

BBC Bible Study Outline – 9/15/24 – The Honor that comes from God

Numbers 22; *24:11 “I said I would greatly honor you, but in fact, the Lord has kept you back from honor.”

Introduction

Balak, King of Moab called on Balaam (a known diviner) to come and curse Israel, but after only blessings are pronounced, Balak in anger says that while he would have honored Balaam, the Lord had prevented him from receiving any honor... Was this true???

It depends on the kind of honor we're talking about.

There is an honor that comes from God, but neither Balak nor Balaam had this in view.

Balaam was a wicked man... not a servant of God.

- Num. 25:1-3; Num. 31:15-16
- Joshua 24:9-10; Nehemiah 13:1-2; 2 Peter 2:15; Jude 11; Revelation 2:14

The picture we get: Balaam was captivated by the honor of this world. He was a man for hire who was spiritually, but rejected the Lord, even while having numerous personal encounters with Him.

“Honor”

The word “honor” shows up 2 times in Num. 24:11

1. “Greatly honor” – *kabad* – strengthened verb form meaning to make honorable, honor, glorify
2. “Honor” – *kabod* – noun based on the root word *kabad*, speaking of honor and glory – described in Strongs as “dignity of position”

The essence of Balak's statement: “*I could have given you any and everything... but God won't even let you have a little dignity.*”

This is a Satanic lie that he still uses! “*If you will just do my bidding, I will honor you greatly... but the Lord will keep you back from the best things.*”

- Question: In what ways have you seen/heard/felt this lie being pushed?

Does God actually honor people?

- Other uses of *kabod* honor:
 - Prov. 3:35; 15:33; 29:23
- Other uses of *kabad* honor:
 - 1 Samuel 2:27-30 (v. 30)
 - Psalm 91:1, 15 (v. 15)

We should seek for honor! Romans 2:6-7

3 things we can get wrong when it comes to seeking honor (and what the right way is)

1. Seeking Honor from the Wrong Sources

- John 5:44 “How can you believe, who receive honor from one another, and do not seek the honor that comes from the only God?”
- John 12:36-37, 42-43
- Mark 10:35-37, 41

2. Seeking Honor in the Wrong Way

- Mark 10:42-45
- Matt. 23:12

3. Seeking Honor with the Wrong Aim

- 1 Tim. 6:7-10

Our lives are to be lived for the glory of God! (1 Cor. 10:31)

Those who seek the honor that comes from God have an unshakable, eternal, God-glorifying aim and perspective.

- 2 Cor. 4:16-18; Rom. 8:16-17