

Post Written By Gerald Hubbard Most of these can be read in less than 7 minutes.



Jude1:10-11 But these speak evil of those things which they know not: but what they know naturally, as brute beasts, in those things they corrupt themselves. Woe unto them! for they have gone in (A) the way of Cain, and ran greedily after (B) the error of Balaam for reward, and perished in (C) the gainsaying of Core.

The Book Of Jude is only 25 verses long — you can read it in 5 minutes, **Today's study is** "<u>The Error Of Ba-</u> <u>laam</u>". Most people think of Balaam when they think of the donkey that talked. It seems that that many people are fascinated by talking animals — remember Mr. Ed, the talking horse? I have even known of folks that said their dog could talk and then I have heard Parrots talk. **2 Peter 2:15-16** is a reference to Balaam & Donkey.

Which (1) have forsaken the right way, and are gone astray, following the way of Balaam *the son* of Bosor, (2) who loved the wages of unrighteousness; (16) But was rebuked for his iniquity: (3) the dumb ass speaking with man's voice forbad (4) the madness of the prophet. These 2 verses, tell us about a lot of what ailed the prophet. I have highlighted these things in <u>blue</u>.



The

Of Jesus

Will Never Lose

lts

(1) Balaam had forsaken the right way. (have forsaken the right way)

The last thing in verse 16 tells us that Balaam was a prophet. Prophet, Preachers, etc, are just mere men that God has given a small job to. After all, unplug the man from God and what is left, just a ordinary man. Being a man of God can be wonderful, if they obey the Lord, but when they lapse back into the strength of the flesh, you often in up with a hurt man and those who listen to him. Jesus said:

<u>John 15:5</u> I am the vine, ye *are* the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: <u>for without me ye can do nothing</u>.

(2) Balaam loved tainted (dis-honest) money (who loved the wages of unrighteousness)

In itself, money is not evil. It is the worshiping of money that brings much hurt. And somewhere, hidden in all wrong and sin, is the love of money! Sometimes it takes some looking for, but it is always there. <u>1 Timothy 6:10</u> For the love of money <u>is the root</u> of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.

(3) <u>Balaam would not listen to God (the dumb ass speaking)</u>

Often, when we refuse to listen to God, God will send a message from another source. With Jonah, it was a whale, with Peter is was a rooster, with the world at the time of the flood, it was the flood, and with Balaam it was his donkey.

(4) Balaam have a distorted sense of reality (the madness of the prophet)

There are those that say that if you study the Bible too much, it will make you mad (crazy).

Acts 26:24-25 And as he thus spake for himself, Festus said with a loud voice, Paul, thou art beside thyself; much learning doth make thee mad. (25) But he said, I am not mad, most noble Festus; but speak forth the words of truth and soberness. — But look at what actually happened to a mad man

Mark 5:1-5 And they came over unto the other side of the sea, into the country of the Gadarenes. (2) And when he was come out of the ship, immediately there met him out of the tombs a man with an unclean spirit, (3) Who had *his* dwelling among the tombs; and no man could bind him, no, not with chains: (4) Because that he had been often bound with fetters and chains, and the chains had been plucked asunder by him, and the fetters broken in pieces: neither could any *man* tame him. (5) And always, night and day, he was in the mountains, and in the tombs, crying, and cutting himself with stones.

And they that fed the swine fled, and told *it* in the city, and in the country. And they went out to see what it was that was done. (15) And they come to Jesus, and see him that was possessed with the devil, and had the legion, sitting, and clothed, and in his right mind: and they were afraid.