

**Break the Yoke  
Part Two  
Newport News Campus  
03/23/19**

**Opening**

- NRBC Update (video) (verse Ezra 3:11-13)
- new order of service
- new series launch...there's a reason you'll never see a yoke on a Musk Ox!

**Introduction**

**-Isaiah 10:27 KJV**

**-Isaiah 10:27 NASB** (preach...musk ox slides reference)

-Luke 4:18...we certainly believe this!

-Acts 10:38

*-How much time have we spent in our lives regarding certain struggles pleading with God to deliver us when His response to us all along has been, grow out of it!*

-Psalm 27:13...I believe this!!

**-Deuteronomy 29:29**

*...and I believe there will never be the fullness of Psalm 27:13 realized in our lives until we embrace Deuteronomy 29:29 and become Isaiah 10:27...fat!!!!*

## Balaam

-Numbers 22:4-13

- A bartering culture (talk about missions trips)
- They send a second delegation (important people and money)
- God in a dream says go with them

-Numbers 22:21-35

- He is a Mesopotamian priest...
- A “baru” prophet, specializes in animal divination...

*The irony is that Balaam is supposed to discern the will of God through the pagan practice of observing the behaviors of animals yet here in the story the animal is more spiritually sensitive than the prophet!*

- Reminds us the supernatural realm is real...be warned!
- God is angry because Balaam thinks he is now bartering with God!!!
- God never negotiates truth or principles that lead to compromise.

-Joshua 13:15, 22

-I share this story with you tonight because some of you are bartering with God when comes to Stewardship and Generosity...

**-Grace does not displace the consequential nature of obedience!**

*-And one of the consequences of disobedience is that we stop growing spiritually and we never find the strength to break the things that keep holding us back!*

## Yokes

-Acts 26:14

- A long stick with a pointed end...
- Image is a person “yoked” and being directed by God

-whenever you accept a yoke, you are accepting both a direction and an influence, a destination and a master

-Matthew 11:28-30

- “yoke” is a Rabbi’s interpretation of the Law
- An easy yoke means Jesus’ expectations are reasonable
- “burden” is the same word for a ship’s cargo
- A light burden means you were created to carry it

## **Band**

*-How much time have we spent in our lives regarding certain struggles pleading with God to deliver us when His response to us all along has been, grow out of it!*

**-Isaiah 29:1-4** (NLT)

## **Close**

-pray for the days ahead...