to welcome their child instead. The knowledge of God's preservation of his life motivated Omawumi to give up a lucrative career in favor of full-time ministry. Today, he faithfully pastors a London church.

Like Pastor O, the Israelites experienced God's intervention at a vulnerable time in their history. While traveling through the wilderness, they came within sight of King Balak of Moab. Terrified of their conquests and their vast population, Balak engaged a seer named Balaam to place a curse on the unsuspecting travelers (Numbers 22:2-6).

But something amazing happened. Whenever Balaam opened his mouth to curse, a blessing issued instead. "I have received a command to bless; he has blessed, and I cannot change it," he declared. "No misfortune is seen in Jacob, no misery observed in Israel. The LORD their God is with them; . . God brought them out of Egypt" (Numbers 23:20-22). God preserved the Israelites from a battle they didn't even know was raging!

Whether we see it or not, God still watches over His people today. May we worship in gratitude and awe the One who calls us blessed.

By Remi Oyedele



Father in heaven, forgive us for the many times we take Your care and protection for granted. Give us eyes to see how much You bless us.

How often do you stop to consider the daily protection God extends over you? What does the knowledge that He saves you from unseen dangers mean to you?

SCRIPTURE INSIGHT

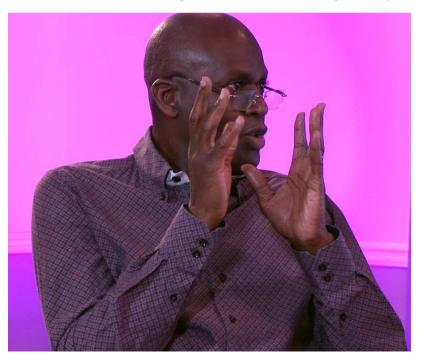
Balaam was a prophet for hire (Numbers 22:7; Deuteronomy 23:4; Joshua 13:22)—a sin that remains prevalent even today. Peter warns of false teachers who "followed the footsteps of Balaam son of Beor, who loved to earn money by doing wrong" (2 Peter 2:15-16 NLT). Jude likewise warns of ungodly people who abuse their positions and misuse their giftedness for monetary gain (Jude 1:11). And John warns of greedy leaders, who, like Balaam, entice people to commit spiritual adultery and sexual immorality (Revelation 2:14). K. T. Sim



When God Intervenes

Do not touch my anointed ones; do my prophets no harm. Psalm 105:15

In a poem titled "This Child Is Beloved," Omawumi Efueye, known affectionately as Pastor O, writes about his parents' attempts to end the pregnancy that would result in his birth. After several unusual events that prevented them from aborting him, they decided





Worship Him

Psalm 105 makes 4 statements that will lead us to worship:

1. Worship God (with your), (Mark 12:30) AND YOU SHALL LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART, WITH ALL YOUR SOUL. WITH ALL YOUR MIND, AND WITH ALL YOUR STRENGTH.' This is the first commandment.

Psalm 105 gives us 10 ways: (The 10 commandments of full worship)

◆ T _____, verse 1 (John 15:5) "....for without Me you can do nothing. (Philippians 4:13) I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

(Ephesians 5:20) giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ,

♦ P_____, verse 1
♦ W____, verse 1
(Mark 8:38) For whoever is ashamed of Me and My

words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him the Son of Man also will be ashamed when He comes in the glory of His Father with the holy angels."

◆ S _____, verse 2 (Psalms 105:2) Sing to him, sing praises to him; ... [translation] (Psalms 105:2) Sing to him, and strum to him! .. [translation] (Psalms 105:2) Sing to him. Make music to praise him. .. [translation]

◆ F_____, verse 2 (Ephesians 5:19) speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord.

- P_____, verse 3 With J_____, verse 3

(Nehemiah 2:2) Therefore the king said to me, "Why is your face sad, since you are not sick? This is nothing but sorrow of heart." So I became dreadfully afraid,

(Hebrews 4:14-16) Seeing then that we have a great High Priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. (15) For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin. (16) Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

• Seeking S_____, verse 4 (*Philippians 3:10*) that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of *His sufferings, being conformed to His death,*



- Seeking God _____, verse 4 R _____, verses 5-6

all -41, 43-44

T_____, verses 17-19 (Genesis 50:20) But as for you, you meant evil against me; but God meant it for good, in order to bring it about as it is this day, to save many people alive.

• J_____, verses 24-36 (Romans 8:1) There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, (1 John 2:2) And He Himself is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the whole world.

• R_____, verses 37-38 (<u>2 Corinthians 5:17)</u> Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.

G , verse 39

3. Worship God because His ______ in our lives is according to His ______, verses 7-12, 42 (Genesis 12:2-3) I will make you a great nation; I will bless you And make your name great; And

you shall be a blessing. (3) I will bless those who bless you, And I will curse him who curses you; And in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

(Genesis 15:7) ... "I am the LORD, who brought you out of Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land to inherit it."

(Jeremiah 31:31-33) "Behold, the days are coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah; (32) not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day that I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt, My covenant which they broke, though I was a husband to them, says the LORD. (33) But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put My law in their minds, and write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people.

(Matthew 26:28) For this is My blood of the new covenant, which is shed for many for the remission of sins.

4. Worship God because His to us, produce His in us. Verse 45

(Romans 8:28-29) And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose. (29) For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren.

