



## Prayer Notes:

## IN the FOYER:

- assistive hearing devices are available (ask an usher)
- Good Friday Invitations
- other resources

## On the Calendar:

Mar 10 - No Junior Church

Mar 13 (Wed) @ 7:00pm Prayer & Studying the Kings of Israel and Judah

Mar 24 (Sun) Cookies for Easter Cookie Ministry

Mar 25 (Mon) Cookie Packaging Day

Mar 29 (Fri) Good Friday Service - make plans to invite someone (invitations in foyer)

Mar 31 (Sun) – Easter Message

# TODAY'S SERMON:

2 Peter 2:15-16

Balaam  
Rebuked by His  
Donkey

**NEXT  
SUNDAY:**

2 Peter 2:17-22

# GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE

## The Centre

Friday March 29  
at 10:00am  
(doors open at 9:15am)

Cash Collection will be  
taken up for Adult and  
Teen Challenge



Local Christian Churches partnered for community worship.

## FIRED UP FRIDAYS

plays a wild and fun game called:



Junior Youth Group  
for kids grades 5-8

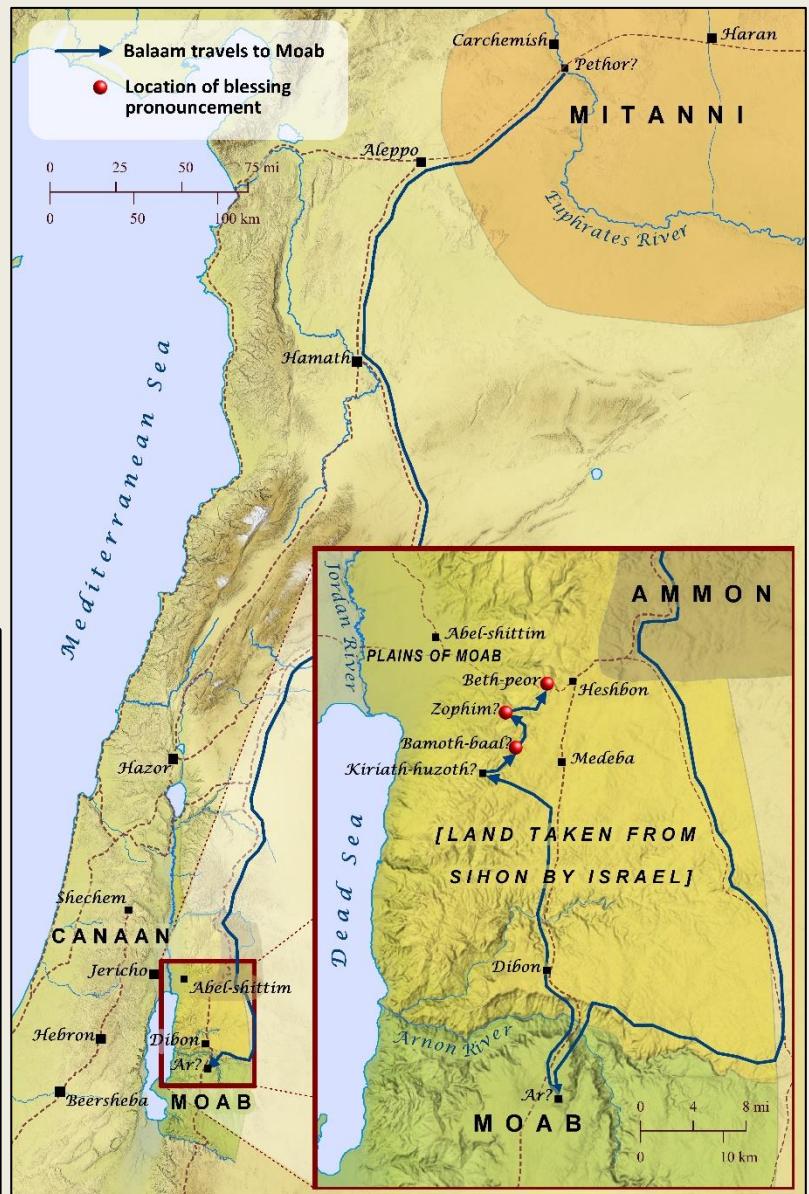
Friday March 22 @ 7:00pm  
at DFBC

# EASTER

## COOKIE MINISTRY

### HELP NEEDED:

1. Cookie Making
2. Cookie Packaging on  
Mon Mar 25 @ 10:00am
3. Cookie Delivering  
(contact Jane or Pastor Adam)



**PRAY FOR THESE WORKS OF THE CHURCH.**



# Dryden First Baptist Church

## **Worship Times and Some of Our Activities:**

Sunday Services are held at 10:30am

Junior Church occurs during the worship hour.

Nursery facilities are available for parents to use.

Sonshine Saturday is 10:30am-12:00 on scheduled months.

Fired Up Fridays is held bi-weekly during the school year.

Wednesday Prayer and Bible Study at 7:00pm

(watch for announcements or check Facebook)

## **Social Media:**

Facebook - Dryden First Baptist Church

Facebook - Sonshine Saturday

YouTube - Christian Canuck

Website - [firstbaptistchurchdryden.com](http://firstbaptistchurchdryden.com)



## **Office Hours**

Pastor Adam Hall is in the office: Tuesday - Friday 9am-5pm

Cell: 220-2287

Email: [fbcdrydenpastor@gmail.com](mailto:fbcdrydenpastor@gmail.com)

Jane Wickstrom is in the office: Wed - Friday

Call: 223-2514

Email: [fbcdryden@gmail.com](mailto:fbcdryden@gmail.com)

## **Officers:**

Elders - Peter Egli, Adam Hall & Milton Harder

Deacons - Brock Penner, Graham Penner, Ron Rhyner, Luke Egli

Treasurer - Gordon Robinson

Clerk - Ken Wickstrom

## 2 Peter 2:15-16: Balaam Rebuked by His Donkey

Pastor Adam Hall ☞ Dryden First Baptist Church ☞ March 10, 2024

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2 Peter 2:15-16 English Standard Version

*15 Forsaking the right way, they have gone astray. They have followed the way of Balaam, the son of Beor, who loved gain from wrongdoing, 16 but was rebuked for his own transgression; a speechless donkey spoke with human voice and restrained the prophet's madness.*

*Also Numbers 22-25, 31*

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### Introduction

- when you research the person of Balaam, consistently the one thing everyone says is that Balaam is a strange character

- a Story told by Chuck Swindoll might help us understand the person of Balaam better!

*Several years ago, in Long Beach, California, a fellow went into a fried chicken place and bought a couple of chicken dinners for himself and his date late one afternoon. The young woman at the counter inadvertently gave him a whole bag of money from the cash register instead of fried chicken. After driving to their picnic site, the two of them sat down to open the meal and enjoy some chicken together. They discovered a whole lot more than chicken--over \$800! But he was unusual. He quickly put the money back in the bag. They got back into the car and drove all the way back. Mr. Clean got out, walked in, and became an instant hero. By then the manager was frantic. The guy with the bag of money looked the manager in the eye and said, "I want you to know I came by to get a couple of chicken dinners and wound up with all this money. Here." Well, the manager was thrilled to death. He said, "Oh, great, let me call the newspaper. I'm gonna have your picture put in the local newspaper. You're the most honest man I've heard of." To which the guy quickly responded, "Oh no, no, don't do that!" Then he leaned closer and whispered, "You see, the woman I'm with is not my wife...she's uh, somebody else's wife."*

- the man in this story was certainly honest in one area of his life but completely dishonest and sexually immoral in another area of his life

- this perfectly describes Balaam because he might appear to be a good person, but when you dig deeper into the Bible you will see that he clearly is not

### Review

a) in 2 Peter 2:1-14, we learned 12 aspects about these false teachers

1) (2:1) False Teachers Will Come

2) (2:1) False Teachers Will Act Deceptively

3) (2:1) False Teachers Will Teach False Doctrine – they will deny the Lord, His grace and teach false doctrine

4) (2:2, 14) False Teachers Will Have Many Followers

5) (2:2, 10-12) False Teachers Will Blaspheme or Slander the Truth

6) (2:3, 14) False Teachers Will Be Greedy

7) (2:1, 3, 12, 13, 14) False Teachers Will Be Judged by the Lord

8) 2:10 False Teachers are Arrogant

9) 2:12 False Teachers Act like Irrational Animals

10) 2:13 False Teachers Revel in the Daytime

11) 2:13 False Teachers are Blots and Blemishes

12) 2:14 False Teachers have Eyes for Adultery and Never Stop Sinning

b) God will judge and God will show grace

d) God will judge those who are prophets like Balaam

- in 2 Peter 2:15-16, Peter uses the biblical character of Balaam as another example to show the church that the greedy and sexually immoral people will be judged

### 1) Background of Balaam

#### a) Israel is a threat to nations.

- in Numbers 21, Israel defeats three powerful kings and nations

- i) 21:1-3 the Canaanites were defeated
- ii) 21:21-30 King Bashan and the Amorites were defeated
- iii) 21:31-35 King Og and the residents of Bashan were defeated
- iv) Moabites under the rule of King Balak feel threatened

#### b) the story of Balaam can be divided into 4 main sections in Numbers 22-25



#### 1. (22:1-21) Balak requests that Balaam come and curse Israel

**Numbers 22:6** Come now, curse this people for me, since they are too mighty for me. Perhaps I shall be able to defeat them and drive them from the land, for I know that he whom you bless is blessed, and he whom you curse is cursed."

- Balak makes several attempts to convince Balaam to curse Israel

- In Numbers 22:7-14, Balak sends the elders of Moab and Midian with money to pay Balaam so that he will curse Israel so that the Moabites can defeat them
- in Numbers 22:15-21, Balak sends more princes that are greater in honour and tries to get Balaam to go and curse Israel

#### 2. (22:22-41) Balaam with his donkey

- the donkey can see the angel of the Lord ready to strike Balaam but Balaam cannot see this danger



**Numbers 22:28-30** Then the LORD opened the mouth of the donkey, and she said to Balaam, "What have I done to you, that you have struck me these three times?" <sup>29</sup> And Balaam said to the donkey, "Because you have made a fool of me. I wish I had a sword in my hand, for then I would kill you." <sup>30</sup> And the donkey said to Balaam, "Am I not your donkey, on which you have ridden all your life long to this day? Is it my habit to treat you this way?" And he said, "No."

- in Numbers 22:31, then the Lord opens the eyes of Balaam and can see the angel of the Lord

**Numbers 22:32-35** And the angel of the LORD said to him, "Why have you struck your donkey these three times? Behold, I have come out to oppose you because your way is perverse before me. <sup>33</sup> The donkey saw me and turned aside before me these three times. If she had not turned aside from me, surely just now I would have killed you and let her live." <sup>34</sup> Then Balaam said to the angel of the LORD, "I have sinned, for I did not know that you stood in the road against me. Now therefore, if it is evil in your sight, I will turn back." <sup>35</sup> And the angel of the LORD said to Balaam, "Go with the men, but speak only the word that I tell you." So Balaam went on with the princes of Balak.

- Balaam appears sorrowful for his sin, but later we will see that this sorrow is insincere

### 3. (23:1-24:25) Balaam's 4 prophetic blessings

- although Balak wants Balaam to curse Israel, every oracle that is given pronounces a blessing

- what is even more remarkable is one of the blessings that Balaam gives actually predicts the coming of Jesus Christ

**Numbers 24:17** I see him, but not now; I behold him, but not near: a star shall come out of Jacob, and a scepter shall rise out of Israel; it shall crush the forehead of Moab and break down all the sons of Sheth.

### 4. (25:1-13) Balaam entices Israel into sexual immorality and idolatry

**Numbers 31:16** Behold, these, on Balaam's advice, caused the people of Israel to act treacherously against the LORD in the incident of Peor, and so the plague came among the congregation of the LORD.

### 2) (2:15) Balaam Forsook the Lord

(2:15) Forsaking the right way, they have gone astray. They have followed the way of Balaam, the son of Beor, who loved gain from wrongdoing,

Peter tells us that false prophets are like Balaam (2 Peter 2:16):

- They are greedy and love wealth.
- They are deceptive.
- They look righteous but they are not.
- God will judge them and punish them.

- Jude talks about the error of Balaam

**Jude 1:11** Woe to them! For they walked in the way of Cain and abandoned themselves for the sake of gain to Balaam's error and perished in Korah's rebellion.

- but Balaam was not just a greedy seer, in the book of Revelation, Balaam is described as a person who promoted sexual immorality

**Revelation 2:14** But I have a few things against you: you have some there who hold the teaching of Balaam, who taught Balak to put a stumbling block before the sons of Israel, so that they might eat food sacrificed to idols and practice sexual immorality.

### **3) (2:16) Balaam Rebuked by Donkey**

**(2:16)** but was rebuked for his own transgression; a speechless donkey spoke with human voice and restrained the prophet's madness.

- Balaam appears to be devoted to the Lord but we will learn he is not

**Numbers 22:8** And he said to them, "Lodge here tonight, and I will bring back word to you, as the LORD speaks to me."

- Balaam also claims that he is committed to the Lord

**Numbers 22:18** But 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 command of the LORD my God to do less or more.

**Matthew 7:21-23** "Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. <sup>22</sup> On that day many will say to me, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and cast out demons in your name, and do many mighty works in your name?' <sup>23</sup> And then will I declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from me, you workers of lawlessness.'

### **Application**

#### **1) We All Need the Grace of Jesus Christ**

**a) curse turns into a blessing = grace**

**b) a stubborn donkey saves Balaam's life = grace**

**c) God uses even the wicked for good = grace**

**Numbers 24:16-17** the oracle of him who hears the words of God, and knows the knowledge of the Most High, who sees the vision of the Almighty, falling down with his eyes uncovered: <sup>17</sup> I see him, but not now; I



behold him, but not near: a star shall come out of Jacob, and a scepter shall rise out of Israel; it shall crush the forehead of Moab and break down all the sons of Sheth.

**d) the scriptures point us to Jesus = grace**

**e) Jesus saves = grace**

**1 John 3:5** You know that he **appeared** in order to take away sins, and in him there is no sin.

**1 John 3:8** Whoever makes a practice of sinning is of the devil, for the devil has been sinning from the beginning. The reason the Son of God **appeared** was to destroy the works of the devil.

**1 John 4:10** In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and **sent** his Son to be the propitiation for our sins.

**1 John 4:14** And we have seen and testify that the Father has **sent** his Son to be the Savior of the world.

**2) Fight Greed and Resist the Love of Money**

**a) Balaam pursued money**

**Numbers 31:8** They killed the kings of Midian with the rest of their slain, Evi, Rekem, Zur, Hur, and Reba, the five kings of Midian. And they also killed Balaam the son of Beor with the sword.

**b) we ought to pursue true treasure**

**Luke 12:13-21** Someone in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me." <sup>14</sup> But he said to him, "Man, who made me a judge or arbitrator over you?" <sup>15</sup> And he said to them, "Take care, and be on your guard against all covetousness, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions." <sup>16</sup> And he told them a parable, saying, "The land of a rich man produced plentifully, <sup>17</sup> and he thought to himself, 'What shall I do, for I have nowhere to store my crops?' <sup>18</sup> And he said, 'I will do this: I will tear down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. <sup>19</sup> And I will say to my soul, 'Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.'" <sup>20</sup> But God said to him, 'Fool! This night your soul is required of you, and the things you have prepared, whose will they be?' <sup>21</sup> So is the one who lays up treasure for himself and is not rich toward God."

**c) we ought to live faithfully and be content in Christ**