

SPIRITUAL BLINDNESS

FEBRUARY 13, 2023

(READ <u>NUMBERS 22:23-31</u> FIRST!!!!!!)

Balaam the Prophet is best known as "The Donkey Guy" for having his donkey speak to him. He was sent by Balak, king of Moab, to pronounce curses upon Israel. God had other ideas. He told Balaam to pronounce blessings upon Israel and not return to Balak. Balaam disobeyed the Lord by returning to the king Balak, the king who wanted to curse God's people. Balaam, riding his donkey, is confronted by an angel of the Lord.

The irony in this story is that the donkey can see the angel of the Lord but Balaam is unable to, one might say Balaam is <u>spiritually blind</u> so he cannot see the angel. This is ironic because Balaam is a prophet, and prophets were to receive direct communication with God!

The donkey is understandably startled to see the angel of the Lord on the road and stops several times out of fear. Thinking his donkey had gone mad, Balaam started to beat his donkey until the donkey asks, "Why have you beat me these three times?" and then Balaam's eyes are opened to the angel of the Lord and his sin.

Many leaders of the church are caught up in this dreaded disease known as "<u>Spiritual</u> <u>blindness</u>." Repent! God is watching and listening. He will expose and many will fall to our face! His agenda, His glory and His instructions. Personal agendas must be removed. The spiritually blind person must cry out to God, but pride stops them. Pride stops people from seeking the truth and opening up their minds to the truth. We can't afford to remain ignorant.

SCRIPTURE READING: 1 CORINTHIANS 1:18-19

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK: "The eyes are useless when the mind is blind."