

purpose Israel is free from sin. But in the light of what Israel actually is they are a very sinful people, and it is exactly that way with God's church. God's church is made up of all who truly believe in the Lord Jesus Christ, and God looks upon us and he does not behold iniquity or perverseness because those have been placed on the cross. We are free from the guilt of our sins through the Lord Jesus Christ and he does not behold iniquity or perverseness in us. But when he looks at us in our actual condition he sees rebellious ones, selfish ones seeking their own will, seeking to do what they want, having to be punished and chastised, and led along. And there are those two aspects in the Christian life, and I think it is very important that we keep them both in mind. When anybody begins to think he is perfect he is a dangerous situation. I think that John Wesley said, He believed it was possible for a man to achieve perfection in the sense of not committing any known sin, but he did not believe that he himself had reached that point. Certainly if John Wesley didn't, I don't believe that anybody else ever did. We all have a long ways to go for our sanctification and yet God sees us thru the person of our Lord Jesus Christ and does not behold iniquity nor perverseness in us because His merits are attributed to you. So God's purpose was to be carried out for Israel despite the sin among the people and the fact that many of them had to be eliminated.

E. Preparation for the Third Prophecy, 23: 25-24:2 Balak said, Well now he has seen all the people and it has had this effect. Let's take him now where he ^{gets a} has a different look, a different viewpoint, see them from a diff. angle. Maybe now we can get them cursed. He makes a third attempt. ¶ 23:25-24:2.

F. The Third Prophecy is 24:3-9. He said, Balaam the son of Beor hath said, and the man whose eyes are open hath said: He hath said, which heard the words of God, which saw the vision of the Almighty (continue reading text). And then he praises Israel and tells how God is going to bless them, and to give them victory. No wonder we read in vs. 10 that Balak's anger was kindled.

G. Preparation for the Fourth Prophecy, 24:10-14. (Reading text...vs. 10-13). We have a marvellous example in Balaam. What a shame that it is marred by errors at the