

Walking On Water Thursday Nights

October 22nd, 2009

Numbers Chapter 25:1-18, “Moab Seduces Israel”

I. **Context**

- a. Balak was king of Moab
- b. Balak had tried to get Balaam to curse Israel from many different angles and persistence.
- c. Balak fired Balaam and told him to go home
- d. Midianites worshiped Baal of Peor which was their fertility god

II. **BATTLE STRATEGIES OF OUR ENEMY!**

Numbers 25:1-18

1. OUR ENEMY IS INTELLIGENT

This Was Balaam’s Plan To Use Seduction:

A. Numbers 31:15-16 "Have you allowed all the women to live?" he asked them. **16** "They were the ones who followed **Balaam's advice** and were the means of turning the Israelites away from the LORD in what happened at Peor, so that a plague struck the LORD's people.

C. Deuteronomy 23:3-6 No Ammonite or Moabite or any of his descendants may enter the assembly of the LORD, even down to the tenth generation. **4** For they did not come to meet you with bread and water on your way when you came out of Egypt, and **they hired Balaam** son of Beor from Pethor in Aram Naharaim ^[a] to pronounce a curse on you. **5** However, the LORD your God would not listen to Balaam but **turned the curse into a blessing for you, because the LORD your God loves you.** **6** Do not seek a treaty of friendship with them as long as you live.

2 Corinthians 11:14 And no wonder, for Satan himself masquerades as an angel of light.

Quote by Rabbi Hirsch: What an enemy could never accomplish against Israel, **Israel did to itself through disobedience.** The same principle works among the people of God today. The mightiest attack of Satan against us can never do **as much damage as our own sin and rebellion** against the Lord. “The sword of no stranger, the curse of no stranger had the power to damage Israel. Only it itself could bring misfortune, by seceding from God and his Law.” (Rabbi Hirsch, cited in Allen).

2. OUR ENEMY IS PERSISTENT

- A. Balak Tried Three Angles
- B. Balak and Balaam Changed Strategy
- C. Potiphar's Wife Was Persistent
Genesis 39:10 And though she spoke to Joseph day after day, he refused to go to bed with her or even be with her.
- D. Satan with Jesus

3. Phinehas Picture of Jesus' Atonement Numbers 25:6-13

Note: Phinehas was grandson of Aaron

- A. **V. 11 and V. 13** Phinehas' zeal for **the honor of his God**
- B. Phinehas' Godly anger turned away God's wrath on the rest of Israel.
- C. Through their death the many lived. Atonement.

Final Scripture: Ephesians 6:10 – 18 Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. **11**Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. **12**For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. **13**Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, **you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand.** **14****Stand firm then,** with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, **15**and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. **16**In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. **17**Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. **18**And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the saints.