

BALAAAM

— AND —

A MESSED UP FAITH

WHEN COMPROMISE LEADS
GOD'S PEOPLE ASTRAY



A SERMON SERIES

— with —

Dr. Hampton Drum

A Messed-Up Faith and Let Me Show You Their Weak Spot

Numbers 31:16 & 2 Peter 2:15

Behold, these caused the children of Israel, through the counsel of Balaam, to commit trespass against the LORD in the matter of Peor, Numbers 31:16

Which have forsaken the right way, and are gone astray, following the way of Balaam the son of Bosor, who loved the wages of unrighteousness; 2 Peter 2:15

Introduction:

***12 For it is not an enemy who betrayed me;
Then I could bear it.
Nor is it one who hates me who has exalted himself against me;
Then I could hide from him.
13 But it was you, a man my equal,
My companion and my acquaintance.
14 We took sweet counsel together,
And walked to the house of God in the throng.
Psalms 55:12-14 NKJV***

I. There was the revelation of a weakness that could be exploited.

But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, 2 Peter 2:1

Behold, these caused the children of Israel, through the counsel of Balaam, to commit trespass against the LORD . . . Numbers 31:16

“Listen, Balak, let me tell you what to do. You just bring some of your real pretty girls down here—your Moabite girls, your Canaanite girls—and have a feast and let those girls mix and mingle with the men of Israel, and just entice them. And, if I can’t curse them, you can corrupt them; and then, God will curse them”
- Adrian Rogers -

A. He revealed to them the weakness to commit immorality.

***And Israel abode in Shittim, and the people began to commit whoredom with the daughters of Moab.
Numbers 25:1***

*“The wicked know that if you arouse a person’s desires,
then those desires will lead that person deeper into sin.”*

But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed. (V. 15) Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death. James 1:14-15

B. He revealed to them the weakness to commit idolatry.

***And they called the people unto the sacrifices of their gods: and the people did eat, and bowed down to their gods. (V. 3) And Israel joined himself unto Baal-peor: and the anger of the LORD was kindled against Israel.
Numbers 25:2-3***

“Israel always got in trouble when they tried to be like the rest of the nations of the world. The same thing happens to God’s people, to Christians. You always get in trouble when you start trying to live like the world.”
- Jerry Vines -

II. There was the reality of the wickedness behind the exposure.

- A. It is a wickedness that is concealed in righteousness, but it is motivated by greed.

And through covetousness shall they with feigned words make merchandise of you: 2 Peter 2:3

Which have forsaken the right way, and are gone astray, following the way of Balaam the son of Bosor, who loved the wages of unrighteousness; 2 Peter 2:15

Woe unto them! for they have gone in the way of Cain, and ran greedily after the error of Balaam for reward, Jude 1:11

“Do you know what the great irony of this story is? Balaam never received any payment.”

And Balak said unto Balaam, What hast thou done unto me? I took thee to curse mine enemies, and, behold, thou hast blessed them altogether. Numbers 23:11

- B. It is a wickedness that was confident in righteousness but is marked for destruction.

If Balak would give me his house full of silver and gold, I cannot go beyond the word of the Lord my God, to do less or more. Numbers 22:18

The Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptations, and to reserve the unjust unto the day of judgment to be punished: 2 Peter 2:9

Balaam died as a part of the enemies' army; *And they slew the kings of Midian, beside the rest of them that were slain; namely, . . . Balaam also the son of Beor they slew with the sword. Numbers 31:8*