

¹وَارْتَحَلَ بَنُو إِسْرَائِيلَ وَتَرَلُّوا فِي عَرَبَاتِ مُوَابَ مِنْ عَبْرِ
أُرْدُنَّ أَرَبْحًا.² وَلَمَّا رَأَى بَالَاقُ بْنُ صِغُورَ جَمِيعَ مَا فَعَلَ
إِسْرَائِيلُ بِالْأَمُورِيِّينَ،³ فَزَعَّ مُوَابُ مِنَ السَّعْبِ جِدًّا لِأَنَّهُ
كَثِيرٌ، وَصَحَرَ مُوَابُ مِنْ قِبَلِ بَنِي إِسْرَائِيلَ.⁴ فَقَالَ مُوَابُ
لِشُبُوحِ مِدْيَانَ، الْآنَ يَلْحَسُ الْجُمْهُورُ كُلُّ مَا جَوَلْنَا كَمَا
يَلْحَسُ الثَّوْرُ خُضْرَةَ الْحَقْلِ. وَكَانَ بَالَاقُ بْنُ صِغُورَ مَلِكًا
لِمُوَابَ فِي ذَلِكَ الزَّمَانِ.⁵ فَأَرْسَلَ رُسُلًا إِلَى بَلْعَامَ بْنِ
بَعُورَ، إِلَى قُتُورِ النَّبِيِّ عَلَى النَّهْرِ فِي أَرْضِ بَنِي شَعْبِهِ
لِيَدْعُوهُ قَائِلًا، هُوَذَا سَعْبٌ قَدْ خَرَجَ مِنْ مِصْرَ. هُوَذَا قَدْ
عَشَى وَجْهَ الْأَرْضِ، وَهُوَ مُقِيمٌ مُقَابِلِي.⁶ قَالَنَ تَعَالَ
وَالْعَنَ لِي هَذَا السَّعْبُ لِأَنَّهُ أَعْطَمَ مِنِّي. لَعَلَّهُ يُمَكِّنُنَا أَنْ
تَكْسِرَهُ قَاطِرُودُهُ مِنَ الْأَرْضِ. لَأَتِي عَرَفْتُ أَنَّ الَّذِي
تُبَارِكُهُ مُبَارَكٌ وَالَّذِي تَلْعَنُهُ مَلْعُونٌ.⁷ فَأَنْطَلَقَ شُبُوحُ مُوَابَ
وَشُبُوحُ مِدْيَانَ، وَخُلُوعُ الْعِرَاقَةِ فِي أَيْدِيهِمْ وَأَتَوْا إِلَى
بَلْعَامَ وَكَلَّمُوهُ بِكَلَامٍ بِالْأَقْ. فَقَالَ لَهُمْ، يَبْنُوا هُنَا اللَّيْلَةَ
فَأَرِّدْ عَلَيْنَا جَوَابًا كَمَا يُكَلِّمُنِي الرَّبُّ. فَمَكَتْ رُؤُسَاءُ
مُوَابَ عِنْدَ بَلْعَامَ.⁹ فَأَتَى اللَّهُ إِلَى بَلْعَامَ وَقَالَ، مَنْ هُمْ
هَؤُلَاءِ الرِّجَالُ الَّذِينَ عِنْدَكَ.¹⁰ فَقَالَ بَلْعَامُ لِلَّهِ، بِالْأَقِ بْنُ
صِغُورَ مَلِكُ مُوَابَ قَدْ أَرْسَلَ إِلَيَّ يَقُولُ، هُوَذَا السَّعْبُ
الْخَارِجُ مِنْ مِصْرَ قَدْ عَشَى وَجْهَ الْأَرْضِ. تَعَالَ الْآنَ الْعَنَ
لِي إِيَّاهُ لَعَلِّي أَقْدِرُ أَنْ أَخَارِبَهُ وَأَطْرُدَهُ.¹² فَقَالَ اللَّهُ
لِبَلْعَامَ، لَا تَذْهَبَ مَعَهُمْ وَلَا تَلْعَنَ السَّعْبَ، لِأَنَّهُ
مُبَارَكٌ.¹³ فَقَامَ بَلْعَامُ صَبَاحًا وَقَالَ لِرُؤُسَاءِ بِالْأَقِ، انْطَلِفُوا
إِلَى أَرْضِكُمْ لِأَنَّ الرَّبَّ أَبَى أَنْ يَسْمَعَ لِي بِالذَّهَابِ
مَعَكُمْ.¹⁴ فَقَامَ رُؤُسَاءُ مُوَابَ وَأَتَوْا إِلَى بِالْأَقِ وَقَالُوا، أَبَى
بَلْعَامُ أَنْ يَأْتِيَ مَعَنَا.¹⁵ فَقَادَ بِالْأَقِ وَأَرْسَلَ أَيْضًا رُؤُسَاءَ
أَكْثَرَ وَأَعْطَمَ مِنْ أَوْلَيْكَ.¹⁶ فَأَتَوْا إِلَى بَلْعَامَ وَقَالُوا لَهُ،
هَكَذَا قَالَ بِالْأَقِ بْنُ صِغُورَ، لَا تَمْتَنِعْ مِنَ الْإِثْنَانِ
إِلَيَّ،¹⁷ لَأَتِي أَكْرِمُكَ أَكْرَامًا عَظِيمًا، وَكُلُّ مَا تَقُولُ لِي
أَفْعَلُهُ. فَتَعَالَ الْآنَ الْعَنَ لِي هَذَا السَّعْبَ.¹⁸ فَأَجَابَ بَلْعَامُ
عَبِيدَ بِالْأَقِ، وَلَوْ أُعْطَايَ بِالْأَقِ مِائَةً بَنِيهِ فِصَّةً وَذَهَابًا لَا
أَقْدِرُ أَنْ أَتَجَاوَرَ قَوْلَ الرَّبِّ إِلَهِي لِأَعْمَلُ صَغِيرًا أَوْ
كَبِيرًا.¹⁹ قَالَنَ امْكُنُوا هُنَا أَنتُمْ أَيْضًا هَذِهِ اللَّيْلَةَ لِأَعْلَمَ مَاذَا
يَعُودُ الرَّبُّ يُكَلِّمُنِي بِهِ.²⁰ فَأَتَى اللَّهُ إِلَى بَلْعَامَ لَيْلًا وَقَالَ
لَهُ، إِنْ أَتَى الرِّجَالُ لِيَدْعُوكَ فَقُمْ اذْهَبْ مَعَهُمْ. إِنَّمَا
تَعْمَلُ الْأَمْرَ الَّذِي أَكَلَّمْتُكَ بِهِ فَقَطْ.²¹ فَقَامَ بَلْعَامُ صَبَاحًا
وَسَدَّ عَلَى أَتَانِهِ وَانْطَلَقَ مَعَ رُؤُسَاءِ مُوَابَ.²² فَحَمِيَ
غَضَبُ اللَّهِ لِأَنَّهُ مُنْطَلِقٌ، وَوَقَفَ مَلَكُ الرَّبِّ فِي الطَّرِيقِ

¹And the children of Israel set forward, and pitched in the plains of Moab on this side Jordan by Jericho.²And Balak the son of Zippor saw all that Israel had done to the Amorites.³And Moab was sore afraid of the people, because they were many: and Moab was distressed because of the children of Israel.⁴And Moab said unto the elders of Midian, Now shall this company lick up all that are round about us, as the ox licketh up the grass of the field. And Balak the son of Zippor was king of the Moabites at that time.⁵He sent messengers therefore unto Balaam the son of Beor to Pethor, which is by the river of the land of the children of his people, to call him, saying, Behold, there is a people come out from Egypt: behold, they cover the face of the earth, and they abide over against me:⁶Come now therefore, I pray thee, curse me this people; for they are too mighty for me: peradventure I shall prevail, that we may smite them, and that I may drive them out of the land: for I wot that he whom thou blessest is blessed, and he whom thou cursest is cursed.⁷And the elders of Moab and the elders of Midian departed with the rewards of divination in their hand; and they came unto Balaam, and spake unto him the words of Balak.⁸And he said unto them, Lodge here this night, and I will bring you word again, as the LORD shall speak unto me: and the princes of Moab abode with Balaam.⁹And God came unto Balaam, and said, What men are these with thee?¹⁰And Balaam said unto God, Balak the son of Zippor, king of Moab, hath sent unto me, saying ,¹¹Behold, there is a people come out of

لِقَاوَمُهُ وَهُوَ رَاكِبٌ عَلَى أَتَانِهِ وَغِلْمَاهُ مَعَهُ.²³ فَأَبْصَرَتْ
 الْأَتَانُ مَلَكَ الرَّبِّ وَاقِفًا فِي الطَّرِيقِ وَسَيِّفُهُ مَسْلُورٌ
 فِي يَدِهِ، فَصَالَتِ الْأَتَانُ عَنِ الطَّرِيقِ وَمَشَتْ فِي الْحَقْلِ.
 فَصَرَبَ بَلْعَامُ الْأَتَانَ لِيُرُدَّهَا إِلَى الطَّرِيقِ.²⁴ ثُمَّ وَقَفَ
 مَلَكَ الرَّبِّ فِي خَنْدَقٍ لِلْكُرُومِ، لَهُ خَائِطٌ مِنْ هُنَا وَخَائِطٌ
 مِنْ هُنَاكَ.²⁵ فَلَمَّا أَبْصَرَتْ الْأَتَانُ مَلَكَ الرَّبِّ رَحِمَتْ
 الْخَائِطَ، وَصَعَطَتْ رَجُلَ بَلْعَامِ بِالْخَائِطِ، فَصَرَبَهَا
 أَيْضًا.²⁶ ثُمَّ اجْتَارَ مَلَكَ الرَّبِّ أَيْضًا وَوَقَفَ فِي مَكَانٍ صَيِّقٍ
 حَيْثُ لَيْسَ سَبِيلٌ لِلنُّكُوبِ يَمِينًا أَوْ شِمَالًا.²⁷ فَلَمَّا أَبْصَرَتْ
 الْأَتَانُ مَلَكَ الرَّبِّ رَبِصَتْ تَحْتَ بَلْعَامِ. فَحَمِيَ عَصَبُ
 بَلْعَامِ وَصَرَبَ الْأَتَانَ بِالْقَصِيبِ.²⁸ فَفَتَحَ الرَّبُّ قَمَّ الْأَتَانِ،
 فَقَالَتْ لِبَلْعَامِ، مَاذَا صَنَعْتَ بِكَ حَتَّى صَرَبْتَنِي الْآنَ ثَلَاثَ
 دَفْعَاتٍ.²⁹ فَقَالَ بَلْعَامُ لِلْأَتَانِ، لِأَنَّكَ ارْدَرْتِ بِي. لَوْ كَانَ
 فِي يَدِي سَيْفٌ لَكُنْتُ الْآنَ قَدْ قَتَلْتُكَ.³⁰ فَقَالَتْ الْأَتَانُ
 لِبَلْعَامِ، أَلَسْتُ أَنَا أَتَاكَ الَّتِي رَكِبْتَ عَلَيْهَا مُنْذُ وُجُودِكَ
 إِلَى هَذَا الْيَوْمِ. هَلْ تَعَوِّذُ أَنْ أَفْعَلَ بِكَ هَكَذَا، فَقَالَ،
 لَا.³¹ ثُمَّ كَشَفَ الرَّبُّ عَنْ عَيْنَيْ بَلْعَامِ، فَأَبْصَرَ مَلَكَ الرَّبِّ
 وَاقِفًا فِي الطَّرِيقِ وَسَيِّفُهُ مَسْلُورٌ فِي يَدِهِ، فَحَرَّ سَاجِدًا
 عَلَى وَجْهِهِ.³² فَقَالَ لَهُ مَلَكَ الرَّبِّ، لِمَاذَا صَرَبْتَ أَتَاكَ
 الْآنَ ثَلَاثَ دَفْعَاتٍ. هَتْنَدَا قَدْ خَرَجْتَ لِلْمُقَاوَمَةِ لَأَنَّ
 الطَّرِيقَ وَرَطَهُ أَمَامِي، فَأَبْصَرْتَنِي الْأَتَانُ وَمَالَتْ مِنْ
 قُدَامِي الْآنَ ثَلَاثَ دَفْعَاتٍ. وَلَوْ لَمْ تَمِلْ مِنْ قُدَامِي لَكُنْتُ
 الْآنَ قَدْ قَتَلْتُكَ وَاسْتَبَقْتُنِيهَا.³⁴ فَقَالَ بَلْعَامُ لِمَلَكَ الرَّبِّ،
 أَحْصَاثُ. إِنِّي لَمْ أَعْلَمْ أَنَّكَ وَاقِفٌ تَلْقَائِي فِي الطَّرِيقِ.
 وَالْآنَ إِنْ قُبِحَ فِي عَيْنَيْكَ فَأَتِي أَرْجِعْ.³⁵ فَقَالَ مَلَكَ الرَّبِّ
 لِبَلْعَامِ، أَذْهَبَ مَعَ الرِّجَالِ، وَإِنَّمَا تَتَكَلَّمُ بِالْكَلَامِ الَّذِي
 أَكَلَّمْتُكَ بِهِ فَقَطْ. فَأَنْطَلَقَ بَلْعَامُ مَعَ رُؤَسَاءِ بَالَاقَ.³⁶ فَلَمَّا
 سَمِعَ بَالَاقُ أَنَّ بَلْعَامَ جَاءَ، خَرَجَ لِاسْتِقْبَالِهِ إِلَى مَدِينَةِ
 مُوَابَ الَّتِي عَلَى ثُحْمِ أَرِيُونَ الَّذِي فِي أَقْصَى
 النُّحُومِ.³⁷ فَقَالَ بَالَاقُ لِبَلْعَامِ، أَلَمْ أُبَيِّدْ إِلَيْكَ لَأَدْعُوكَ.
 لِمَاذَا لَمْ تَأْتِ إِلَيَّ. أَحَقًّا لَا أَقْدِرُ أَنْ أَكْرِمَكَ.³⁸ فَقَالَ بَلْعَامُ
 لِبَالَاقَ، هَتْنَدَا قَدْ جِئْتُ إِلَيْكَ. أَلَعَلِّي الْآنَ أَسْتَطِيعُ أَنْ
 أَتَكَلَّمَ بِشَيْءٍ. الْكَلَامُ الَّذِي يَصْعُهُ اللَّهُ فِي قَمِي بِهِ
 أَتَكَلَّمُ.³⁹ فَأَنْطَلَقَ بَلْعَامُ مَعَ بَالَاقَ وَأَتَا إِلَى قَرْبَةِ
 خَصُوتِ. فَدَبَّحَ بَالَاقُ بَقْرًا وَعَتَمًا وَأَرْسَلَ إِلَى بَلْعَامِ
 وَإِلَى الرُّؤَسَاءِ الَّذِينَ مَعَهُ.⁴¹ وَفِي الصَّبَاحِ أَخَذَ بَالَاقُ بَلْعَامَ
 وَأَضْعَدَهُ إِلَى مُزْنَعَاتِ بَعْلٍ، فَرَأَى مِنْ هُنَاكَ أَقْصَى
 السَّعْبِ.

Egypt, which covereth the face of the earth: come now, curse me them; peradventure I shall be able to overcome them, and drive them out.¹² And God said unto Balaam, Thou shalt not go with them; thou shalt not curse the people: for they are blessed.¹³ And Balaam rose up in the morning, and said unto the princes of Balak, Get you into your land: for the LORD refuseth to give me leave to go with you.¹⁴ And the princes of Moab rose up, and they went unto Balak, and said, Balaam refuseth to come with us.¹⁵ And Balak sent yet again princes, more, and more honourable than they.¹⁶ And they came to Balaam, and said to him, Thus saith Balak the son of Zippor, Let nothing, I pray thee, hinder thee from coming unto me:¹⁷ For I will promote thee unto very great honour, and I will do whatsoever thou sayest unto me: come therefore, I pray thee, curse me this people.¹⁸ And Balaam answered and said unto the servants of Balak, If Balak would give me his house full of silver and gold, I cannot go beyond the word of the LORD my God, to do less or more.¹⁹ Now therefore, I pray you, tarry ye also here this night, that I may know what the LORD will say unto me more.²⁰ And God came unto Balaam at night, and said unto him, If the men come to call thee, rise up, and go with them; but yet the word which I shall say unto thee, that shalt thou do.²¹ And Balaam rose up in the morning, and saddled his ass, and went with the princes of Moab.²² And God's anger was kindled because he went: and the angel of the LORD stood in the way for an adversary against him. Now he was riding upon his

ass, and his two servants were with him.²³ And the ass saw the angel of the LORD standing in the way, and his sword drawn in his hand: and the ass turned aside out of the way, and went into the field: and Balaam smote the ass, to turn her into the way.²⁴ But the angel of the LORD stood in a path of the vineyards, a wall being on this side, and a wall on that side.²⁵ And when the ass saw the angel of the LORD, she thrust herself unto the wall, and crushed Balaam's foot against the wall: and he smote her again.²⁶ And the angel of the LORD went further, and stood in a narrow place, where was no way to turn either to the right hand or to the left.²⁷ And when the ass saw the angel of the LORD, she fell down under Balaam: and Balaam's anger was kindled, and he smote the ass with a staff.²⁸ And the LORD opened the mouth of the ass, and she said unto Balaam, What have I done unto thee, that thou hast smitten me these three times?²⁹ And Balaam said unto the ass, Because thou hast mocked me: I would there were a sword in mine hand, for now would I kill thee.³⁰ And the ass said unto Balaam, Am not I thine ass, upon which thou hast ridden ever since I was thine unto this day? was I ever wont to do so unto thee? And he said, Nay.³¹ Then the LORD opened the eyes of Balaam, and he saw the angel of the LORD standing in the way, and his sword drawn in his hand: and he bowed down his head, and fell flat on his face.³² And the angel of the LORD said unto him, Wherefore hast thou smitten thine ass these three times? behold, I went out to withstand thee, because thy way is

perverse before me:³³ And the ass saw me, and turned from me these three times: unless she had turned from me, surely now also I had slain thee, and saved her alive.³⁴ And Balaam said unto the angel of the LORD, I have sinned; for I knew not that thou stoodest in the way against me: now therefore, if it displease thee, I will get me back again.³⁵ And the angel of the LORD said unto Balaam, Go with the men: but only the word that I shall speak unto thee, that thou shalt speak. So Balaam went with the princes of Balak.³⁶ And when Balak heard that Balaam was come, he went out to meet him unto a city of Moab, which is in the border of Arnon, which is in the utmost coast.³⁷ And Balak said unto Balaam, Did I not earnestly send unto thee to call thee? wherefore camest thou not unto me? am I not able indeed to promote thee to honour?³⁸ And Balaam said unto Balak, Lo, I am come unto thee: have I now any power at all to say any thing? the word that God putteth in my mouth, that shall I speak.³⁹ And Balaam went with Balak, and they came unto Kirjathhuzoth.⁴⁰ And Balak offered oxen and sheep, and sent to Balaam, and to the princes that were with him.⁴¹ And it came to pass on the morrow, that Balak took Balaam, and brought him up into the high places of Baal, that thence he might see the utmost part of the people.