

Because the rewards, the good things of this life, something attractive lead you to try to twist things, but deep down in your heart you know it's not so. And Balaam certainly knew deep down in his heart it wasn't so. But Balaam said, You wait, he said and I'll see what the Lord will say now. Now we find in vs. 20 that God definitely contradicts what he said a few verses earlier. Who says there are not contradictions in the Bible. We read earlier that God said, Do not go with these people. Now we read that God said, If the men come to call thee rise up and go with them. Exactly contradiction what he said before. But he went ~~on~~ ^{But} ~~on~~ yet the word that I shall say unto thee, thus that shalt thou do. There's an exact contradiction if you take the words as cold print. But cold print doesn't represent the words exactly. There is always intension. There is always expression, and we often can tell a great deal from the expression. And here from the context we can tell what the expression must have been. The Lord must have said; Well if the men come to call thee; rise up. Go with them. Yes, I'm giving you permission. You see these rewards. You want it. You go ahead. You know that isn't what I want you to do. I've already told you what I want you to do. But if that's what you're determined to do, you go on and do it but yet the word that I shall say unto thee, that shalt thou do ^{speak}. So that Balaam has won a permission from the Lord to go, but he knows in his heart that God is only saying, Well if you're determined to do it, you do it, but you decide that you won't say anything but what God wants you to say. Well that's a great step. Not to say anything but what God wants him to ~~say~~ say. And Balaam stood to that. And Balaam presented God's word correctly, exactly as God gave it to him, and the Lord thought it worth giving over a long space in the Scripture to giving us the inspired words that Balaam said, but Balaam gets no credit for them because he because he went against what he knew was God's will in the first place, and then afterwards he went against what was God's will. So then we have this next experience:

D. God Speaks Through the Donkey. ~~After~~ ch. 22:21-35 .And of course some people think that the Bible is just a lot of myths and legends something like Esops fables and that's a general idea that is widespread among people who don't know anything about the Bible