

Scripture Reading: Numbers 22:19-38

The Lord God knows our thoughts

Yesterday we saw about the faithful words that Balaam spoke to the people of Balak. When they approached him the second time, he again went to inquire of the Lord. Then God said to him, "Go, but speak what I say." The next day when he go up on the donkey to go, there was an angel waiting in the fields to kill him. Being able to see the angel, the donkey refused to go further. Balaam began to hit the donkey. Later God opened the eyes of Balaam. When he saw the angel with a drawn sword, he said, "I have sinned against the Lord. I will better return". Then the angel of the Lord said that he could go with them provided he speaks only the words that God says.

Question:

When Balaam inquired of the Lord for the second time, God had agreed to his request. Then why did God Himself wanted to destroy him?

Answer:

Many a times we can only understand the deeds of people and what they say. But our Lord God searches the hearts of people. He knows the decisions that we take in our hearts. God clearly instructed Balaam that he should go, but only speak the words that God says. But as he went, his heart desired to curse the people of Israel and receive from Balak what he had promised. As God saw this wickedness in the heart of Balaam, He came down to kill him. But God is merciful, that's the reason he revealed to the donkey first and then to Balaam and warned him. We also see Balaam himself confessing that he has sinned. Dear people, God not just knows the words of our mouth, He also knows the intents of our hearts. Therefore we should guard holiness even in our thoughts.

"Jesus knew what they were thinking and asked, "Why are you thinking these things in your hearts?"
Luke 5:22

Prayer

Holy heavenly father, we will do all things only after your permission Lord. We will obey the scriptures and keep ourselves from the desire of riches and will never fall like Balaam. Amen