

I'm sure Balaam spoke there way beyond what he ever dreamed of himself. Israel ever since has been a separate unit. Israel scattered among the nations and yet maintaining its identity all through the centuries. The people shall not be reckoned among the nations. Who can count the dust of Jacob and number the fourth part of Israel? Let me die the death of the righteous and let my last end be like his. I'm sure that "last end" is not a correct translation. Let what comes after be like his --the acharith, ~~the~~ that which is acher, after. Let me die the death of the righteous, let what follows death be like what is with the righteous man. No wonder Balak said to Balaam, What hast thou done to me? I took you to curse my enemies. Behold you have blessed them all together. So

Preparation for the second prophecy 23:11-16, and then

D. The Second Prophecy. Balak took him to another place where he would have a different view, and Balak thought that maybe here he will be able to get a word that will curse these people. Balak thought of him as being some kind of a magician. ^{Balaam} ~~He~~ thought of himself as one who was going to give God's Word, and he told him repeatedly I won't say anything but what the Lord wants me to say. And so the second prophecy, vs. 17-24, he says in vs. 19, "God is not a man, that he should lie, neither the son of man, that he should repent." Now this word "repent" is a word you can't translate into English. This is not repentance, Godly sorrow for sin. This is turning away from a decision previously made in view of sacrifices, in view of gifts, in view of some-things else that leads you to change your mind. Hath he said and shall he not do it? Hath he spoken and shall he not make it good? Vs. 21 says, He hath not beheld iniquity in Jacob, neither hath he seen perverseness in Israel: the Lord his God is with him and the shout of a king is among them. "What a statement: He has not seen iniquity in Jacob, neither has he seen perverseness in Israel, and yet we have seen the rebellion. We have seen the turning away of the people. We have seen how it was necessary that all of this generation should die in the wilderness, and yet Balaam says, He has not beheld iniquity in Jacob neither has he seen perverseness in Israel. Balaam said that that God sees Israel in the light of God's purposes for Israel. In the light of God's