

# Numbers 23:27

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And Balak said unto Balaam, Come, I pray thee, I will bring thee unto another place; peradventure it will please God that thou mayest curse me them from thence.

## Analysis

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**And Balak said unto Balaam, Come, I pray thee, I will bring thee unto another place; peradventure it will please God that thou mayest curse me them from thence**—Balak's third attempt (וַיִּשָּׂר בְּעֵינֵי הָאֱלֹהִים ulay yishar be'einei ha'Elohim, 'perhaps it will be right in God's eyes') reveals pagan superstition that changing locations might alter divine will. After two failed curse attempts (23:7-10, 23:18-24), Balak persisted in seeking manipulable outcomes.

The phrase **it will please God** exposes fundamental misunderstanding of Yahweh's character—God's will doesn't fluctuate based on geography or repeated requests. Isaiah 14:27 declares 'The LORD of hosts hath purposed, and who shall disannul it?' Balak's persistence exemplifies the pagan mindset that divine favor is negotiable through finding the right formula, contrasting with biblical submission to God's unchanging purposes.

## Historical Context

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This third cursing attempt moved from Bamot-baal (22:41) to Pisgah's field (23:14) to Peor's summit (23:28), demonstrating Balak's desperation. In pagan thought, different locations had varying spiritual 'power levels,' making prophetic outcomes venue-dependent. Balaam exploited this superstition, collecting fees for each failed attempt.

## Related Passages

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**Ephesians 2:8** — Salvation by grace through faith

**John 3:16** — God's love and salvation

## Study Questions

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1. How does Balak's venue-hopping to manipulate God's will parallel modern attempts to find the 'right formula' for guaranteed blessings?
2. What does Balak's phrase 'perhaps it will please God' reveal about pagan versus biblical understanding of divine sovereignty?
3. How can you discern when persistence in prayer reflects faith versus attempts to manipulate God into reversing His clear will?

## Interlinear Text

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אָמַר	וַיֹּאמֶר	בָּלָק	אֶל	בָּלָעַם	לְכֵה	נָא	אֶלְכָּהּ
<b>said</b>		<b>And Balak</b>		<b>unto Balaam</b>			<b>I pray thee I will bring</b>
H559		H1111	H413	H1109	H1980	H4994	H3947
אֶל	מָקוֹם	אֲחֵר	אֵל	יִישָׁר	בְּעֵינַי	יְהוָה	
H413	<b>place</b>	<b>thee unto another</b>	H194	H3477	H5869	<b>God</b>	
	H4725	H312				H430	
	וְקִבַּלְתָּ	לְךָ	מִשְׁמָה				
	<b>that thou mayest curse</b>						
	H6895	H0	H8033				

## Additional Cross-References

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**Romans 11:29** (References God): For the gifts and calling of God are without repentance.