before we summarise what Balaam did, let's first look at the warning.

### The Doctrine of Balaam: The Warning

In the Book of Revelation, Yahushua is giving this warning for His people today:

**But I have a few things against thee, because thou hast there them that hold the doctrine of Balaam, who taught Balac to cast a stumbling block before the children of Israel, to eat things sacrificed unto idols, and to commit fornication... 16 Repent; or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will fight against them with the sword of my mouth. (Revelation 2:14,16)**

Here we see Yahushua gives us the following warnings:

1. Yahushua is giving us a revelation, a 'revealing' for His people today, that we are holding on strongly to the *Doctrine of Balaam*. Although we have not realised this, Yahushua is revealing this Truth to us, as part of our necessary cleansing and preparation as a Bride. We must first be aware of any problem, before we can remedy it.
2. Yahushua is then telling us the results of our having held to the Doctrine of Balaam. He tells us that this doctrine has resulted in idolatry and fornication among His people! Some examples of this will be seen later.
3. Yahushua is also giving us the only remedy of having held to the doctrine of Balaam: to *repent*, and *change direction*. We have all been walking in our own ways. Those who desire to be among 'My People' must choose, however, to walk in YHWH's way.
4. For those of us who claim to be among His people, and do not repent, He will fight against us (the unrepentant among us) with the 'Sword' of His mouth.

For those who desire to press in, to know Him, and to please Him, this is a very serious matter. We would want to find out exactly what the Doctrine of Balaam is, so we can repent from it!

Therefore this writing is for those who have a repentant heart, and who desire to prepare themselves for going into the presence of the Bridegroom-King. Let's now look at the great danger the Doctrine of Balaam poses, to individuals and to congregations, and then see what it is.

### The Doctrine of Balaam: The Great Danger

Again, the Reader is encouraged to read the Scriptures for himself, in order to see exactly what Balaam did, and to notice why YHWH became angry with him. (See Numbers chapters 22-25; Num 31:16; 2 Pet 2:15; Jude 1:11; Rev 2:14-16).

We are told of the Error of Balaam in Jude 1:11, and the Way of Balaam in 2Pet 2:15. We see the Counsel of Balaam in Num 31:16. Then in Rev 2:14-16 we see the Doctrine of Balaam. Let's first notice the progression.

When someone commits the *Error of Balaam* (what Balaam actually did), he is in danger of walking in the *Way of Balaam* (repeatedly committing the Error of Balaam), unless he repents.

Continuing to walk in the Way of Balaam, without repentance, results in speaking the *Counsel of Balaam* (the words of Balaam), also called the *Doctrine of Balaam* (the teaching of Balaam). The Counsel or *Doctrine of Balaam* then results in a plague coming upon the entire congregation (Num 31:16). Beloved, this example of Scripture is for us today, to see that this is happening to congregations today that embrace this Doctrine!

We may summarise that the *Doctrine of Balaam* originates as **1)** a certain practice, or error, which **2)** later becomes a teaching or Doctrine embraced by Leadership, and **3)** results in the Error of Balaam being committed in the lives of their followers (the people), for which the people will be judged (2Pet 2:1-15; Jude 1:4, 11).

But what is the Doctrine of Balaam? And what is the Error of Balaam? What did Balaam do — that almost got him killed?

Let's summarise what we see in the Scriptures.

### **The Doctrine of Balaam: What it Is**

First, notice YHWH told Balaam, "You shall not go with them..." (Num 22:12). At first Balaam agreed to that word, but later, with the possibility of riches and fame, Balaam decided to ask YHWH again.

So later YHWH told Balaam, "If the men come to call you, rise up and go with them" (Num 22:20).

Then in the morning, Balaam went with the men (Num 22:21) — and next we see the angel of YHWH standing in the way, sword in hand, intending to kill Balaam (Num 22:22; 31-33).

YHWH told Balaam that the reason He intended to kill Balaam was because his *Way* was perverse (Num 22:32).

In order to see clearly what Balaam's error was, and what his perverse way was, let's recap what we have seen.

**First**, we see that Balaam disregarded, and did not obey YHWH's *earlier* command to him ("Do not go with them").

**Next**, we see that Balaam regarded, and obeyed YHWH's *later* command to him ("rise up and go with them").

**Then**, we see YHWH as an adversary with a sword, who told Balaam his *way* was perverse.

From this we see immediately that Balaam did not keep *every* word of YHWH, by which we must all live (Matt 4:4; Luke 4:4; Deut 8:3). Instead, Balaam rejected YHWH's *earlier* word, in favour of His *later* word.

Notice that Balaam may have assumed YHWH's *later* word had nullified YHWH's *earlier* word.

Next, we see that Balaam had even disobeyed the *later* word, when he left the next morning without meeting the terms of YHWH's condition ("if the men come to call you") (Num 22:20,21). This imperfect obedience to the *later* command, however, is a consequence of disobedience to the *earlier*. We might say that Balaam held to a *twisted* version of YHWH's *later* command.

Thus we see that because Balaam rejected YHWH's *earlier* word, Balaam failed to live by *every* Word of YHWH. This is the way YHWH calls perverse, and it was for this reason that YHWH sought to kill Balaam with a sword!

To summarise, we might say that what Balaam did was to simply reject the *Earlier* Word of YHWH, with the hope that the *Later* Word of YHWH would be more favourable to his purposes, and more agreeable to his motive.

His motive was greed, but his action was to reject, and deny the *earlier* Word, in thinking the *earlier* word had been somehow 'nullified.'

How is the Doctrine of Balaam seen today? Let's look.

### **The Doctrine of Balaam Today: Examples**

The *Doctrine of Balaam* today is simply the teaching that YHWH's earlier word has been *nullified*, in favour of YHWH's *later* word.

The *Error of Balaam* is seen today in most Believers' rejection of the Torah (Law) of the "Old Testament," in exchange for the teachings of the *Doctrines of Men!* It is the Doctrine of men, and not Scripture, that states the "Old Testament" (the Law or Torah) has been *nullified* by the "New Testament."

Many today are being taught that the "Old Testament" commandments of YHWH have been somehow *nullified* or have been done away with, a notion that is contrary to all of Scripture!

This old-wives-tale is contrary to 'all of Scripture:' it is contrary to the Words of the Prophets, contrary to the Words of the Apostle Paul, and contrary to the Words of Yahushua Himself.

For example, the Scriptures tell us that the Greek word '*dogma*,' Strong's numbers <1378> and <1379>, the "Decrees of Men," were against us, and contrary to us, and so they have been blotted out, and taken out of the way, nailed to the cross, and abolished by the crucifixion of Yahushua's body on the tree. Yahushua's crucifixion thereby removed out of the way, the very thing that brings division, and separates men — the Commandments of Men.

The Reader is urged to study these six verses that use these two Strong's numbers. We must be as the Bereans, and see for ourselves whether these things are so (see Luke 2:1; Acts 16:4; Acts 17:7; Eph 2:15; Col 2:14; Col 2:20).

It is the man-made commandments of men that appear in the Talmudic writings, and not the Torah of Scripture, that say “touch not, taste not, handle not.” (Luke 2:1; Acts 16:4; 17:7; Eph 2:15; Col 2:14; Col 2:20-22).

However, most cemetery-trained Leaders today, in their ignorance of the Talmud, claim that it was the Biblical Law or *Torah* (the *earlier* word of YHWH) that has been nullified, abolished, taken out of the way, etc., thus contradicting the plain and clear words of the Apostle Paul! Since when is the Word of YHWH equivalent to the *dogma* or Decrees of Men?

The Doctrine of Balaam nullifies and removes the Truths of YHWH's *earlier* word, and results in disobedience to YHWH's *later* word.

Therefore multitudes of Believers today, embracing this deceptive Doctrine, are walking in disobedience to YHWH's *earlier* Word. Rejection or denial of *one* word of YHWH — by YHWH's own people — is the equivalent of wholesale rejection and denial of *all* the Word of YHWH, which is precisely what the Error of Balaam is! (see Jer 11:10; Jer 13:10; Eze 3:10; John 5:46-47; Jas 2:10).

So we see that what Balaam did in his day, multitudes of Believers are doing today, as they are taught the *Doctrine of Balaam* by their Leaders!

What are the end results of the *Doctrine of Balaam* today? Let's look at some examples.

### **The Doctrine of Balaam Today: Results**

Today, most Believing Congregations have replaced the Biblical Truths with the *Commandments of Men* that 'appear' to be true, to those who do not study the Scriptures on their own. Instead, these *Commandments of Men* have actually turned most people away from practicing the Truth (Titus 1:14).

Only a few remnants of Truth remain in most congregations, because they have allowed men to re-define Biblical Words, Doctrines, and Practices, replacing them with *man's* notions of Biblical words, *man's* Doctrines, and *man's* practices.

Indeed, we hear much of Christmas, Easter, and Lent; and nothing of the Passover bread, and Passover cup — without which participation there is 'no life in you' according to Yahushua Himself (Matt 26:18-29; Mark 14:16-24; Luke 22:11-20; John 6:53-54).

Notice it is Yahushua Himself who defines and illustrates these words and terms used in Scripture; it is not our place to re-define Bible Words and terms.

Likewise, we hear of many things considered to be *holy* and '*Scriptural*,' such as Communion or the Lord's Supper. These terms are Biblical, but as used today they sometimes describe *man's replacement* for the Biblical Passover!

The Biblical Passover is to be done only on the Day of Passover (Lev 23:5). Any changes to YHWH's Word that are made by man are considered 'strange fire' and *idolatry*. Any man-made substitute for any of YHWH's Word is considered an *idol*. A communion or Lord's Supper as described in Scripture is to be taken as a vital part of, and at the conclusion of, a Passover meal. Therefore any practice that differs from Scriptural practice is merely a clever, man-made substitute, and is an *idol*.

The Doctrine of Balaam necessarily denies the *Passover*, as Passover is part of the *earlier* word of YHWH; and so this Doctrine must create a substitute in its place. Since men

have embraced the man-made Passover *substitutes* rather than the Biblical *Passover*, we now understand why YHWH simply calls the *man-made* form of communion or Lord's Supper "eating of things sacrificed to idols" (Rev 2:14, 20).

Indeed, when we reject YHWH's Words and Scriptural practices, in order to embrace the words and practices of men, YHWH tells us throughout Scripture He sees that as "whoring" after other gods. Thus we see the rejection of YHWH's word is called *fornication* in our subject passage in Revelation 2:14!

YHWH's remedy is that we would simply *repent*. This tells us to cease our disobedience, and begin obedience to all of His Word.

Let's now look at the results we can expect if we repent.

### **The Remedy: Results of Repentance**

For those who repent, and walk in a different path of obedience, YHWH makes these promises:

He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the hidden manna, and will give him a white stone, and in the stone a new name written, which no man knoweth saving he that receiveth it. (Revelation 2:17)

Here we see YHWH promising to give two *hidden* rewards, in exchange for overcoming ('prevailing') in only one hidden aspect of His Covenant.

To those who do not repent, there is likewise a promise and a consequence.

### **The Remedy: Consequences of No Repentance**

For those who do not actively repent, or who think they can put it off until a later day, YHWH has this Word:

Repent; or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will fight against them with the sword of my mouth. (Revelation 2:16)

The result of continuing in the *error of Balaam* is the same result Balaam had: YHWH's SWORD will be against those who do not repent.

And YHWH also tells us this result of lack of repentance will come *quickly*.

According to the warning to the Pergamos church, the end-time body of Believers (we today are that body of Believers!) is apparently practicing, and teaching, this same Doctrine of Balaam; hence YHWH will again use a SWORD to stand in their (our) way, just as He did with Balaam.

When the Sword of Yahushua's mouth fights against the Believers, the result is usually not made known immediately. We see in 2Thess 2:8-11, where the sword of His mouth will bring a "strong delusion, that they might believe a Lie."

Someone who is believing a lie, and who is deluded by YHWH Himself, is not even aware of his delusion. He thinks "I'm OK — I'm saved! You know, 'Once a Tree, Always a Tree!'" — "Surely Yahushua must have meant something different in Luke 13:6-9!"

When we toy around with the word of YHWH, and re-invent definitions for Biblical words and terms, and apply our own definitions to them, we are headed for our ruin, as well as for the ruin of those who follow us. Thus it is imperative that we get back to the Scriptures!

## **Conclusion**

The end-time, New Covenant Believers are given the warning of the *Doctrine of Balaam*. They are warned to be aware of what it is, and to repent.

The *Doctrine* of Balaam is perhaps the most prominent feature of today's evangelical Doctrine. This teaching results in the *Error* of Balaam in the lives of the people.

The Doctrine of Balaam results in deceiving multitudes to think the *earlier* word of YHWH has been *nullified*.

The Doctrine of Balaam is causing many of Yahushua's precious lambs to be led off into idolatry and fornication, as they are being taught to practice the substitutes given by the Commandments of Men, which turn men away from the Truth, and which causes them to be led astray.

As a side issue, many of our precious Jewish Brethren have yet to receive the message of Messiah, simply because many of the carriers of that message reject the foundational Truths of living the Torah, as the Prophet Isaiah warns in Isaiah 8:20.

Unless the Pastors and spiritual Leaders of today — and their followers — repent, Yahushua will most likely not meet them at the door of the Wise Virgins, or receive them as part of the Bride Company. Instead, He will most likely allow them to remain among the foolish virgins.

The warning of the *Doctrine of Balaam* is a warning to the Bride!