

Series: Experiencing Immanuel, # 2

Blessing

Numbers 22-24

Lessons from this unusual story:

God's purposes can take a long time to unfold

Last week we discussed the first Messianic prophecy, in Genesis 3:15
How much time has passed from then until Balaam?
And how much time yet before the birth of Christ?

God can use whatever He wants to achieve His will

Name two unexpected characters used by God in these chapters, and why their presence seems a surprise in the story:

Religious ritual and sacrifice do not change God's mind

How many altars did Balaam ask King Balak to build?
How many animals were sacrificed?
And the result of all that was...?

Disadvantage can dissipate when God is on your side

Consider the people of Israel, recently departed from slavery in Egypt:
what chance did they have in military confrontation with established armies?

The influence of Blessing

Numbers 24:1 What result should we pray for, as a result of God's blessing on our lives as individuals, and as a church?

Reflection: Matthew 5:11-12, 43-48