

Morning Worship

October 13, 2019

Pastor — Allan Lane

Organ ---

Worship Leader — Romey Keith Davis

Piano — Alva Lou Schottel

As you enter for worship, please silence your cell phones.

(CCLI permit # 424692 covers all copyright song lyrics)

Welcome and Fellowship		Allan/People
Scripture Reading		Romey Keith Davis
Hymn # 342	<i>Rock of Ages</i>	Romey/People
Worship Prayer		Allan Lane
Hymn # 340	<i>He Hideth My Soul</i>	Romey/People
Hymn # 338	<i>How Firm a Foundation</i>	Romey/People
Offering Prayer		Bill Schottel
Tithes and Offerings		People
Offering Music		
Chorus # 77	<i>Thy Word</i>	Romey/People
Chorus # 78	<i>Find Us Faithful</i>	Romey/People
Special Music		
Message		Bro. Allan
Hymn # 291	<i>Beneath the Cross of Jesus</i>	Romey/People
Prayer Concerns		Allan/People
Closing Hymn # 579	<i>Shine, Jesus Shine</i>	Romey/People

Confession of a Double-Minded Man

Numbers 22:4b-35

Today we continue our series *I Have Sinned*, looking at the ways God will guide us when we confess our sin and repent. Last time (three weeks ago) we looked at Achan and his temptation to sin. Today we think about some ways that God speaks to us when we stray from His will, and the necessary confession to get back in His will. There are several things we can learn from Balaam.

The Israelites were on their way to conquer the Promised Land. They camped in the plains of Moab near the Jordan across from Jericho. The Moabites saw how Israel had wiped out the Amorites and they were afraid of Israel. The Moabites and the Midianites saw that the Israelites were great in number, and they could just see them moving in and taking over in their areas. Balak was the King of Moab, and so he and the elders of Midian got the bright idea that if they had a religious person curse the Israelites then they wouldn't need to be afraid of them and they could defeat them. So Balak called for a religious man named Balaam, one who was experienced in divination.

Balaam was not a Jew but a foreigner. He was not a righteous man or a Biblical prophet but a sorcerer, a sort of ancient seer or "witch doctor." He used his powers to place curses on people for money. Religion was his business, not his life-style. Balak, The king of Moab had seen what the Israelites had done to the Amorites and was afraid. He wanted Balaam to use his powers to place a curse on Israel - hoping to conquer the people. Obviously, neither Balaam nor Balak had any idea who they were dealing with.

Balaam seemed to acknowledge that the God of the Israelites was indeed powerful but he did not worship Him. He was ready to accept Him as God, but not HIS god. Have you ever known anyone like that? They recognize who Jesus was and who God is, but only in an intellectual way. Balaam was ready to obey God's command as long as he could profit from doing so. Although he realized the awesome power of Israel's God, his heart was occupied with what he could get from his occupation.

Reading this story might lead us to believe he turned to God in the end, but later passages in the Bible show that Balaam couldn't resist the tempting pull of money and idolatry. This mixture of motives - obedience and profit - eventually led to Balaam's death.

Let's pick up the story in Numbers 22:4b.

1. Start With Obedience . (Green Light)

When King Balak first sends word to Balaam through messengers, he is asked to inquire of the Lord. Balaam does so and as a result received his answer in Numbers 22:12. This is a clear statement. God did not stutter. He gave His instruction in a way that Balaam could easily understand. There was no question about what God meant or wanted. This story reminds us of Jonah. He was told clearly to go to Nineveh. Like Balaam, Jonah did not get into trouble because God didn't give good directions. He got in trouble because he didn't follow them. There wasn't a problem with misunderstanding. The issue was obedience.

When God says do it then do it. When God says not to do it then do not do it. Do not keep pushing the issue or try to manipulate things so that you hear what you want to hear. This will always lead to error (2 Timothy 4:3-4). Oswald Chambers said, "We learn more by five minutes' obedience than by ten years' study."

In the eleventh century, King Henry III of Bavaria grew tired of court life and the pressures of being a monarch. He made application to the abbot (head monk) at a local monastery, asking to be accepted as a contemplative and spend the rest of his life in the monastery. "Your Majesty," said the abbot, "do you understand that the pledge here is one of obedience? That will be hard because you have been a king." "I understand," said Henry. "The rest of my life I will be obedient to you, as Christ leads you." "Then I will tell you what to do," said the abbot. "Go back to your throne and serve faithfully in the place where God has put you." He went on to serve faithfully as the Holy Roman Emperor. When King Henry died, a statement was written: "The King learned to rule by being obedient." When we tire of our roles and responsibilities, it helps to remember God has planted us in a certain place and told us to be a good accountant or teacher or mother or father. Christ expects us to be faithful where He puts us, and when He returns, we'll rule together with Him.

Balaam's initial response was obedience. However, King Balak would not take no for an answer so he sent a second larger delegation with the promise of great riches. Instead of sticking to God's word and letting his no mean no he agrees to go back to God and ask again (Numbers 22:15). Notice he says "my God", but if this were really true then Balaam should have just said that the answer is no and sent the delegation

on its way. He does not do that. He goes back to the Lord and asks again. He pushes an issue he has already received clear instruction about.

While Balaam says that he is not interested in money his very actions show the opposite is true. It does not say what Balaam said to God, but perhaps it was one of those arm-twisting kind of prayers where you act like you're interested in doing the right thing, but in reality, you've already made up your mind about what you're going to do. You know what I'm talking about: One of those prayers where you let God in on your plans and tell him what's best for your life - trying to get God's will to line up with yours. It is interesting that Peter, in speaking of sin, uses Balaam as an example of greed (2 Peter 2:14).

When Balaam asks again he receives a different answer. Did God change His mind? No. Sometimes God teaches us by allowing us to have our own way. How many of you would be honest and admit that there have been times when you have compromised God's Will for your life? God told you to do one thing but you chose another and as a result missed God's blessing.

When we talk about understanding God's will for our life, it is important to remember that that we are talking about God's greater plan for us. There are things in our lives that we can do which are good things that on the surface look fine. However, often these good things keep us from doing the great things that God has for us. Never settle for good things when you can accomplish great things. Never settle for good or plan B when you can have God's best or plan A for your life.

Again, Oswald Chambers said, "Obedience to Jesus Christ is essential, but not compulsory; he never insists on being Master. We feel that if only he would insist, we should obey him. But our Lord never enforces His "thou shalt" and "thou shalt not"; He never takes means to force us to do what He says. He never coerces. In certain moods we wish He would make us do the thing, but He will not; and in other moods we wish He would leave us alone altogether, but He will not. If we do not keep His commandments, He does not come and tell us we are wrong. We know it, we cannot get away from it."

Obedience means you stay focused on your calling. In obedience head for what God has called you to. In doing so God will bring blessings and opportunities into your life beyond what you have never dreamed.

2. See Divine Obstacles . (Yellow Light)

God eventually allows Balaam go with the messengers, but He was not pleased about his attitude. It was a reckless path - certainly plan B. His greed for the wealth offered by the king had blinded him so that he could not see how God was trying to stop him. Though we may know what God wants us to do, we can become blinded by the desire for money, possessions, or prestige.

If you are driving down the road and everything is coming against you then you have to ask yourself at some point if the problem is not that the world is full of bad drivers but that maybe you are in the wrong lane.

Sometimes God will do what He did with Balaam and will "stand in the road to oppose us" if he doesn't like the way we're doing or handling things. He loves us so much that He tries to get us to turn around if we're going the wrong way or to re-think things if our approach is wrong. He doesn't just abandon us when we disobey. He keeps trying to get through to us before we hurt ourselves or someone else. If you get out of the Will of God, he won't let you go without putting a couple of "CAUTION" signs in the road to try and get your attention. The problem is if you're already in "cruise control," you may not even see them (example: Paul in Acts 16:6).

Balaam had heard but disobeyed God. It appears he's doing the right thing but really it is compromise. He is doing it the wrong way and for the wrong reasons. So God "opposed him," and in an attempt to get his attention, sends an angel as a roadblock. The donkey sees the angel standing in the road, sword drawn - and he reacts by beating her.

Donkeys (and Missouri Mules) are famous for being stubborn. They're the kind of pack animals that don't seem to get much respect, probably because they don't give much respect. Compare someone to a horse, with terms like filly or stud or mustang and you just might sound flattering. However, compare someone to a donkey, with the common terms used for those who act like donkeys, and they probably won't be too happy with the comparison. In this case the Donkey was right and Balaam was wrong. Have you ever felt like that donkey? You see a friend heading in the wrong direction towards danger and you try to stop them but you end up getting abused instead?

3. Stop When Opposed . (Red Light)

The angel went ahead of Balaam to oppose him 3 times. Often when God wants to get our attention there is a repeated test. Remember Peter denying Christ. In each case we see that the angel used a path that was narrower until it was impossible to pass. God often does this in our lives. When He sees us going the wrong way He begins to apply pressure which increases. The further you go the harder you hit a wall the harder the wall hits you.

When Balaam finally realized that it was the Lord that was opposing him he reacts in 3 ways:

a. Humble yourself – he bowed low (vs. 31)

Remember 1 Peter 5:5. When Balaam realized it was the Lord he "bowed low and fell facedown." Balaam had learned a lesson at the hands of a donkey that had greater spiritual insight than he. Have you ever felt like that? Perhaps your child reminds you of a spiritual truth that you had overlooked. Pride separates us from God. Humility allows us to see the truth and respond in the right way.

b. Admit your mistakes - I have sinned (vs. 34)

Balaam recognized his sin and confesses that he had been wrong. He realized that he had abused the very thing that was standing in the way of his destruction. Perhaps there is someone in your life you have treated harshly because they loved you enough to try and step in between you and the danger you were heading for.

When God turns you around, the first thing you should do is find them and apologize for hurting them. Thank them for caring enough to say and do the right thing even when it cost them.

c. Don't repeat the offense - I will go back (vs. 34)

Repentance isn't just a temporary right turn side step – it is a permanent turning around and heading back the way you came. It means going the opposite direction in attitude and obedience. With Jonah this meant completing the task he had been given - going to Nineveh.

Conclusion:

What does this mean for you? Is there an area of your life where you have compromised? Is there some area that you chose your plan before God's? Maybe it is

a relationship. Maybe it is a vocation. Go back to God and ask Him if you need to turn around.

There was a man who got lost in the desert. After wandering around for a long time his throat became very dry, about that time he saw a little shack in the distance. He made his way over to the shack and found a water pump with a small jug of water and a note.

The note read: "Pour all the water into the top of the pump to prime it, if you do this you will get all the water you need." Now the man had a choice to make, if he trusted the note and poured the water in and it worked he would have all the water he needed. If it didn't work he would still be thirsty and he might die. Or he could choose to drink the water in the jug and get immediate satisfaction, but it might not be enough and he still might die.

After thinking about it the man decided to risk it. He poured the entire jug into the pump and began to work the handle, at first nothing happened and he got a little scared but he kept going and water started coming out. So much water came out he drank all he wanted, took a shower, and filled all the containers he could find. Because he was willing to give up momentary satisfaction, he got all the water he needed. Now the note also said: "After you have finished, please refill the jug for the next traveler." The man refilled the jug and added to the note: "Please prime the pump. Believe me - it works."

We have the same choice to make, do we hold on to what we have because we don't believe there are better things in store for us, and settle for immediate satisfaction? Or do we trust God and give up all that we have to get what God has promised us? I think the choice is obvious. We need to pour in all the water, trust God with everything. Then once we have experienced what God has to offer, the living water, we need to tell other people, "Go ahead prime the pump, believe me it works!"

God has given us all one life, one jug of water. You can just drink it down and live for yourself or you can seek God's plan and invest it and, in so doing, connect to the deep spring of God's great power and blessings. Is it time for you to say, "I have sinned?" I can tell you from experience today to listen to God's Will – it works! It worked for me, and it will work for you.

Following God's Will Works!

Revival That Lasts

Thanks for letting me and Romey Keith lead revival at First Baptist Church, Union Star this past week. And all reports are that Bro. Roger and Pam were a blessing here at Calvary. It's good to have a little variety along. Sometimes getting into another environment helps us touch base with who we are and how God wants to use us. Thanks to all those from Calvary who came in support. I pray you were blessed.

Whether we know it or not, our need in this present day is for genuine revival. I was reading something this week where the writer said the priority of God's presence has been lost in the modern church. He compared us to bakeries that are open, but have no bread. And we are not interested in selling bread. We just like to the chit-chat that goes around cold ovens and empty shelves.

Well, I'm not sure I'd go that far, but there is much more of God available than we even can imagine. We have just started to tap into what God has for us and wants to do through us. I am afraid if we are not careful we will become so satisfied with where we are and what we have that we will not press in for all God has for us.

It is true that God is moving among us and working in our lives, but we cannot be content to comb the carpet for crumbs as opposed to having the abundant loaves of hot bread God has

prepared for each of us in the ovens of heaven. The signs are still up and we take people into our churches and show them the ovens where we used to bake the bread. The ovens are still in the same place, but all you can find is crumbs from the revivals of years past. We are constantly toying with the thoughts and ideals of Revival, what does it mean, how can we experience it. We wonder who it will take to set the fire, to stoke the coals to get us excited once again about servicing the Lord and living daily in His presence.

We must understand that revival is not just a word that means we are having a guest speaker or special singers. It is and must be our longing and desire to be revived in our hearts, our souls and yes, our minds for a daily experience of God's presence. We must have a heart that truly burns when we know God is near. We must seek Revival in our personal lives.

Only then can God and will God revive the church and the community in which we live. It will spill out of our overflowing souls onto the pews and floors of our sanctuaries. No one will be able to deny the very presence of God in our world. We will not be preoccupied with the day nor the hour. We will be overwhelmed as we receive God in this place.

I'm becoming more and more irritated with our congress and media. Since when does a lie upon more lies outweigh the truth? Truth is always truth and nothing compares to it. But when a lie and a series of more lies becomes the credible standard, we are in for trouble. I'm concerned for our republic.

And there is more. When we become God's revived children and God's revived church, that is, on fire for the Lord, we may gather around the spiritual hot coals of a consecrated life for the Lord, placing the dry wood of commitment, devotion and true love for Jesus on our spiritual fire. Then and only then will we experience what we have only imagined God could do. We need revival that lasts. Would you join me in praying for God's Holy Spirit to visit us and revive our land?

God Bless You!
Bro. Allan ☺

Opportunities For Service

Living out Your Spiritual Commitment . . . and Fulfilling Christ's Divine Plan

Sunday, October 13, 2019

Sunday School.....9:15 am

Morning Worship.....10:30 am

Nursery: Volunteers as needed

Ushers: Larry McKahan, John Lewis, George Burgess, Bill Schottel

Alternate: Ken Nice

Evening Worship6:30 pm

Wednesday, October 16

Prayer/Bible Study.....6:30 pm

Sunday, October 20, 2019

Sunday School 9:15 am

Morning Worship.....10:30 am

Nursery: Volunteers as needed

Ushers: Ken Nice, Dillon Burgess, Fred Kerns, Don Sharp

Alternate: LeRoy Bush

No Evening Worship....6:30 pm

Wednesday, October 23

Prayer/Bible Study.....6:30 pm

Up-Coming Events

October 19 — Deacon Ministry Conference

October 28-29 — Missouri Baptist Convention

Annual Meeting, Branson, Missouri

November 3 — Daylight Saving Time ends

GROW Team

Commit to **GROW!** **Everyone make a contact!** Invite someone to Bible Study and Worship this week. ☺

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Sunday Night

We will have Sunday Night service tonight. We continue to study some of the commands of Jesus. Come study together with our church family.

Wednesday Night Prayer and Bible Study

The Daniel Prayer, a study by Anne Graham Lotz, is coming to a close. This study has been very helpful. Bro. LeRoy has been leading over the last few weeks. Won't you please attend and pray for the direction of our church?

Coming soon ...

Judgement House

FBC, Cameron

October is Pastor Appreciation Month

If you haven't already, please let Pastor Allan and Ellen know how much you appreciate them.

Urgent Prayer Need Youth Sunday School

Teacher

Praise the Lord! One person has already expressed a sense of God's call, but it's a big job. It would be good to have more than one person. Pray about it! God may be calling you, too!

For more information,
talk to Bro. Allan.

Saint Joseph Baptist Association
Deacon Ministry Conference
Green Valley Baptist Church
October 19, 2019
8:30-4:30 pm

Missouri Baptist Annual Meeting
October 28-29, 2019

Daylight Saving Time Ends
Sunday, November 3.

Please remember to set your clocks back 1 hour
Saturday night,
November 2, 2019.

For the Record-

Attendance: October 6, 2019

Sunday School.....	25
Visitors.....	5
Total.....	30
Contacts Made.....	0
Morning Worship.....	44
Sunday Night	N/A
Children's Worship	8
Wednesday Night	5

Financial Record:

Weekly Budget	\$ 2,286.39
Offering Received ...	\$ 2,805.48
Long Family –September	\$ 200.00
MMO to date	\$ 1,515.00

Offering Received by Mail:

October Counting Team:.

Jordan Lane and Linda Dotson

October Van Driver:

George Burgess
Remember to call 232-3747
before 8 am if you need a ride.

October Birthdays:

03...Don Hart
08...Brigida Winans
09...Gina Harr
10...Fred Kerns
10...Jaden Schottel
14...Dillon Burgess
18...David Schottel
19...Caitlyn Schottel
22...Angie Liechti
25...Tom Lefevere
28...Ellen Lane
28...Marie Hren
31...Tim Izer

October Anniversaries

Mike and Martha Green
October 1, 2005

Prayer Requests ...

Ryan Hutcherson—LoLeta's grandson
Tim Waters
John Lewis
Ruth Anne Bush
Mike Green—ankle surgery
Jack and Flo Conard
Brigida and Jim Winans
Bill Dunn, Donna's husband
Sharon Russell—George's sister
Chuck and Gloria Stewart
June Fritchle
Gary Hurst—cancer
Susie Long—Alice Coat's Sister
Swymeller's Grandsons—kidneys
Shirley Wilson—strength and recovery
Sandy and Stanley Wilson
Sharri Duty
Linda Huff—PTL! Cancer free!
Romey Keith Davis—Music
Marcia and Don Hart—blessings
Arlette Duty—strength
Karissa and Matt Long and family
Stephanie & Jason Terpack—guidance
Rosella Davis—Flo Conard's sister
Mary Sharp's brother-in-law Jim
Bill Clinton—Don and Mae's son
Zella Davis —Doris Richardson's sister
Doris Richardson Elmer Mayse
Kevin Duty Tim Izer
Betty Campbell Nellie Reynolds
Ann Riddle Kenny Duty
Keon McKahan Buddy Means
Jozy Winans Curtis Conard
Pat Means Seth Long

Bill & Juanita Brenda Burgess
Pat Puckett
Nickolay Nazaruk, Peski 2 Church
Our Nation and Leaders
Our Military Service Women and Men
Terrorism in our world

Today's Prayer Requests ...

Our Nation and our Leaders ...

Five More New Families...
