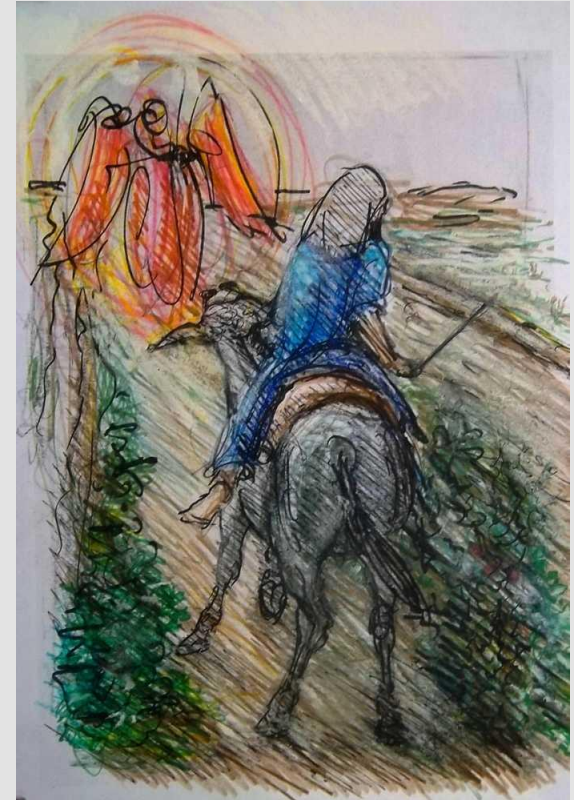


ABCD CHARACTER OF GOD

NUMBERS 22:1-6



Number 22:1-6

- 22 Then the people of Israel traveled to the plains of Moab and camped east of the Jordan River, across from Jericho.
- 2 Balak son of Zippor, the Moabite king, had seen everything the Israelites did to the Amorites.
- 3 And when the people of Moab saw how many Israelites there were, they were terrified.
- 4 The king of Moab said to the elders of Midian, “This mob will devour everything in sight, like an ox devours grass in the field!”

Number 22:1-6

- So Balak, king of Moab, sent messengers to call Balaam son of Beor, who was living in his native land of Pethor near the Euphrates River. His message said:
- “Look, a vast horde of people has arrived from Egypt. They cover the face of the earth and are threatening me. Please come and curse these people for me because they are too powerful for me. Then perhaps I will be able to conquer them and drive them from the land. I know that blessings fall on any people you bless, and curses fall on people you curse.”

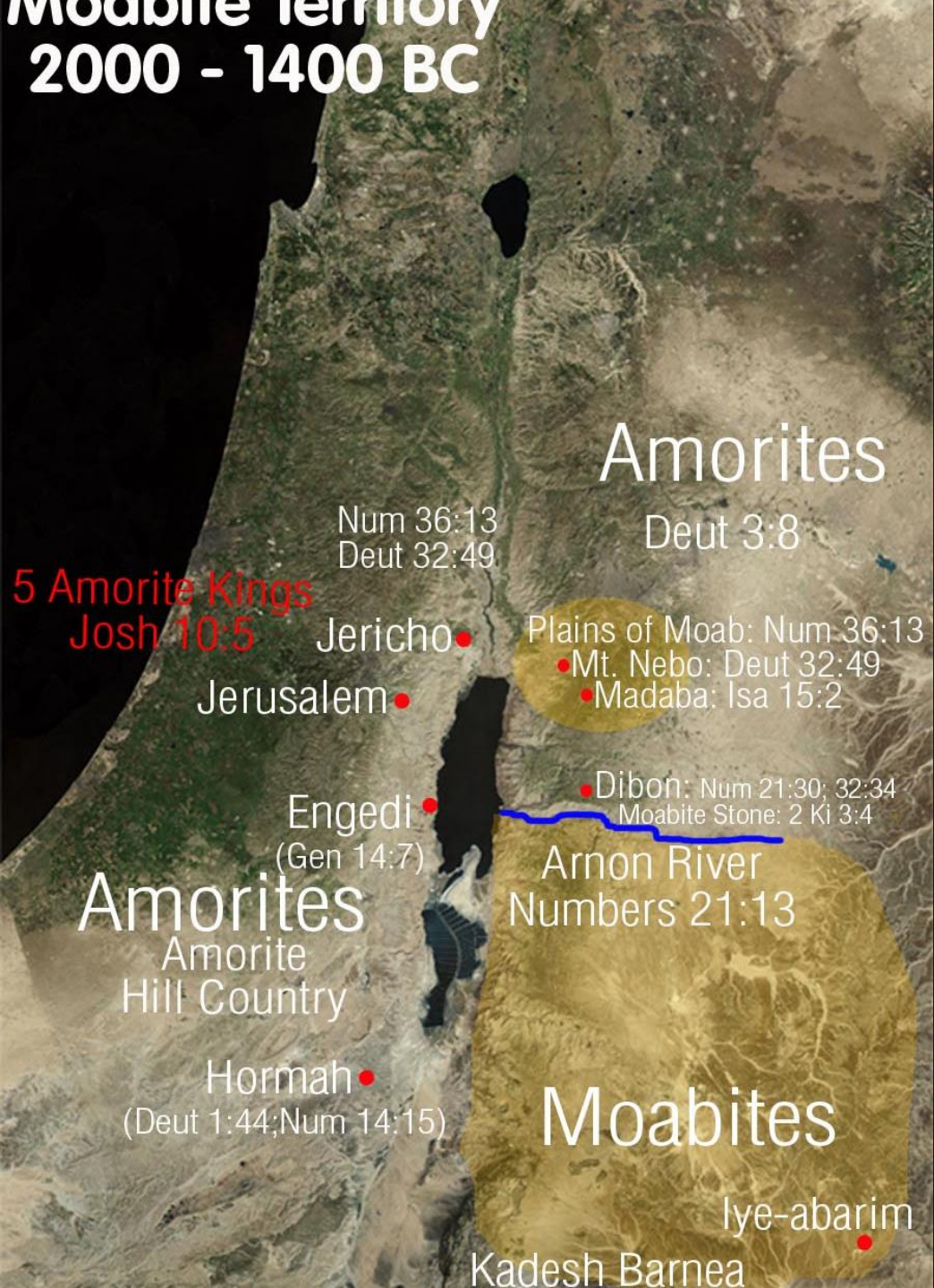


ABCD CHARACTER OF GOD

Number 22-25

THE RUN

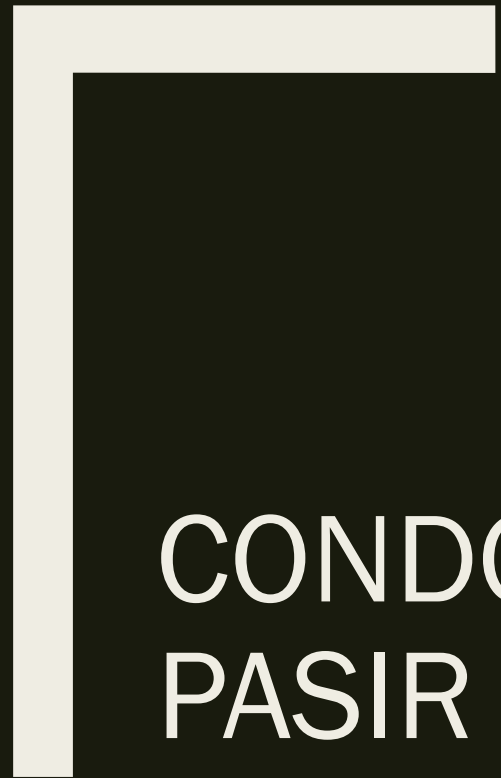
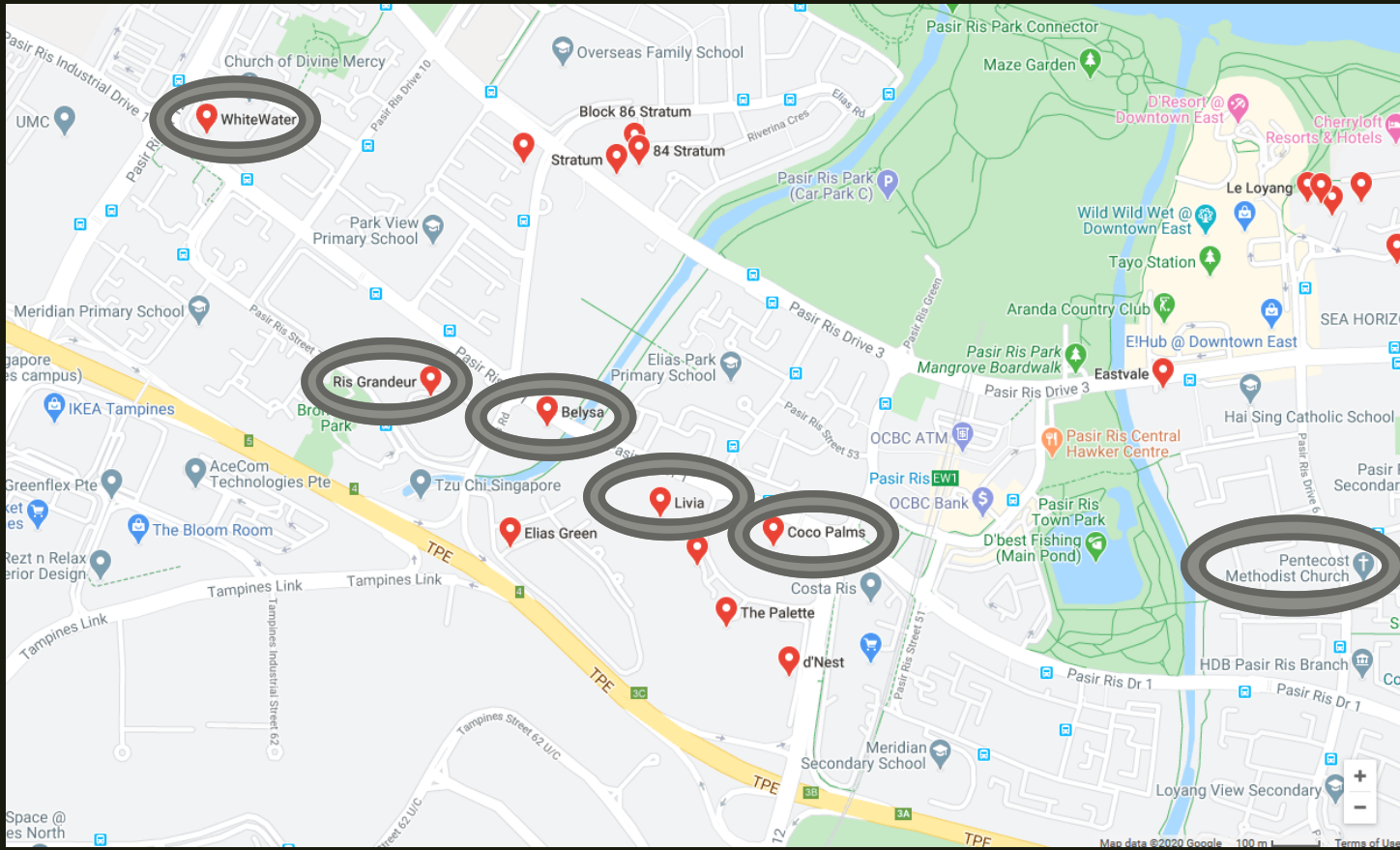
Moabite territory
2000 - 1400 BC



A) AMORITES
WERE STRUCK
DOWN WITHIN
ONE STROKE.



AMORITE GIANTS



CONDOS IN PASIR RIS



BALAK AND BALAAM

Numbers 22

- V7) Balak's messengers, who were elders of Moab and Midian, set out with money to pay Balaam to place a curse upon Israel. They went to Balaam and delivered Balak's message to him.
- V15) Then Balak tried again a second time after the first visit was unfavourable. This time he sent a larger number of even more distinguished officials than those he had sent the first time.
- V17) Balak told Balaam, "I will pay you very well and do whatever you tell me. Just come and curse these people for me!"



NUMBERS 22:9

That night God came to Balaam and asked him, “Who are these men visiting you?”

Psalm 139

- 0 Lord, you have examined my heart
- and know everything about me.
- 2 You know when I sit down or stand up.
- You know my thoughts even when I'm far away.
- 3 You see me when I travel and when I rest at home.
- You know everything I do.
- 4 You know what I am going to say even before I say it, Lord.

Hebrew 4:13

And there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are open and laid bare to the eyes of Him with whom we have to do.

Numbers 22:18

“Even if Balak were to give me his palace filled with silver and gold, I would be powerless to do anything against the will of the Lord my God.

Number 22:12

“Do not go with them. You are not to curse these people, for they have been blessed!”

Number 22:19

But stay here one more night, and I will see if the Lord has anything else to say to me.”

Numbers 24:1a

By now Balaam realized that the
LORD was determined to bless
Israel...



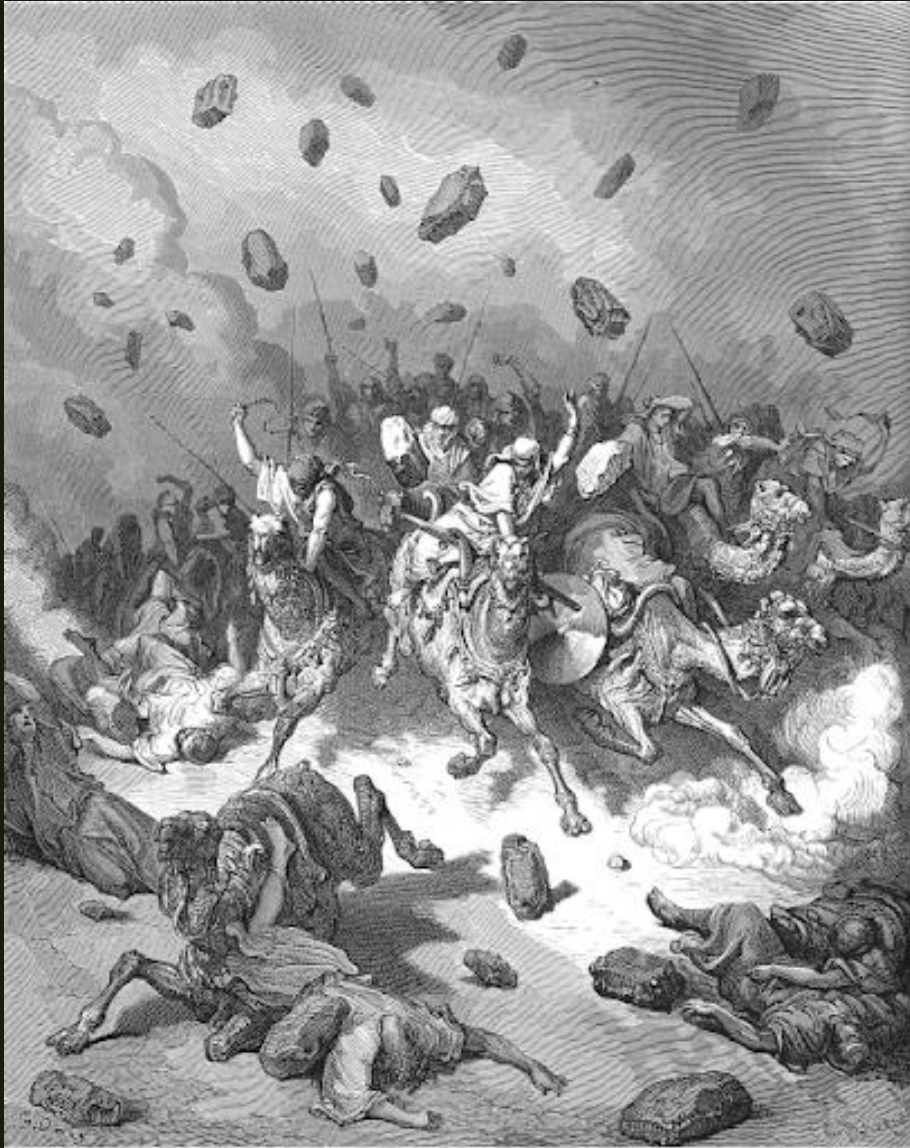
WHY DID I
RUN?



C) CURSE

Balaam and Balak did not know God

- Balaam and Balak did not understand that God is omnipresent –Both thought that God is limited by geography.
- Balaam and Balak did not understand that God is consistent and absolute and He would not curse Israel.



OVERRUN



**A Talking
Donkey**

**Numbers
22:21-31**



D) DONKEY

Numbers 22:21-27

21 So the next morning Balaam got up, saddled his donkey, and started off with the Moabite officials.

22 But God was angry that Balaam was going, so he sent the angel of the Lord to stand in the road to block his way. As Balaam and two servants were riding along,

23 Balaam's donkey saw the angel of the Lord standing in the road with a drawn sword in his hand. The donkey bolted off the road into a field, but Balaam beat it and turned it back onto the road.

Numbers 22:21-27

24 Then the angel of the Lord stood at a place where the road narrowed between two vineyard walls.

25 When the donkey saw the angel of the Lord, it tried to squeeze by and crushed Balaam's foot against the wall. So Balaam beat the donkey again.

26 Then the angel of the Lord moved farther down the road and stood in a place too narrow for the donkey to get by at all.

27 This time when the donkey saw the angel, it lay down under Balaam. In a fit of rage Balaam beat the animal again with his staff.



NUMBERS 22:22

V22) But God was angry
that Balaam was going,

Numbers 22:20

“Since these men have come for you, get up and go with them. But do only what I tell you to do.”

Donkey

- a) He changed direction
- b) tried to avoid
- c) Stop



ROAD
BLOCKS

Numbers 22:28 – 30

28 Then the Lord gave the donkey the ability to speak. “What have I done to you that deserves your beating me three times?” it asked Balaam.

29 “You have made me look like a fool!” Balaam shouted. “If I had a sword with me, I would kill you!”

30 “But I am the same donkey you have ridden all your life,” the donkey answered. “Have I ever done anything like this before?”

“No,” Balaam admitted.

Numbers 22:31-34a

31 Then the Lord opened Balaam's eyes, and he saw the angel of the Lord standing in the roadway with a drawn sword in his hand. Balaam bowed his head and fell face down on the ground before him.

32 "Why did you beat your donkey those three times?" the angel of the Lord demanded. "Look, I have come to block your way because you are stubbornly resisting me.

33 Three times the donkey saw me and shied away; otherwise, I would certainly have killed you by now and spared the donkey."

34 Then Balaam confessed to the angel of the Lord, "I have sinned.

Numbers 22:34b

“I didn’t realize you were standing in the road to block my way. I will return home if you are against my going.”

ABCD – The character of God

A) Amorites – God is omnipotent- All Powerful

B) Balak and Balaam – God is Omniscient and Omnipresent -

C) Curse – God is faithful he will not curse Israel – God is consistent and changeless

D) Donkey – God is merciful, He gave Balaam three changes to turn stop and turn around.

The ABCD of Israel's sin

- **Acacia Grove** – some of the men of Israel defiled themselves by having sexual relations with local Moabite women.
- **Baal of Peor** – Israel joined in the worship of Baal of Peor
- **Cozbi** – daughter of Zur, the leader of a Midianite Clan walked into Zimri's tent right before the eyes of Moses and all the people as everyone was weeping at the entrance of the Tabernacle as Moses ordered Israel's judges to put to death the men under their authority who had joined in worshipping Baal of Peor. Phinehas took a spear and thrust it through Zimri and Cozbi and the plague against the Israelites stopped.
- **Deceit** – Balak deceived Israel to sin.

Numbers 25:10

10 The Lord said to Moses,

11 “Phinehas son of Eleazar, the son of Aaron, the priest, has turned my anger away from the Israelites. Since he was as zealous for my honour among them as I am, I did not put an end to them in my zeal.