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BIBLE ADVENTURES SCRIPT:

**A1452 ~ A Donkey talks to Balaam.**

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*Welcome to Bible Adventures. Help for today. Hope for tomorrow. Jesus is Lord of all.*

Donkeys are lowly animals, just beasts of burden. In Bible days they were valuable for riding and for carrying goods to market, but that was all. They are not handsome, like horses. You cannot dress them up with fine saddles and harness. And they don't gallop or run races for their proud owners.

But the Bible tells us about some lowly donkeys that did very important work. A humble donkey carried the young virgin Mary, as she travelled with her husband Joseph into Bethlehem, just before she gave birth to Jesus, the Son of God. And over 30 years later the Lord Jesus Christ Himself rode into Jerusalem on a donkey and the crowds welcomed Him as their Messiah.

The Bible book Zechariah foretold this, hundreds of years before it happened. Chapter 9, says this, "Shout for joy, you people of Jerusalem. Look, your King is coming to you. He comes triumphant and victorious, but humble, and riding on a donkey."

The Almighty God highly values those who are truly humble. In the book Isaiah, chapter 57, the Almighty God says this, "I am the high and holy God Who lives for ever. I live in a high and holy place, but I also live with people who are humble and repentant."

Today's story is about a prophet who lived in the land of present-day Iraq, about three-and-a-half thousand years ago. He owned a humble donkey, and the Almighty God used this lowly animal in a very special way.

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DRAMA - [The Bible In Living Sound](#).

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About six hundred years before, Father Abraham had lived in Mesopotamia, the same land where Balaam was living. But Abraham had left there to go to the land God had promised him, the land his descendants were about to enter. The land of Moab was near the Promised Land. Its people did not worship the One True God, but they were related to the children of Israel. They came from Lot, Father Abraham's nephew, so the Israelites were unwilling to make war on them. But the Moabite king was very worried about the large number of Israelites camped on his land. They had already conquered the Amorites, who were enemies of Moab, as well as the people of Bashan. And Barak, the king of Moab couldn't believe they would pass on peacefully. He must do something to weaken and overcome them.

The prophet Balaam's home in Mesopotamia was about 700 kilometres away. It was a long journey for the princes of Moab; getting there and back, twice over, must have taken them about three months. In all that time, the Israelites had done no harm to the people of Moab, yet foolish King Barak wanted to destroy them.

Balaam the seer was widely known. Whatever he prophesied, always happened. He was quite rich, but like many people today, he was greedy for greater wealth and honour. The Almighty God would not let him curse His chosen people.

But when the princes of Moab came again, with promises of even more, the temptation was too much. Balaam refused to bear in mind God's words to him. Instead, he wanted God to change His mind and let Balaam curse Israel. He was greedy for the reward he would get through doing evil. But Balaam knew he would lose everyone's respect if his curse failed.

It could only succeed if God allowed it.

Balaam was so unwise to think he could satisfy the demands of King Barak and Almighty God at the same time. In the Bible book Matthew, chapter 6, we are warned, “You cannot serve both God and money.”

How very foolish of Balaam, to think he could play with the Almighty God! In the Bible book Malachi, chapter 3, God says this, "I AM the Lord, I do not change." The One True God had made a solemn promise to Father Abraham: - Abraham's children, through his son Isaac would be God's own people, and through them, God would bless all nations of the earth. He also made a solemn promise to the Israelites, through Moses; if the people would follow and obey Him, He would greatly bless them, and give them victory over their enemies.

At the time of today's story, the children of Israel had been through many troubles because of their disobedience, but now they were following God's way, and His blessing was on them. No-one could harm them whilst they were obedient.

God has not forgotten His people, Israel, at our time in history, but the nation has not yet obeyed Him. They have not yet accepted His One and Only Son as their Messiah. The Lord Jesus Christ was born from Abraham's line in the town of Bethlehem in Palestine, 2,000 years ago. Through Him, God has fulfilled His promise to Abraham. Jesus is the promised Saviour, and through Him people from all nations of the earth are blessed. Jesus came down from heaven to show us what God is like. He gave up His sinless life on the cruel cross to save us from eternal death. He paid the price for all our wrongdoing.

Now, everyone from every nation, who comes to God through Jesus, is forgiven and has everlasting life. The Bible book John, chapter 1, says this, "To all who received Him, to those who believed in His Name, He gave the right to become children of God." That is still true for you and me; when we turn away from wrongdoing and follow Jesus, we become children of God. His blessing is on us. He loves us and will bring us safe into His heavenly home.

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MUSIC - [Integrity Music](#).

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That was Lisa Glasgow, and she sang "The Blessing."

*The drama is from The Bible In Living Sound.*

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