

### Bible History Puzzle 59

The Israelites were now on the border of the country of Balak, the king of the Moabites. Balak couldn't sleep at night; he was so afraid of the Almighty \_\_\_\_\_(dGo) of Israel. What could he do when Israel entered his country? He did not dare to fight. He suddenly thought of Balaam the prophet. He would call him and tell him to curse the people of his God. Then, he thought, that God and people would not be mighty anymore. Foolish Balak! Balaam was no prophet. He had made himself a \_\_\_\_\_(rppohte). He was a hypocrite! Everything was about money and honor when it came to Balaam.

King Balak sent princes to him who explained what he wanted him to do. Of course, he also offered him a nice reward. Balaam wanted to \_\_\_\_\_(og), but the Lord clearly said, "You may not go!" and then Balaam had to send the princes back without him.

After a while, the servants of Balak came again to Balaam asking him to go with an even greater reward. Oh, Balaam wanted to go! This time the \_\_\_\_\_(rdLo) said, "Go, but you must say what I tell you to."

Balaam went on his donkey and rode away thinking of his money and his own honor. After riding along for a while, the path became very narrow inbetween two walls of rock. Suddenly the \_\_\_\_\_(kydoen) tried to turn aside. Balaam hit the animal with his staff to go back onto the path. But the donkey jumped aside, apparently afraid of something. She pressed herself against the wall so that Balaam's \_\_\_\_\_(tofo) was pinched. Balaam became angrier and hit the donkey again over and over. The poor animal lay down on the ground. This only made Balaam angrier and he continued to \_\_\_\_\_(taeb) the donkey.

Then, suddenly, something strange happened. The donkey began to speak! How could that be? The \_\_\_\_\_(dLro) let her speak. The Lord can do or allow anything! So why was the donkey being so stubborn or afraid? Because she saw what Balaam could not see.

On the path stood an angel of the Lord with a \_\_\_\_\_(wdrso) in his hand! The donkey said, "What have I done to you that you are beating me?"

"Because you will not walk on. If I had a sword I would kill you!" He said angrily...still not seeing the angel... but then...? Then the Lord opened Balaam's \_\_\_\_\_(yees) and he saw the angel standing with his sword drawn. Oh, Balaam was very afraid!

The Lord said, "You have beaten your donkey three times, but the animal did not deserve that. She saved your \_\_\_\_\_(flie) by not walking on because if you had continued down the path, I would have killed you. I know what your plan is and that you want to \_\_\_\_\_(rcseu) Israel!

Balaam shook with fright because he saw and knew that the Lord saw what was in his evil heart. "Shall I go back?" he said.

But the Lord spoke again, "Now, go to Balak, but remember, that you may only say what I tell you to \_\_\_\_\_(ysa). I have blessed that people, my people Israel!"

Balaam rode on, down the road to King Balak. Balak was very happy when he saw \_\_\_\_\_(lBaaam) arrive. Tomorrow... Tomorrow Israel would be cursed... He thought.

The next day, early in the morning, King Balak and Balaam and many important men stood on the top of a tall mountain. Down in the valley they could see the \_\_\_\_\_(ttsen) of the Israelites. There were thousands of them! "King," said Balaam, "We must build seven altars." The foolish Balaam thought that the Lord would be glad with so many altars. Maybe he would still be able to curse Israel this way. Israel had only one \_\_\_\_\_(ttraa) but the Lord does not look at who has the most, but who loves Him with their whole \_\_\_\_\_(rahet)! Balaam did not love the Lord. He had an evil heart.

"Now what must we do?" said the king.

"We must offer a cow and a sheep on each altar." So they would offer seven cows and seven sheep.

"Very good," said the king. "We shall do that."

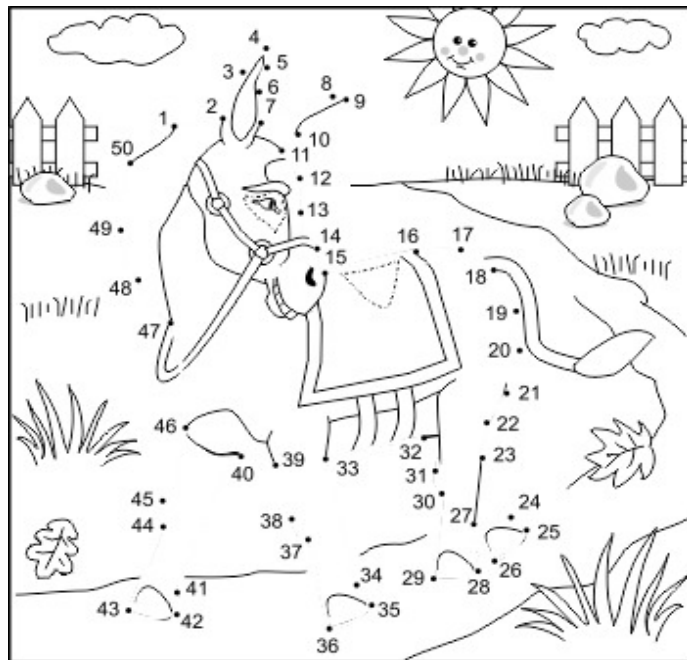
When everything was ready, Balaam walked a little ways away. He asked the Lord what he should say. Then he began to speak.... "I cannot \_\_\_\_\_(rusce) what the Lord does not curse. And I cannot defy what the Lord does not defy. If I die I would like to be as blessed as the \_\_\_\_\_(leppo) of Israel!"

Balak became so angry! "What have you done?" he called out to Balaam, "Did I not tell you to \_\_\_\_\_(scuer) the people of Israel? And you are only speaking well of them!"

"I have told you ahead of time, King," Balaam said, "I must say what the Lord tells me to say."

Would Balak and Balaam give up now? Or would they continue to harden their hearts?

Connect the dots and color:



MALBAA

		44	5			39

GNLKAAKBI

		35						6

BMAO

		2		

KODYEN

17	16	20		12	38		

LENAG

15					

NTRALESAVES

26	27		37	46	18	33	22	32	10	11

BRUOSKLDASANMCL

24			29	8		31				36			30		14

EOHRLTD

19	1	41	34	21	25	28

SESLBNUOTRCS

42			3	13	40	23	9	43		47	

IIETSRSLA

48			4	49	7	45							

1	2	W	3	1	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12		,			

W	1	13	14	15	16	17	1	18	19	1	20	21	22

23	24	25	26	27	28	?	29	30	1	29	W	31	1	32	33	34	

35	36	37	F	,	38	W	1	2	39	40	1	41

42	13	43	17	1	44	45	1	46	2	19

36	47	F	48	49	17	?			

