

HOW BIZARRE

REAL TRUTH FROM WILD STORIES

EPISODE 1 - THE ORIGINAL
TALKING DONKEY



07.25.21

LESSONS FROM A TRAVELING DIVINER AND A TALKING DONKEY

1. _____ MEANS _____.

BUT BALAAM RESPONDED TO BALAK'S MESSENGERS, "EVEN IF BALAK WERE TO GIVE ME HIS PALACE FILLED WITH SILVER AND GOLD, I WOULD BE POWERLESS TO DO ANYTHING AGAINST THE WILL OF THE LORD MY GOD. BUT STAY HERE ONE MORE NIGHT, AND I WILL SEE IF THE LORD HAS ANYTHING ELSE TO SAY TO ME." NUMBERS 22:18-19 NLT

THEY HAVE WANDERED OFF THE RIGHT ROAD AND FOLLOWED THE FOOTSTEPS OF BALAAM SON OF BEOR, WHO LOVED TO EARN MONEY BY DOING WRONG. 2 PETER 2:15 NLT

THEY KNOW THE TRUTH ABOUT GOD BECAUSE HE HAS MADE IT OBVIOUS TO THEM. FOR EVER SINCE THE WORLD WAS CREATED, PEOPLE HAVE SEEN THE EARTH AND SKY. THROUGH EVERYTHING GOD MADE, THEY CAN CLEARLY SEE HIS INVISIBLE QUALITIES—HIS ETERNAL POWER AND DIVINE NATURE. SO THEY HAVE NO EXCUSE FOR NOT KNOWING GOD. ROMANS 1:19-20 NLT

I AM SAYING THIS FOR YOUR BENEFIT, NOT TO PLACE RESTRICTIONS ON YOU. I WANT YOU TO DO WHATEVER WILL HELP YOU SERVE THE LORD BEST, WITH AS FEW DISTRACTIONS AS POSSIBLE. 1 CORINTHIANS 7:35 NLT

2. DON'T _____.

THEN THE LORD GAVE THE DONKEY THE ABILITY TO SPEAK. "WHAT HAVE I DONE TO YOU THAT DESERVES YOUR BEATING ME THREE TIMES?" IT ASKED BALAAM. "YOU HAVE MADE ME LOOK LIKE A FOOL!" BALAAM SHOUTED. "IF I HAD A SWORD WITH ME, I WOULD KILL YOU!" "BUT I AM THE SAME DONKEY YOU HAVE RIDDEN ALL YOUR LIFE," THE DONKEY ANSWERED. "HAVE I EVER DONE ANYTHING LIKE THIS BEFORE?" "NO," BALAAM ADMITTED. THEN THE LORD OPENED BALAAM'S EYES, AND HE SAW THE ANGEL OF THE LORD STANDING IN THE ROADWAY WITH A DRAWN SWORD IN HIS HAND. BALAAM BOWED HIS HEAD AND FELL FACE DOWN ON THE GROUND BEFORE HIM. NUMBERS 22:28-31 NLT

• **SIN CAN _____ US.**

BUT ANYONE WHO HATES A FELLOW BELIEVER IS STILL LIVING AND WALKING IN DARKNESS. SUCH A PERSON DOES NOT KNOW THE WAY TO GO, HAVING BEEN BLINDED BY THE DARKNESS. 1 JOHN 2:11 NLT

• **SIN CAN _____ US.**

“YOU HAVE EYES—CAN’T YOU SEE? YOU HAVE EARS—CAN’T YOU HEAR? DON’T YOU REMEMBER ANYTHING AT ALL?” MARK 8:18 NLT

• **SIN CAN _____ US.**

THE SEED THAT FELL AMONG THE THORNS REPRESENTS OTHERS WHO HEAR GOD’S WORD, BUT ALL TOO QUICKLY THE MESSAGE IS CROWDED OUT BY THE WORRIES OF THIS LIFE, THE LURE OF WEALTH, AND THE DESIRE FOR OTHER THINGS, SO NO FRUIT IS PRODUCED. MARK 4:18-19 NLT

• **SIN CERTAINLY _____ US.**

YOU MUST WARN EACH OTHER EVERY DAY, WHILE IT IS STILL “TODAY,” SO THAT NONE OF YOU WILL BE DECEIVED BY SIN AND HARDENED AGAINST GOD. HEBREWS 3:13 NLT

BUT IF WE CONFESS OUR SINS TO HIM, HE IS FAITHFUL AND JUST TO FORGIVE US OUR SINS AND TO CLEANSE US FROM ALL WICKEDNESS. 1 JOHN 1:9 NLT

3. _____ CAN BRING _____ .

THEN THE ANGEL OF THE LORD STOOD AT A PLACE WHERE THE ROAD NARROWED BETWEEN TWO VINEYARD WALLS. WHEN THE DONKEY SAW THE ANGEL OF THE LORD, IT TRIED TO SQUEEZE BY AND CRUSHED BALAAM’S FOOT AGAINST THE WALL. SO BALAAM BEAT THE DONKEY AGAIN. NUMBERS 22:24-25 NLT

THAT IS WHY WE NEVER GIVE UP. THOUGH OUR BODIES ARE DYING, OUR SPIRITS ARE BEING RENEWED EVERY DAY. FOR OUR PRESENT TROUBLES ARE SMALL AND WON’T LAST VERY LONG. YET THEY PRODUCE FOR US A GLORY THAT VASTLY OUTWEIGHS THEM AND WILL LAST FOREVER! SO WE DON’T LOOK AT THE TROUBLES WE CAN SEE NOW; RATHER, WE FIX OUR GAZE ON THINGS THAT CANNOT BE SEEN. FOR THE THINGS WE SEE NOW WILL SOON BE GONE, BUT THE THINGS WE CANNOT SEE WILL LAST FOREVER. 2 CORINTHIANS 4:16-18 NLT

SO WHAT?

BUT BALAAM REPLIED, "I WILL SPEAK ONLY THE MESSAGE THAT THE LORD PUTS IN MY MOUTH." [NUMBERS 23:12 NLT](#)

**GOD WILL SOMETIMES _____ TO US IN A _____ OR

WAY SO THAT WE CAN EXPERIENCE _____
FOR US IF WE _____ AND _____.**

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE PART OF BALAAM'S BIZARRE STORY AND WHY?
2. HAVE YOU EVER TRIED TO REASON WITH GOD AND GET A DIFFERENT ANSWER FROM HIM? WHY AND HOW?
3. WHAT WOULD YOU DO IF YOUR PET SPOKE TO YOU? WHY DO YOU THINK BALAAM WAS NOT SHOCKED OR SURPRISED WHEN HIS DONKEY SPOKE TO HIM?
4. WHAT ARE SOME THINGS THAT HAVE CAUSED YOU TO MISS WHAT GOD WAS TRYING TO TELL YOU?
5. HOW HAS GOD USED PAIN TO HELP GET YOUR ATTENTION? WHY DO YOU THINK HE DOES THAT SOMETIMES?
6. WHY DO YOU THINK PEOPLE HAVE A HARD TIME HEARING FROM GOD?
7. WHAT WILL YOU DO THIS WEEK TO MAKE SURE YOU HEAR FROM GOD AND OBEY HIM?