

# Numbers 22:15

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And Balak sent yet again princes, more, and more honourable than they.

## Analysis

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**Balak sent yet again princes, more, and more honourable than they**—Balak escalated both the size and status of his delegation. The Hebrew יְקָרִים (yeqārîm, "more honourable") indicates higher-ranking nobles, a greater honor for Balaam. This ancient Near Eastern strategy—when initial envoys fail, send more prestigious representatives—aimed to flatter recipients into compliance.

Balak's persistence reveals he interpreted Balaam's first refusal as negotiable, not absolute. Had Balaam definitively closed the door ("God forbids cursing His people, and I will not discuss this further"), no second embassy would come. But his ambiguous response signaled he might be persuaded.

## Historical Context

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Moabite kings, descendants of Lot (Genesis 19:37), ruled a territory east of the Dead Sea. Balak's willingness to send multiple high-level delegations hundreds of miles demonstrates how desperately Moab feared Israel's approach and how highly Balaam's curse-power was valued.

## Related Passages

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**1 Corinthians 13:4** — Characteristics of love

**1 John 4:8** — God is love

## Study Questions

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1. When worldly authorities escalate their offers after your initial "no," what does your wavering communicate about God's authority in your life?
2. How does leaving interpretive room in your obedience invite more sophisticated temptations?
3. What half-open doors in your spiritual life allow the enemy to send "more honourable princes" to negotiate?

## Interlinear Text

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וַיַּעֲשֵׂה בְּלָק יְמִינֵי קָרְבָּן וְיַעֲשֵׂה  
yet again And Balak sent princes more and more honourable  
H3254 H5750 H1111 H7971 H8269 H7227 H3513

מִאָלָה:

H428

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