



REVELATION 18 – PERGAMUM: BALAAM EFFECT

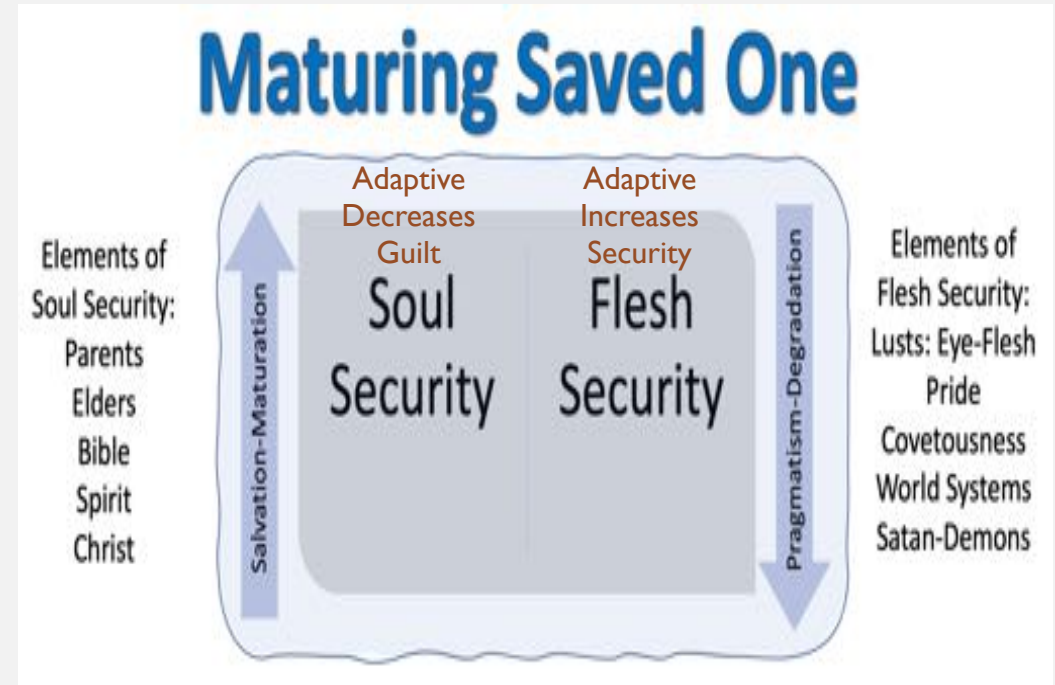
Dr. Leon L. Sanders
Revelation 2:14-15

UNDERSTANDING THE OLD TESTAMENT: BALAAM-BALAK-MIDIANITES

- Contrary to modern belief, Christianity is not a New Testament faith; its foundation is the Old Testament evidenced by Christ's letters to His churches
- Balaam {*Not of the people*}: Postdiluvian, Pre-Aaronic Priest as Melchizedek who emulated Christ's priesthood (Nu 22-24; He 5:5-10; 7:1-3)
 - Famous priest living in Upper Mesopotamia; priests accepted tithes for services
 - Balak {Devastator}, king of Moab {From Lot's 1st daughter} feared the Hebrews who defeated the Amorites {From Lot's 2nd daughter} who defeated him (Ge 19:30-38)
 - Balak, with Midianites {From Abraham's union with Keturah}, asked Balaam to curse the Hebrews for *honors* and *money*; eventually Balaam came but forced by God to utter three blessings; before he left, he *earned* his reward advising Balak how to weaken the Hebrews: Intermarry Moabite women to Hebrew men to destroy the Hebrew culture {Return to pre-Abram state – Idolatry (Shin)} (Nu 25:1-9; De 23:3-6; Mic 6:5)

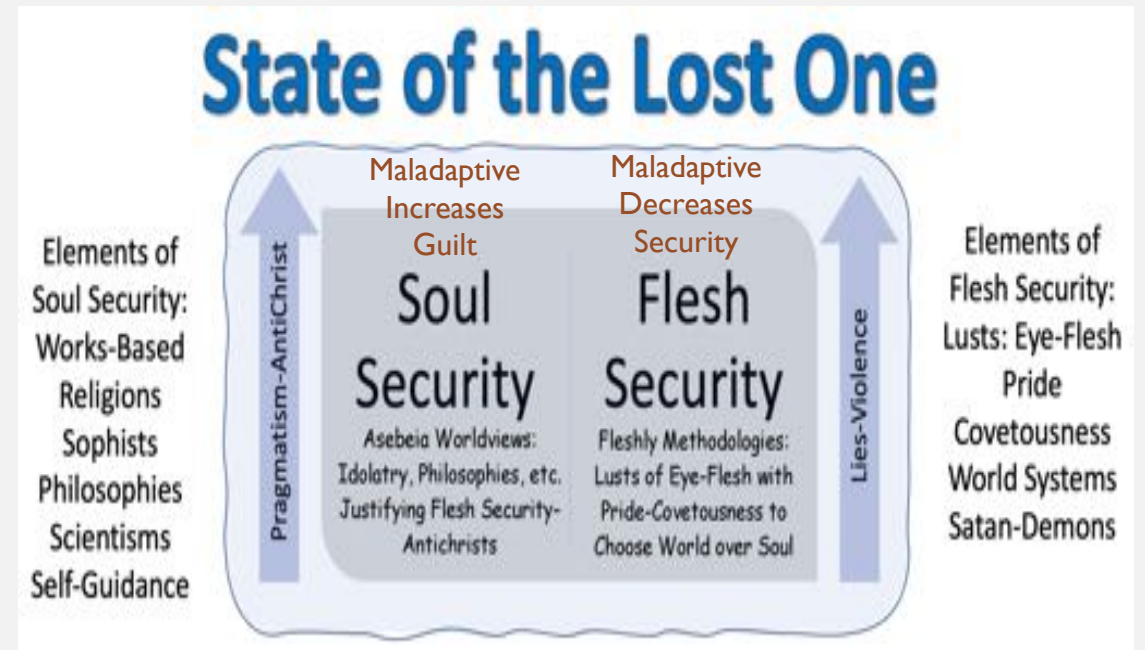
ESSENCE OF BALAAM'S TEACHING: TRADING *SOUL SEC* FOR *FLESH SEC*

- Each person is Flesh-Body and Soul-Spirit
(He 4:12)
- All born in sin {Lost}; reject knowing Christ, no *Soul Sec* {Guilt} (Ro 1:18-28; 3:10-18, 23)
 - *Natural Man* embraces *Flesh Sec* (1Co 2:12-14)
 - *Natural Man* makes own *Soul Sec* {*Idolatry*} to have *Flesh Sec*: Pragmatism {Ends-Means}
- Maturing Saved learn to choose *Soul Sec* over *Flesh Sec* *emulating* Christ; seeking *city to come* {Eternity} over Now World (He 1:8-12; 11:9-10)



BALAAM: FALLEN PRIEST

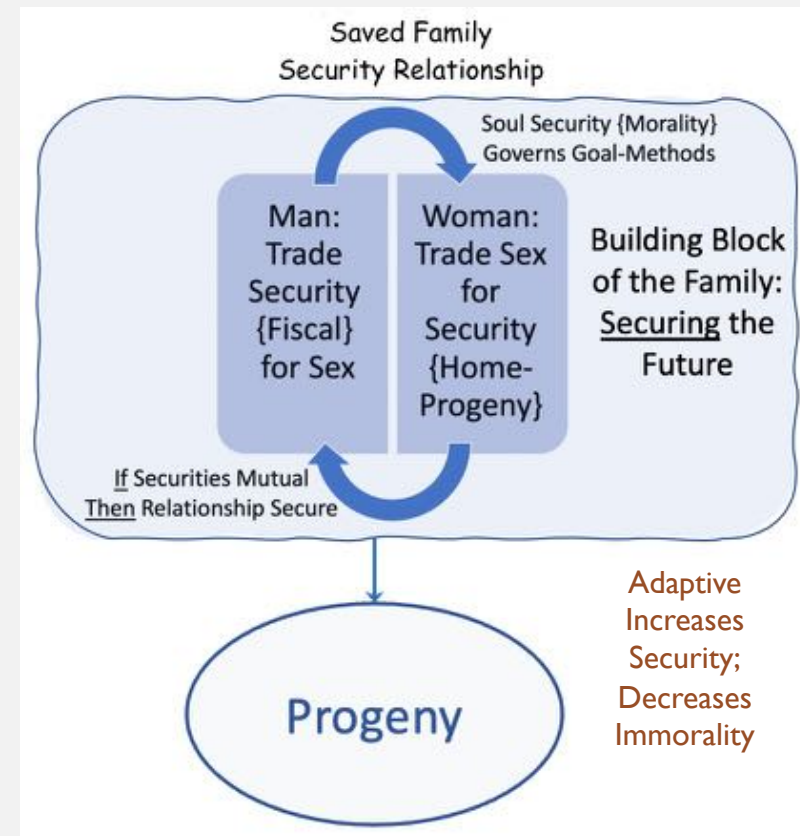
- Balaam chose the World dying for his error: 1st & 2nd (Nu 31:7-8; Mt 6:24-25; Re 20:11-15)
 - He chose *Flesh over Soul Sec* (Lk 8:36-37; 2Pe 2:14-21)
 - He *pretended* to believe but rejected God
 - His *advice* is Satan's major weapon
- But Melchizedek advised Abram to reject *Flesh Sec* for *Soul Sec* {Duality} (Ge 14:18-20)
 - Duality: Lot chose *Flesh Sec*, Sodom, while Abram chose *Soul Sec*, Mtns; reflected in Lot's daughters' incestuous actions (Ge 13)



BALAAM EFFECT: ATTACK THE FAMILY-ATTACK GOSPEL

- Balaam's {Satan's} advised attacking Family destroying godly culture then the Gospel
 - Marriage merges Man-Woman into unity of Truth to produce the future: Progeny (Ge 2:23-24; Mt 19:3-8)
- Marriage reflects relationship of Christ-Believer {Church} (Ep 5:22-6:4)
 - Father serves, guides family via example by living God's Truth: Outward Perspective
 - Mother teaches and transmits culture: Inward Perspective (Pr 23:22-25)
- Moabite wives promote Baal worship to children; husbands subdued via sex-strife

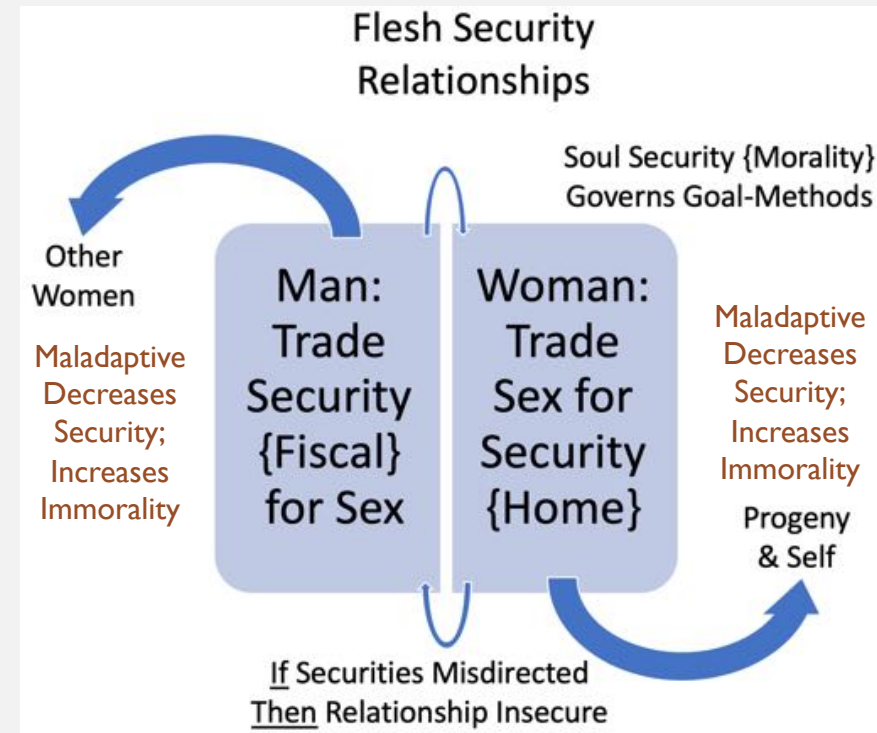
Two-Prong Immorality:
 Spiritual – Divides from God
 Physical – Divides from Helpmate



BALAAM EFFECT: DESTROYING THE FAMILY

Maladaptive:
Increased Self-Esteem Illusion
Masks Increased Insecurity
Increases Violence

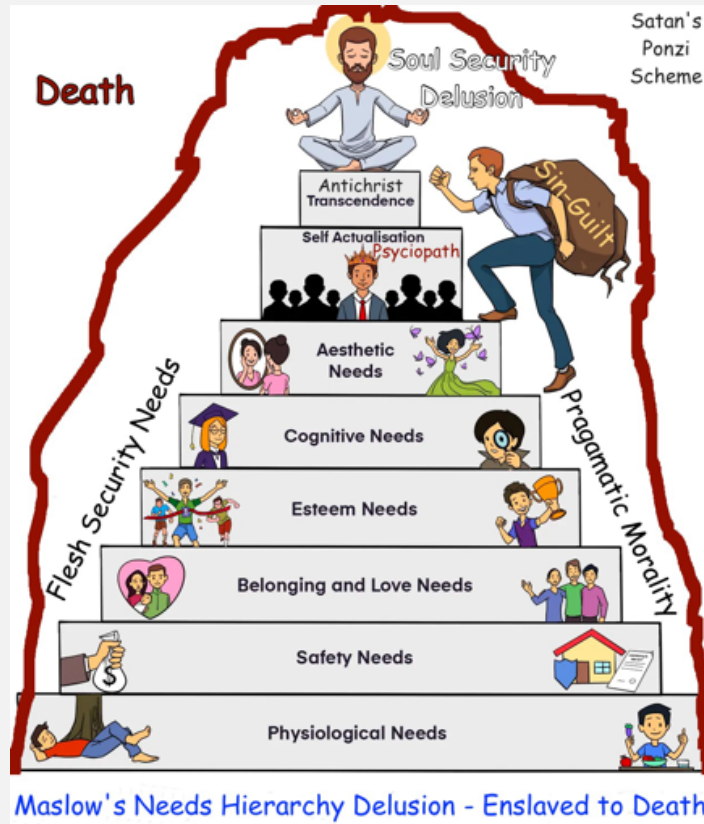
- Balaam's teaching changed families from interdependence {Good} to division {Sin}: {Jacob-Leah-Rachael} (Ge 29-30)
 - Division revealed first in Adam-Eve (Ge 3:9-12)
 - Husbands abrogate leadership or leave
 - Women build security on children to gain Control: Social-Moral Decline (Lk 12:51--53)
- God's truth *rejected*; *no-gods* substituted justifying *Flesh Sec*: Degradation-Violence



BALAAM EFFECT: EXAMPLE OF *FLESH INSECURITY*:

Maladaptive:
Increased Self-Esteem Illusion
Masks Increased Insecurity
Increases Violence

- Maslow's Need's Hierarchy scientism's delusion of *Flesh Sec* via Psychology
 - Ignores guilt-fear as product of sin: Fear of Judgment-Accountability (1Jo 4:18)
 - *Freedom* to be your own moral compass a lie: Psychopath {Fittest Survival} (Je 17:9-10)
 - *Ends justifies means*, Pragmatism, hallmark of Balaam's Teaching (De 12:8; Ju 17-18 (30-31); Pr 21:2)
- Promotes societal division-collapse; Satan institutes Socialism-Antichrist globalism to suppress Gospel and believers (Re 6:9-11; 12:7-12; 13)



Where Satan's Throne,
Balaam's Teaching,
dominates there
Satan dwells:
Pergamum,
Families,
Societies and
Governments
living in increasing
confusion clinging to
Satan's Delusion
(2Th 2:3-12)

BALAAM EFFECT: NICOLAITAN'S PHILOSOPHY

- Balaam's methodology does not work in a vacuum; it is legitimized by worldly wisdom according to sin's *elemental* foundations (Ro 1:18-28; Ep 4:11-14; 6:12; Col 2:8; Re 19:15)
- Nicolaitan's Gnosticism, *Neo-Platonism's One*, later augmented by *Aristotelian's Many*, promoted liberal-social equality due to ongoing nation-church wars
 - Women deceived to believe their social changes bring good though they promote evil evidenced by disintegration of families, churches and nations: Remain guided by Men
- Balaam's and Nicolaitan's Teachings conflate Sin's evil for God's good: To make children of Hell and eliminate Gospel believers (Is 5:20-21; Mic 3:1-3; Mt 23:13-15, 29-35; Ro 3:8)
 - Modern *social* movements promote same goal: Globalism which Men control but Women are the face for *change* {Ecology; Fossil fuels; Climate change; Population control; Abortion; Critical Theories; CBDC; etc.}: Where this abounds, Satan dwells!

BALAAM EFFECT: APPEARANCE OF WOMEN LEADERSHIP

- Balaam Effect clothed in Nicolaitan *wisdom* increases covetousness-fear-guilt and decreases security: Satan's Delusion – His Throne (Col 3:5; 2Th 3:3-12)
- Women-infants leading families-nations; contrary to God's order (Is 3:12)
 - Example: Because Barak {Lightning} would not lead, Deborah led Hebrews against Sisera shaming men: Woman killed Sisera via trickery (Ju 4)
 - Women to be quiet in church learning, obeying their husbands as they are more easily deceived; Satan attacks them bypassing husband's guard: Eve (1Co 14:34-35; 1Ti 2:11-15)
 - Men not innocent; they actively allow women to be used for their own gain: Adam not deceived {*Plausible Deniability*}; Men remain in Control *behind the scene* (Ro 1:18-28)
- Satan uses women to make governments-homes-churches unstable increasing reliance on Satan: Jezebel; Whore of Babylon (1Ki 21; 1Co 3; Ga 5:19-21; Re 17)