

Restraining Our Madness

(2 Peter 2:16)

- Introduction:
1. Ills. of Neighbor whose house was on fire.
 2. Ills. of Christian woman who was seeing “dead people.”
 3. Sometimes, people need help to keep them from harming themselves; they need someone to restrain them from their madness.
 4. This is the precise wording Peter uses with reference to Balaam.
 5. Let’s rehearse his situation and make some application.

I. The Story of Balaam

- A. (Numbers 22-23).
- B. Balak, king of Moab, wanted Balaam to curse Israel (Numbers 22:6).
- C. God told Balaam not to curse Israel (Numbers 22:12).
- D. Balak is persistent (Numbers 22:17).
- E. Balaam was saved by his donkey (Numbers 22:22-34).
- F. God’s divine commentary of this event (2 Peter 2:16).

II. Restrain Us From Our Madness

- A. (Matthew 16:26).
- B. (Romans 6:23).
- C. Our minds can become futile, darkened, and reprobate (Ephesians 4:17-18; Romans 1:28).
- D. We need circumstances to restrain us from madness (Luke 15:17).
- E. We need people to restrain us from madness (2 Samuel 12:7).

- Conclusion:
1. Lord, restrain our madness.
 2. Bring people and circumstances into our lives that will keep us from sin.