

When he arrived at his church, he learned that friends had gathered to pray for his safety. A rancher who hated the gospel had sent some men to attack him at a bend in the trail. They thanked God for causing the donkey to take a shortcut home.

Centuries ago, God used another donkey. This one miraculously spoke and saved the life of Balaam, a disobedient, money-hungry prophet (Num. 22:21-35). God got his attention, and Balaam took the Lord's message to Moab.

God cares for us and He will carry out His good plans for us, even if He has to use animals and rebellious people to do so. How has God spoken to you or cared for you through unusual circumstances? What reasons do you have to praise Him for His protection and leading? –HVL

*My times are in my Father's hand;
How could I wish or ask for more?
For He who has my pathway planned
Will guide me till my journey's o'er. –Fraser*

Because God is with us, we need not fear what is ahead of us.



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God, Donkeys, And Us

If God is for us, who can be against us? –Romans 8:31

Pastor Gumercindo rides a donkey as he travels from village to village in Brazil and preaches the gospel. According to author Don Hare, the travelling evangelist fell asleep in the saddle on his return home after a tiring day. A couple of hours later he was rudely awakened by the roughness of the ride. His donkey had left the trail and was walking through a rocky field. At first the pastor was angry, but he calmed down when he saw that they were almost back to his village.





Trusting God

His Work in Us

(Proverbs 21:1) "The king's heart is in the hand of the LORD, Like the rivers of water; He turns it wherever He wishes."

(Philippians 2:13) "for it is God who works in you both to will and to do for His good pleasure."

(Deuteronomy 29:29) ""The secret things belong to the LORD our God, but those things which are revealed belong to us and to our children forever, that we may do all the words of this law."



Two clear statements summarise God's work in us:

1. God _____ men _____ the good,

(Jeremiah 29:10) "For thus says the LORD: After seventy years are completed at Babylon, I will visit you and perform My good word toward you, and cause you to return to this place."

(Daniel 1:9) "Now God had brought Daniel into the favor and goodwill of the chief of the eunuchs."

(Genesis 20:1-7) "And Abraham journeyed from there to the South, and dwelt between Kadesh and Shur, and stayed in Gerar. {2} Now Abraham said of Sarah his wife, "She is my sister." And Abimelech king of Gerar sent and took Sarah. {3} But God came to Abimelech in a dream by night, and said to him, "Indeed you are a dead man because of the woman whom you have taken, for she is a man's wife." {4} But Abimelech had not come near her; and he said, "Lord, will You slay a righteous nation also? {5} "Did he not say to me, 'She is my sister'? And she, even she herself said, 'He is my brother.' In the integrity of my heart and innocence of my hands I have done this." {6} And God said to him in a dream, "Yes, I know that you did this in the integrity of your heart. For I also withheld you from sinning against Me; therefore I did not let you touch her. {7} "Now therefore, restore the man's wife; for he is a prophet, and he will pray for you and you shall live. But if you do not restore her, know that you shall surely die, you and all who are yours.""

(Genesis 35:5) "And they journeyed, and the terror of God was upon the cities that were all around them, and they did not pursue the sons of Jacob."



(Exodus 34:24) ""For I will cast out the nations before you and enlarge your borders; neither will any man covet your land when you go up to appear before the LORD your God three times in the year."

(Romans 8:31) " .. If God is for us, who can be against us?"

(Jeremiah 29:11) "For I know the thoughts



that I think toward you, says the LORD, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope."

2. God _____ men _____ to the evil,

(Deuteronomy 2:30) ""But Sihon king of Heshbon would not let us pass through, for the LORD your God hardened his spirit and made his heart obstinate, that He might deliver him into your hand, as it is this day."

(James 1:13) "Let no one say when he is tempted, "I am tempted by God"; for God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does He Himself tempt anyone."

(1 John 1:5) " .. God is light and in Him is no darkness at all."

(Habakkuk 1:13) "You are of purer eyes than to behold evil, And cannot look on wickedness. ..."

(Romans 1:18) "For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness,"

(Romans 1:22-26) "Professing to be wise, they became fools, {23} and changed the glory of the incorruptible God into an image made like corruptible man; and birds and four-footed animals and creeping things. {24} Therefore God also gave them up to uncleanness, in the lusts of their hearts, to dishonor their bodies among themselves, {25} who exchanged the truth of God for the lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen. {26} For this reason God gave them up to vile passions. For even their women exchanged the natural use for what is against nature."

(Exodus 4:21) "And the LORD said to Moses, "When you go back to Egypt, see that you do all those wonders before Pharaoh which I have put in your hand. But I will harden his heart, so that he will not let the people go."

(Exodus 8:15) "But when Pharaoh saw that there was relief, he hardened his heart and did not heed them, as the LORD had said."

(Acts 4:27-28) ""For truly against Your holy Servant Jesus, whom You anointed, both Herod and Pontius Pilate, with the Gentiles and the people of Israel, were gathered together {28} "to do whatever Your hand and Your purpose determined before to be done."

(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."

(Habakkuk 1:13) "You are of purer eyes than to behold evil, And cannot look on wickedness. Why do You look on those who deal treacherously, And hold Your tongue when the wicked devours A person more righteous than he?"

(Revelation 17:16-17) ""And the ten horns which you saw on the beast, these will hate the harlot, make her desolate and naked, eat her flesh and burn her with fire. {17} "For God has put it into their hearts to fulfill His purpose, to be of one mind, and to give their kingdom to the beast, until the words of God are fulfilled."

