

Enjoy Life

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BALAAM'S DONKEY



Donkey's cannot talk – can they?

If God tells your donkey to talk, it will talk!

Numbers 22 records a very interesting story about a prophet named Balaam, who was riding on his favorite donkey.

God was angry with Balaam and sent his angel to block his path. The angel of the Lord stood in the road with a drawn sword in his hand. Balaam did not see the angel, but his donkey did, and turned off the road. Balaam beat the donkey to get it back on the road.

Then, a second time, the angel of the Lord stood in a narrow path, with walls on both sides. When the donkey saw the angel, it pressed close to the wall, crushing Balaam's foot against it. So, he beat the donkey again.

A third time, the angel of the Lord stood in a narrow place where there was no room to turn. When the donkey saw the angel, it lay down under Balaam, who beat it again with his staff.

Then the Lord *opened the donkey's mouth* and it asked Balaam why he had beat him 3 times.

So, let's see. The donkey could see things that Balaam could not see. And the donkey obeyed the angel of the Lord. Balaam did not know what was going on, and punished the donkey for not continuing on the path.

Then the donkey spoke to Balaam. Wow, this is amazing. Can our animals talk to us? I have always maintained that our pets can communicate with us to let us know their desires, but never in an audible voice.

Now comes the weird part. Balaam did not seem surprised that the donkey spoke. And, indeed, he *answered* the donkey.

He told the donkey that he beat him because he did not obey, and did not continue on the trip as commanded.

Then the donkey continued the “*conversation*”. He reminded Balaam that he had been his donkey for a long time, and had never disobeyed in the past.

Then suddenly God opened Balaam’s eyes and he *saw the angel of the Lord standing in the road with his sword drawn*.

The angel asked Balaam why he had beat his donkey. He told Balaam that he was displeased with the trip he was taking, and that he would have killed him if the donkey had not turned away from the path.

So, not only did the donkey see things Balaam could not see, and carried on a “normal” conversation with Balaam, he saved Balaam’s life because he *obeyed* the angel of the Lord.

Wow. This will preach!

God puts our animals/pets into our lives with some very special talents, and for very specific purposes.

Sometimes they are able to sense things that exceed our human capabilities. How many times have we seen wild animals acting different when danger is around?

And, we have all heard stories about how a pet saved the life of its master, by warning him about a fire, or a stalking wild animal.

But, I have never heard about an animal that talks to you.

But then, our pets have always found ways to communicate with us. If you pay attention to your animals, you will discover that they will indeed let you know their feelings. Their actions, their eyes, the way they wag their tails, the way they dance around when you come home from work.

You just have to know what to look for.

But then, there may also be a lesson to learn here about how we should listen to God. We have to pay attention to his ways of communicating

with us. God wants to talk with us. God does talk with us. Our task is to learn to listen!

Do donkeys talk? Do your pets talk with you? Does God talk with you?

The challenge is to listen!

