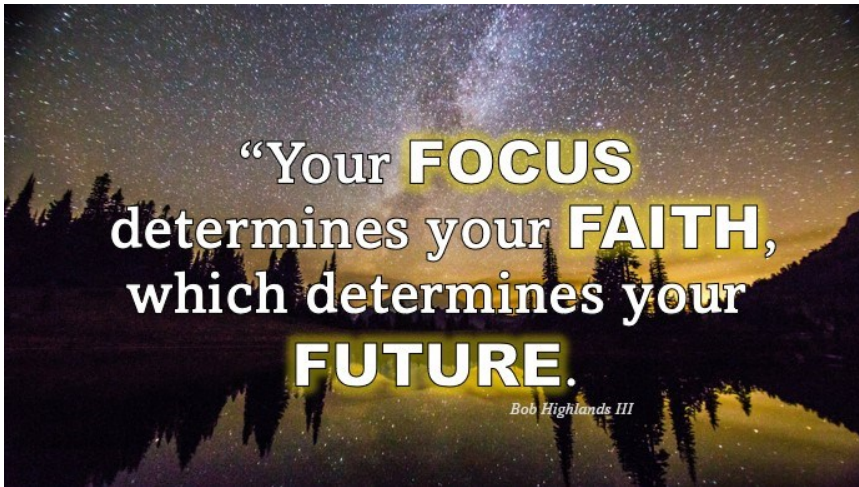


Numbers: How to be RESILIENT in Tough Times

1. _____ God and your life will be on the right track.
2. _____ Christ so others can follow you.
3. _____ that transcends life and death will carry you through.
4. Let the inside _____ on the outside.
5. Know what you believe comes from the _____ (Word) of God.



BALAAM
The Readers Digest Version

- ◆ Numbers chapters 22-24 cover the incidents surrounding Balaam and God.
- ◆ The Hebrews under Moses' leadership were like a hoard of locusts devouring all nations that got in their way.
- ◆ Balak, the king of Moab, could see that his nation was in _____ so he set out to hire a prophet to curse the Hebrews so they would be defeated.
- ◆ Balak sought to hire Balaam who was famous in his time. He was sought after by Kings and was not afraid to keep them waiting.
- ◆ When we first meet Balaam, he _____ like a real follower of the living God. He sought God's direction and appeared to listen to God when told not to go with Balak's men.
- ◆ Balak keep raising the payment in order to entice Balaam to come and curse the Hebrews for him.
- ◆ Even after clear directions from God Balaam tells them, "But stay here one more night, and I will see _____ the LORD has anything else to say to me." Num. 22:19

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- ◆ Balaam is looking for fine print permission to do what he wants over the clear directions of the living God.
- ◆ This is where we get to the part about the donkey, the angel of the LORD, and the prophet who is spiritually blind to the truth that is right in front of him.
- ◆ Balaam starts out to go and speak against the Hebrews but the angel of God blocks his path three times. His donkey can see the angel with a great sword and refuses to go forward. Each time Balaam gets mad and beats the donkey. Finally, he threatens to kill the poor beast for refusing to go on.
- ◆ Balaam's eyes are _____, and he sees the angel of the lord, repents, and then continues as directed by the angel.
- ◆ Balaam tells the king he will seek God's will to curse the Hebrews but can only say what God allows him to say.
- ◆ Balaam is given instructions to _____ and not curse the Hebrews FIVE times.
- ◆ Five is the number for division or separation. (five foolish and five wise virgins) Here it show the division between the Hebrews and Balak. One blessed by God the other cursed.
- ◆ After this Balaam goes home but even thought he could not curse the Hebrews he showed King Balak a backdoor to trip up the Hebrews.
- ◆ Because of the teachings Balaam gave to Balak in Numbers 25 the Hebrews start to worship other Gods and take the women of Moab instead of their own women.
- ◆ Balaam ended up dying in a battle _____ Joshua and the Hebrew people. (Joshua 13.22)

The WAY of Balaam

- ◆ 2 Peter 2.15-16 They have left the straight way and wandered off to follow the _____ of Balaam son of Beor, who loved the wages of wickedness. But he was rebuked for his wrongdoing by a donkey—a beast without speech—who spoke with a man's voice and restrained the prophet's madness.

- ◆ The _____ he selected (1 John 3.7-8a)
- ◆ The _____ of his sin (1 Corinthians 6.9-10)
- ◆ The _____ of salvation (2 Timothy 3.16-17)

The ERROR of Balaam

- ◆ Jude 10-11 “these people blaspheme all that they do not understand, and they are destroyed by all that they, like unreasoning animals, understand instinctively. Woe to them! For they **WALKED** in the way of Cain and **ABANDONED** themselves for the sake of gain to **BALAAM'S** _____ and **PERISHED** in Korah's rebellion.
- ◆ _____ in the way of Cain.
 - ◇ _____ was wrong.
- ◆ _____ themselves for personal gain.
 - ◇ _____ was in possessions.
- ◆ _____ in God's Judgment
 - ◇ _____ was forever lost.

The TEACHINGS of Balaam

- ◆ Revelation 2.14 “Nevertheless, I have a few things against you: You have people there who hold to the _____ of Balaam, who taught Balak to entice the Israelites to sin by **eating food sacrificed to idols** and by committing **sexual immorality.**”



- ◆ The TEACHING of BALAAM (_____) vs. The TEACHING of the BIBLE (_____).
 1. What does the BIBLE teach or say on the subject? The Bible is _____ out by God for our benefit. 2 Timothy 3.16-17
 2. Does Balaam's teachings _____ or _____ the Word of God? 2 Peter 2.1-3