

No Sin In Jacob Or Israel

The prophecy of Balaam over Israel reflects God's view of the world today.

"Then he took up his oracle and said: 'Rise up, Balak, and hear! Listen to me, son of Zippor! God is not a man, that He should lie, nor a son of man, that He should repent. Has He said, and will He not do? Or has He spoken, and will He not make it good? Behold, I have received a command to bless; He has blessed, and I cannot reverse it. He has not observed iniquity in Jacob, nor has He seen wickedness in Israel. The Lord his God is with him, and the shout of a King is among them. God brings them out of Egypt; He has strength like a wild ox. For there is no sorcery against Jacob, nor any divination against Israel. It now must be said of Jacob and of Israel, "Oh, what God has done!" ' " (Numbers 23:18-23)

Balaam Was Hired By Balak To Curse Israel

1. Balaam tried to curse Israel from three mountains and failed. He could not curse what God had blessed.
2. He then surrendered to God and prophetic blessings flowed from him about Israel's future blessing, all the way to the Millennium (Numbers 24).
3. God told Abraham that two lines of offspring would come from Him:
 - a. One as the sands of the sea (earthly nation, physical Jews, unbelievers).
 - b. And the other as the stars of heaven (heavenly nation, believers of all nations).
 - c. Both came through Jacob.
4. Jacob was his name before he accepted the Lord and his name changed to Israel.
 - a. When God addresses the unbelievers in the nation, He calls them Jacob.
 - b. When God addresses the believers in the nation, He addresses them as Israel.
 - c. When God addresses the whole nation, He addresses them as, "O House of Jacob, O House of Israel".
5. God declared that He saw no iniquity in Jacob and saw no wickedness in Israel.
 - a. When God sees the world, He sees unbelievers and believers. He sees no iniquity or wickedness in either.
 - b. When Jesus's blood was shed, all sins were remitted. Almost all things by the law are purged with blood. Without the shedding of blood, there is no remission (Hebrews 9:22).

- c. God sees only unbelievers and believers, not the individual sins of each. What divides mankind in God's sight are those who have accepted His Son and those who have not.
- d. He does not see their iniquity, only their choice for or against Jesus. This is the only issue in God's sight that will send a person to heaven or hell.
- e. Jesus died for the sins of all people in the world. Their sins will never be held against them. There is only one sin Jesus did not die for, rejection of Himself. He left that choice for all people, even before the coming of Jesus to die for us.
- f. Salvation has always been a simple issue, before and after the law, Old Testament and New. Do you personally believe in Jesus as your Savior or not?
- g. This is why witnessing is simple. Jesus died for our sins, and they will never be held against us. The only sin He left for us is to accept Him as our Lord and Savior. Only this sin divides all mankind into Heaven-bound or Hell-bound.

Our State And Standing

- 1. Positional Truth vs. Temporal Truth
 - a. A Christian's position in Adam has been replaced with a new position in Christ.
 - b. We are no longer sinners, though we do still sin.
 - I. We are the righteousness of God in Christ, yet:
 - II. We still commit personal sins from our flesh nature.
- 2. We died in Adam and were replaced into Christ.
- 3. Our position in Christ is our entrance into heaven, not the lack of removal of personal sins we commit.
- 4. When a Christian commits a sin, God sees us as a believer committing a sin, not a sinner committing sin.
 - a. The sin keeping us from heaven has been removed.
 - b. The sins keeping us from fellowship with God in our daily walk are an issue to be handled by us in life (1 John 1:9) or God at the Judgement Seat of Christ (1 Corinthians 3:10-15).
 - c. The sin keeping us from heaven is covered by the shedding of Jesus's blood.
 - d. The sins keeping us from fellowship with God, and thus hindering our rewards in heaven, are covered by the sprinkling of Jesus's blood.
 - I. The shedding of blood protects us from God. The sprinkling of blood protects us from Satan.
Sin vs. sins:
The sin nature (the flesh) is still in us and will remain within our natural bodies until we die or are raptured.
 - II. Sins committed and not repented of go to heaven with a believer but will be dealt with at the Judgement Seat of Christ.
 - III. But the sin nature and the sins it produces do not keep us from heaven. Only one sin, rejection of Jesus, keeps a person from heaven.

- e. When God sees a sinner, He does not see his sins, He sees the one sin His Son did not die for, rejection of Jesus.
- f. Jesus died for every sin except one, rejection of Himself. He leaves that one sin for us to judge. This brings the new birth to us.

When We Witness, How Should We See Sinners?

“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new. Now all things are of God, who has reconciled us to Himself through Jesus Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation, that is, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not imputing their trespasses to them, and has committed to us the word of reconciliation.” (2 Corinthians 5:17-19)

1. If the sins of all mankind are forgiven, then this should change our attitude, how we look toward the unbeliever.
2. Their background in sin does not change how God sees them and should not change how we see them.
3. Drugs, prison, prostitution, homosexuality, stealing, and lying must be repented of or named to God.
 - a. Jesus went to the cross and forgave and removed all sins as a barrier between man and God.
 - b. The issue for the person is only to receive Jesus as Savior and Lord.
 - c. A moral sinner, one who committed few or no sins, still needs Jesus. His morality will not let him into heaven.
 - I. Jesus, through the power of the Holy Spirit and the Word of God, gives them the ability to overcome sin in their lives.
 - II. If they do sin after being born again, they have the power over each occurrence to confess the sin to God through 1 John 1:9.
 - d. This means of salvation has been on the earth since the fall of Adam and Eve. Their sons, Cain and Abel, show the two views toward salvation: works and grace. Works tries to remove sin through the one asking for salvation. Grace sees the work as done and salvation is therefore a gift from God.
 - I. Noah and his family were saved and delivered from the flood by faith in Christ who was yet to come.
 - II. Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Joseph, Moses, Rahab, David, and millions more were saved before the cross of Jesus by faith in what He would do to remove sin and provide salvation.
 - III. After the cross, the plan of salvation is the same: Jesus gave His life and removed all sins ever committed and to be committed. Jesus left just one sin for us to judge, rejection of Him.
 1. The entire human race is divided into two groups, those who have believed in Jesus and those who have not.

2. Those who have not have this lifetime to change to one who does believe in Jesus.
 3. The person you are witnessing to needs only to confess Jesus as their Lord and give their life to Him. The issue is not their sins, it is Jesus. Whose Son is He?
- IV. Anyone not found written in the Book of Life will be cast into the lake of fire (Revelation 20:15).