

The Oracle of Balaam: A Christmas Prophecy

Numbers 24:15-19

Context: In Numbers 24:15-19, Balaam pronounces a prophetic oracle revealing the coming of a star out of Jacob and a scepter out of Israel. This prophecy foreshadows the advent of Christ, emphasizing His royal lineage and His ultimate victory over evil.

The Oracle of Balaam calls you to...

I. _____ into the presence of the Savior (vs. 17a)

- A. In Balaam's vision, God allowed him to see Jesus, but he was a long way off.
- B. The Christmas season surrounds us with a focus on Jesus Christ, but often like Balaam, we can be very far away from Jesus.

II. _____ into the Prophecy of the Star (vs. 17b)

- A. Jesus describes himself, in Revelation 22:16 as "the Root and the Offspring of David, and the bright Morning Star."
- B. It was a bright, unusual and unique star that guided the wise men – the Magi – to the place where Jesus was.

III. _____ with the Power of the Scepter (vs. 17c-19)

- A. In the early Israelite monarchy, David fulfilled this prophecy by defeating and subjugating both Moab and Edom (2 Samuel 8:1–12). But as later Israelite kings failed to obey God's instructions and as oppression and exile followed, this passage would be interpreted messianically to refer to a coming glorious king. (CSB Study Bible)
- B. Not only would the forehead of Moab be crushed, but ultimately the "seed of the woman (Genesis 3:15)" would also crush the head of the serpent - Satan.