Johnson City, Tex. THE DOCTRINE OF BALAAM. Rev. 2:14 Sunday 9-1-76

WHAT WAS BALAAM'S DOCTRINE? Rev. 2:14; "But I have a few things

against thee ... " What were those things?

- 1. Thou hast there them that hold the doctrine of Balaam. What did Balaam teach? He taught Balac to cast a stumbling block before the children of Israel. What was the stumbling block?
 - 1. Through the counsel of Balaam Balac taught the children of Israel:
 - 1. To eat things sacrificed unto idols,
 - 2. And to commit fornication.

NUMBERS 25:1-3

- 1. And the people began to commit whoredom with the daughters of Moab...
- 2. And they called Israel unto the sacrifice of their gods.
- 3. And the people did eat and bowed down to their gods..
- 4. And Israel joined himself unto Baalpeor.
 - 1. And the anger of the Lard was kindled against Israel.

NUMBERS 31:16

- 1. All the above was done through the counsel of Balaam.
 - 1. Apparently Balaam taught Balac to lure the people to the idol worship of Moab.
 - 2. What Balaam could not do by cursing the people he accomplished by false teaching.
- 2. Balaam taught the people that it was all right to do what God told them not to do. GOD SAID:
 - 1. Thou shatt have no other gods before me ...
 - 2. Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them ...
 - 3. Thou shalt not commit adultry. Exodue 20:3,5,4
- 3. Did God say that? "Yea, hath God said?" Gen.3:1
 - 1. That was in the early part of your journey.
 2. It is different now. These Moabites are a friendly people. After all what harm could there possibly be in going over for a union idol worship service and a friendly meal made up of some of the delicious meat?

THE DOCTRINE OF BALAAM, Continued: (Page Two)

WHAT IS THE VIEW OF RELIGION TODAY THAT MAY BE CONSIDERED THE SAME PRINCIPLE AS THE DOCTRINE OF BALAAM?

- 1. At first it is some minor departure from truth.

 1. I do not see any harm in it. We never see any harm in anything we what to do.
 - 2. The Bible does not say "not to do it."
 - 3. These minor departures prepare the minds of men for grevious errors.

2. The main feature in Balaam's Doctrine.

- 1. As illustrated by Balaam's character it would seem to be this:
 - 1. It is necessary to serve God but at the same time you may walk in your own way and seek your own ends.
 - 2. You should desire to escape punishment...
 No desire to please God for some of his commandments are grevious. Not so 1 John 5:3 tells us.

CONCLUSION:

- 1. Just as a small departure from truth prepares the minds of men for the most grevious error...
- 2. And continual thoughts of sin open a way for the worst crimes...
- 3. So those who are set to walk in their own way have no dread of the future and no regard for God's law.

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