



God Healed the People- Numbers 21

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Christ Connection

God sent snakes to punish the people, but anyone who was bitten could look at the snake on the pole and live. We sin, too. We can look to Jesus and trust in Him to be saved from our sin.

Big Picture Question

What is God like? God is holy, good, and loving.

Key Passage

Lord, who is like you, glorious in holiness, revered with praises, performing wonders?
Exodus 15:11

Talk About the Scripture at Home

In the early 1900s, there was no treatment for bacterial diseases that were killing millions of people. Then, in 1928, penicillin—a type of mold—was accidentally discovered to be exactly what was needed to save lives. This new medicine saved thousands of soldiers in World War II and it continues to be used as a primary treatment for bacterial infections today. There is no way to count the number of lives saved by this medicine. It probably sounds strange for people to use mold as a medicine, but not as strange as how God brought healing through a bronze snake. The Israelites continued to grumble and complain, even after all God had done for them. Finally, God had enough of their disobedience, so He sent judgment in the form of venomous snakes. Many of the people were bitten and died from the snakes. The Israelites knew they had sinned and deserved God's judgment, but they pleaded with Him to remove the snakes. God told Moses to make a bronze snake and mount it to a pole. If anyone looked at the snake, they would recover from the snake's bite. God showed mercy to the Israelites by providing a way—as strange as it may sound—for them to be healed. We all deserve to be punished for sin, and the ultimate punishment is death. God showed us mercy in an unexpected way by sending His own Son to suffer and die for our sin. God offers us the way to be healed through the sacrifice of Jesus. Anyone who looks to Him for salvation will be saved. That's the good news of the gospel. **God sent snakes to punish the people, but anyone who was bitten could look at the snake on the pole and live. We deserve to die because of our sin, but anyone who looks to Jesus on the cross and trusts in him will live forever with God.**

Pray: Lord, You are merciful and good. We thank You for sending Jesus to die in our place. Help us look to Him for our salvation and keep our eyes on Him as we live for Your glory