

Lifted Up For Life John 3:14-16

The Serpent Shadows The Cross

Israel full of shadows and previews such as the brass serpent
Consider the connection Jesus makes here

The Wilderness Serpent - Numbers 21:4-9

It was prescribed by God. Divinely appointed means of healing. Origin was not from man.
It was the only remedy for their condition.

Healed whoever bitten, Young/old, rich/poor, priest/slave

Condition was no respecter of persons; neither was healing

Wherever bitten. Made no difference where man was or what part of the man was affected.

No matter how many times a man might be bitten, however serious a man's condition

Three remarkable things about display of God's concern

Serpents remained - God provided healing but left the serpents among them.

Plan was simple - Healing was easy to find life came by a look.

The plan never failed - The cure was instantaneous and complete. Look to the brass serpent live
Jesus connects raised serpent to lifting on cross - **John 3:14-16**

The Cross Is God's Plan To Save Man

Not from mind of man but wisdom of God. Men think it foolish - **1Corinthians 1:18-24**

Yet, it is the focal point of history - **1Corinthians 15:1-5**

The Cross Is The Only Means Of Salvation - John 14:6-7

No respecter, young/old, rich/poor, executive/ditch digger, black/white - **2Corinthians 5:14-15;**
Hebrews 2:9

Many doors closed to some; not this one. God welcomes you, not matter who you are - **Acts 10:34-35**

The Cross Cleanses No Matter What The Sin...

Tendency of guilt-ridden man think God could not forgive them - "Forgive sins of others? Yes? But
forgive me? How?" We sometimes think our sins are worse than others.

But blood of Christ can cleanse even the vilest of sins - **1Corinthians 6:9-11**

Cleanses no matter how many times a man has sinned

(God is not the one who limits forgiveness) - **Matthew 18:21-35**

Cleanses no matter how serious, cross saves worst of sinners - **1Timothy 1:15**

Three Very Important Lessons About Cross Of Christ

Sin remains - While God provides a remedy, He did not remove us from sin

My responsibility to navigate through life in a manner that keeps from sin as much as possible,
while utilizing the remedy when I falter - **1John 2:1**

The plan is simple - Healing easy to find at the foot of the cross - **Matthew 11:28-30**

Instead of look, obedience to commands - **Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38**

The plan never fails - Sometimes men fail to follow plan and die, but the plan never fails.

No matter who you are, no matter where you're from, no matter what you've done, if you'll look
to the cross, you can be cleansed.

What about you?

Are you heavily burdened with a load of sin? Why not let Jesus remove that burden?

He won't take away all of your problems and temptations?

God didn't take away serpents, but provided means of healing

And that's what He provides for you now

Why not look at the cross? Why not come to Jesus for cleansing...

DLH/???