

Our standing / Our walk

God said He had “not beheld *iniquity* in Jacob, neither hath he seen *perverseness* in Israel”—Num. 23:21. Yet, we know that God often chastened Israel for their sin.

But God did not see their sin, like He does not see the sins of those **under the blood**. Our sins are removed “*As far as the east is from the west*”—Psa. 103:12.

If we are saved, our **standing** before God is **perfect**, because we stand in Christ’s righteousness, but our daily **walk** may not be perfect. God’s goal is for our **walk** to correspond with our **standing** before Him.



Scripture to read before next Sunday

Luke 1:5–80

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Moses’ JOURNEY ENDS



Moses sees Canaan
before his death.

Moses’ life is
in 3 periods.

Palace in Egypt	40 yrs
Shepherd in Sinai	40 yrs
Wilderness journey	40 yrs

Moses dies at 120 yrs.

Direct will / permissive will

King Balak promised great rewards to the prophet Balaam if he would put a curse on Israel. Though Balaam knew God's direct will, he hoped for God's permissive will.

Parents are familiar with direct wills and permissive wills with their children. The child is told not to do such and such; yet he continues asking until the parent says, "Well, all right, go ahead." And he lets the child do what he wants and suffer the consequences.

So God allowed the prophet Balaam to do His permissive will and suffer the consequences—an early death. And that today can happen to Christians.

Balaam's advice—**compromise** Num. 31:16

Balaam's advice to defeat Israel was, "Don't fight 'em, join 'em. Be friendly; invite them to your heathen feasts. This will take them off guard. They will come, and then God will turn against them. And you can defeat them in battle."

Israel yielded to the temptation and joined their idolatry and immorality. But God chastened Israel, and 24,000 **died** in a plague.

Satan's tactic is to get us to compromise with evil. Today, many of God's people compromise with the world—in alcohol, drugs, immoral entertainment, fornication, rock music, immodest attire (1 Tim. 2:9), and worldly philosophies—such as, evolution, pop culture, secular humanism, new age movement, etc.

God faithfully chastens His people.

Israel's journey and the Christian's life—

- Egyptian bondage shows sinner's condition **before salvation**—his **bondage** to sin.



- Crossing the Red sea pictures a person's **salvation**—**freedom** from bondage.



- God gave His people the **10 Commandments** to live by.



- Tabernacle pictures **Jesus Christ** and our relationship with God.



- Israel failed to believe God could give them Canaan. Thus they had to wander 40 yrs. in the wilderness.