



**April 1, 2024**

***Lift High the Cross***

*“Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness, so the Son of Man must be lifted up so that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him. For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.” John 3:14-16*

Easter of 2024 is behind us. Some have celebrated with an Easter ham and by breaking bread together. Many of the children/grandchildren have had Easter egg hunts, and we've enjoyed happy times with friends and family. But what's next? What lies ahead for us as Christians? This message from John makes it quite clear. Just as Moses lifted up the bronze snake in the wilderness, we must lift up Jesus Christ to all who believe to remind them of the promise of eternal life.

What does a bronze snake on a pole have to do with Jesus on the cross? Although it seems like a curious simile, it has a great deal to do with him. These verses broadcast the omnipotence of God and most of all, the healing power of Jesus Christ.

In Numbers 21:6-9, the Israelites constantly whined while traveling in the dessert. Nothing was good enough, so God

sent poisonous snakes to remind them to change their hearts. Many were bitten and some died from the snake bites. Moses prayed for mercy for his people. The Lord said to Moses to put a snake on a pole and raise it up, so that those who looked at it will live.

God's promises restore us every day of our life. When we turn to Jesus, we remember his sacrifice on the cross, and know we will live, just as the Israelites lived when they looked at the bronze snake. Our powerful and loving God helps us find a way out of our misery and shows us the way to eternal life.

Transformational healing is available to all those who believe in Jesus Christ. Hallelujah!

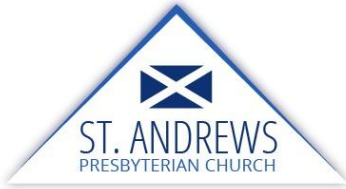


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~Written by Kathryn Den Houter

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