1. Now Balaam, seeing that it pleased the Eternal to bless Israel, did not, as on previous occasions, go in search of omens, but turned his face toward the wilderness.

2. As Balaam looked up and saw Israel encamped tribe by tribe, the spirit of God came upon him.

3. Taking up his theme, he said:

4. Word of Balaam, son of Beor, word of the man whose eye is true,

5. Word of him who hears God’s speech. Who beholds visions from the Almighty, prostrate, but with eyes unveiled:

6. How fair are your tents, O Jacob, your dwellings, O Israel!

7. Like palm-groves that stretch out, like gardens beside a river, like aloes planted by the Eternal, like cedars beside the water;

8. Their boughs drip with moisture, their roots have abundant water. Their ruler shall rise above Agag, their sovereignty shall be exalted.

9. God who freed them from Egypt is for them like the horns of the wild ox. They shall devour enemy nations, crush their bones, and smash their arrows.

10. They crouch, they like down like a lion, like the king of beasts; who dares rouse them? Blessed are they who bless you, accursed they who curse you!
Micah 6:3-8

3. “My people! What [wrong] have I done to you? Have I exhausted your patience? Answer Me!

4. In fact, I brought you up from the land of Egypt, redeemed you from the house of bondage, and sent Moses, Aaron, and Miriam to lead you.

5. My people, remember what Balak king of Moab planned, and how Balaam son of Be’or answered him. [Remember your journey] from Shittim to Gilgal, and you will understand God’s victorious acts.”

6. With what should I come to the Eternal, and bow down before God on high? Should I come before God with burnt offerings, with yearling calves?

7. Would the Eternal be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousand rivers of oil? Should I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for my own sin?

8. It has been told you, O mortal, what is good, and what the Eternal requires of you—only this: to do justly, and love mercy, and walk humbly with your God.