



Introduction: Tonight, we look at individuals who are two sides of the same coin. On the surface, they are more alike than people give them credit for: both are committed, independent, fundamental, and passionate about their beliefs. In fact, the differences between are harder to spot. As we traverse this landscape concerning them, what lies around the corner for us may reveal which personality we find ourselves looking & sounding most alike. Like these two men, when the heat comes in our lives, our response reveals who we really are.

1. The Bible-believing Balaam

- ✓ Balak, King of the Moabites and their neighbors, the Midianites, try to convince (\$\$\$) the prophet Balaam to curse Israel – *Num. 22:1-7; 1 Tim. 6:10; Gen. 27:29*
- ✓ But Balaam is an independent, bible-believing, fundamentalist:
 - He not only believes God, but he _____ with God and talks with _____ (*22:10-12; 23:4-5*). He professes to believe exactly what God _____, the way that God said it (*22:18-19, 38; 23:3, 12, 16, 26*). He preaches by the spirit of God (*24:2*), preaches _____ (*24:4-5, 18*), and preaches the 1st and 2nd Coming of Christ (*24:17*).
- ✓ And yet...he is _____ by Israel and sent to _____ – *Num. 31:8; Jude 7-11*
 - Went his own _____ way when he refused to preach what God told him to because he wasn't really a _____ in the words – *Num. 22:12-14; 2 Pet. 2:15-16*
 - He seeks after the error of _____ by going with the princes – *Num. 22:17-22; Jude 11*
 - He only preaches what God originally told him to after his life and _____ are threatened – *Num. 22:31-32; 24:9-10*
 - He used something he didn't believe and professed to believe what he really didn't which is why he was able to _____ Balak how to get Israel to curse themselves – *Num. 25:1-3; 31:16; Rev. 2:14*
- ✓ Israel's momentum was now shot as they joined themselves to the world and suffered long-term repercussions – *Josh. 22:17; Hos. 9:10*

2. The Passionate Pursuit of Phinehas

- ✓ Trademarks of a Man Amidst Anarchy
 - With chaos of all kind ensuing, God needs someone to stand up and act – *Num. 25:6-8; Ps. 106:28-30*
 - Someone who rises up out of a _____ passion in pursuit of their God and his righteousness – *Num. 25:9-11; Ps. 42:1-2; 63:8*
 - His name means "mouth of _____; mouth of a _____" – *Mt. 10:16; Lk. 21:15*



- ✓ Here is the 1st mention of “zealous”: “to excite with godly jealousy; _____” – *2 Cor. 7:11; 9:2; 11:2; Titus 2:14; Col. 4:13; Rev. 3:19*

3. **Application:** Legacy Beyond the Wilderness

- ✓ Names his son “my father of plenty” as God promised the succession of the priesthood would continue in his line (Ezra would be a future descendent) – *Num. 25:12-13; 1 Chr. 6:4; Ezr. 7:1-5*
 - Are you doing whatever is necessary to set up your Legacy for future generations? – *Mt. 28:18-20; 2 Tim. 2:2*
- ✓ He was a chief over another band of misfits – the _____ as he succeeded his father as the high priest – *1 Chr. 9:20-21*
 - Are you looking after those in need within your own ministry? – *Gal. 6:1-2; 2 Cor. 1:3-7*
- ✓ Phinehas is the through line of this entire series as we shall see next week as a faithful ambassador/counsellor – *Josh. 22:13, 30-32*
 - Are you representing the Lord as such? – *2 Cor. 5:20; Eph. 6:20; Prov. 24:6*
- ✓ The man was seen by the Lord as a man to be counted on in the day of battle – *Judges 20:28*
 - You know you can trust God, but when the heat is around the corner, can he trust you? – *Gen. 32:26; Phil. 3:12; Lk. 16:10*