

Timeline of Truth: God Opens the Eyes of Balaam (Numbers 24)

I. Israel at Mount Sinai (1-10:10)

II. Israel in the Wilderness (10:11-36:13)

1. The Israelites Move (10:11-36)
2. Israel Complains (11:1-35)
3. Aaron and Miriam Complain (12:1-16)
4. The Spies and their Reports (13:1-33)
5. The Nation is Punished (14:1-45)
6. Laws Concerning Offerings in the Land of Israel (15:1-31)
7. A Man Works on the Sabbath and Tassels on Garments (15:32-41)
8. Men Challenge Moses (16:1-43)
9. Aaron's Rod Buds (17:1-13)
10. Responsibilities and Provisions for the Priests and Levites (18:1-32)
11. Uncleaness and Cleansing (19:1-22)
12. Moses Strikes the Rock (20:1-13)
13. Edom Refuses Israel and Aaron Dies (20:14-29)
14. Israel's Battles and the Fiery Serpents (21:1-35)

<p>Numbers 24:1 Now when Balaam saw that it pleased the LORD to bless Israel, he did not go as at other times, to seek to use sorcery, but he set his face toward the wilderness.</p>	<p>1. Balaam has a _____ of Heart</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Balaam observed that God was _____ to bless Israel. Lit. "It was pleasing in the eyes of the Lord to bless Israel." b. Balaam _____ his approach <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He did not walk in his former ways – to use sorcery. • He set his face toward the wilderness – perhaps he took council toward the wilderness.
<p>² And Balaam raised his eyes, and saw Israel encamped according to their tribes; and the Spirit of God came upon him. ³ Then he took up his oracle and said: "The utterance of Balaam the son of Beor, The utterance of the man whose eyes are opened, ⁴ The utterance of him who hears the words of God, Who sees the vision of the Almighty, Who falls down, with eyes wide open:</p>	<p>2. Balaam is _____ by the Spirit</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. He saw Israel. b. The Spirit of God was upon him. c. God speaks through Balaam <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • His eyes were opened • He hears the words of God <p>Words - אִמְרָה – <i>imrah</i> - utterance, speech, word</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He sees visions of God • He falls before God
<p>⁵ "How lovely are your tents, O Jacob! Your dwellings, O Israel! ⁶ Like valleys that stretch out, Like gardens by the riverside, Like aloes planted by the LORD, Like cedars beside the waters. ⁷ He shall pour water from his buckets, And his seed <i>shall be</i> in many waters. "His king shall be higher than Agag, And his kingdom shall be exalted. ⁸ "God brings him out of Egypt; He has strength like a wild ox; He shall consume the nations, his enemies; He shall break their bones And pierce <i>them</i> with his arrows. ⁹ "He bows down, he lies down as a lion; And as a lion, who shall rouse him?" "Blessed <i>is</i> he who blesses you, And cursed <i>is</i> he who curses you."</p>	<p>3. Balaam _____ Israel</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Israel has been _____ by God b. Israel will be _____ by God c. Israel is _____ by God d. Israel is _____ by God e. Israel will be given _____ by God f. Israel is _____ by God.
<p>¹⁰ Then Balak's anger was aroused against Balaam, and he struck his hands together; and Balak said to Balaam, "I called you to curse my enemies, and look, you have bountifully blessed <i>them</i> these three times! ¹¹ "Now therefore, flee to your place. I said I would greatly honor you, but in fact, the LORD has kept you back from honor."</p>	<p>4. Balak is not _____</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. His anger was aroused. Lit. "He burned in the nose toward Balaam." b. Balaam did not do what Balak commanded c. Balak tells Balaam to flee d. Balak withholds reward from Balaam
<p>¹² So Balaam said to Balak, "Did I not also speak to your messengers whom you sent to me, saying, ¹³ 'If Balak were to give me his house full of silver and gold, I could not go beyond the word</p>	<p>5. Balaam _____ (again) what God Told Him to Do</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. He repeats that he can only say what God has told to him.

<p>of the LORD, to do good or bad of my own will. What the LORD says, that I must speak'? ¹⁴ "And now, indeed, I am going to my people. Come, I will advise you what this people will do to your people in the latter days."</p>	<p>b. Balaam tells Balak he is indeed going to leave c. Balaam offers a prophesy of the future.</p>
<p>¹⁵ So he took up his oracle and said: "The utterance of Balaam the son of Beor, And the utterance of the man whose eyes are opened; ¹⁶ The utterance of him who hears the words of God, And has the knowledge of the Most High, <i>Who</i> sees the vision of the Almighty, <i>Who</i> falls down, with eyes wide open:</p>	<p>6. Balaam _____ to be Lead by the Spirit a. In addition to what he said before, Balaam adds that he has knowledge of the Most High. b. Lit. "I know knowledge of the Highest." עֵלְיוֹן - <i>eleyon</i> - high</p>
<p>¹⁷ "I see Him, but not now; I behold Him, but not near; A Star shall come out of Jacob; A Scepter shall rise out of Israel, And batter the brow of Moab, And destroy all the sons of tumult. ¹⁸ "And Edom shall be a possession; Seir also, his enemies, shall be a possession, While Israel does valiantly. ¹⁹ Out of Jacob One shall have dominion, And destroy the remains of the city."</p>	<p>7. Balaam's _____ Prophecy a. He has a vision of the Messiah: • He is _____ – time. • He will _____ • He will _____ • He will have _____ • He will _____. b. This pertains in particular to Moab and Edom.</p>
<p>²⁰ Then he looked on Amalek, and he took up his oracle and said: "Amalek <i>was</i> first among the nations, But <i>shall be</i> last until he perishes." ²¹ Then he looked on the Kenites, and he took up his oracle and said: "Firm is your dwelling place, And your nest is set in the rock; ²² Nevertheless Kain shall be burned. How long until Asshur carries you away captive?" ²³ Then he took up his oracle and said: "Alas! Who shall live when God does this? ²⁴ But ships <i>shall come</i> from the coasts of Cyprus, And they shall afflict Asshur and afflict Eber, And so shall <i>Amalek</i>, until he perishes."</p>	<p>8. Balaam's _____ Concerning these Nations a. Concerning Amalek: • He was first – perhaps as in the first to oppose Israel. • He shall be last until he perishes • This seems to have already occurred. b. Concerning the Kenites: • They are in a strong place • They shall be conquered by Asshur • They seemed to have live in a friendly way toward Israel but we likely carried into exile at the same time Israel was by the Assyrian Empire. (2 Kings 15:29) c. Concerning Asshur and Eber: • Ships from Cyprus shall afflict them • This refers to the Greek Empire which conquered the known world. d. Concerning Amalek • The literal translation is tricky – this seems to mean that Amalek, having already been destroyed will never become a nation again.</p>
<p>²⁵ So Balaam rose and departed and returned to his place; Balak also went his way.</p>	<p>9. Balaam and Balak _____</p>