

# The Bronze Serpent

**BUILDING  
BLOCKS**

## SEARCHING FOR THE KING

As the children of Israel traveled toward the Promised Land, they “became \_\_\_\_\_ on the way” (Numbers 21:4). Listen to how they complained:

“Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we loathe this worthless food.” (Numbers 21:5)

But God heard their complaining and sent “fiery serpents” that bit many of them. In Numbers 21:7, the people said, “We were wrong!” and begged Moses to pray for them.

And the LORD said to Moses, “\_\_\_\_\_ a fiery serpent and set it on a pole, and everyone who is bitten, when he sees it, shall live.” So Moses made a bronze serpent and set it on a pole. And if a serpent bit anyone, he would \_\_\_\_\_ at the bronze serpent and live. (Numbers 21:8-9)



That’s a fascinating story, **but what does it have to do with our search for our King?**

In John 3, Jesus had a long conversation with a Pharisee named **Nicodemus**, a ruler of the Jews. After telling him, “unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God,” Jesus made a clear connection from that story of the bronze serpent in the Old Testament book of Numbers, all the way to himself.

“And as \_\_\_\_\_ lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the \_\_\_\_\_ of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal \_\_\_\_\_.” (John 3:14-15)

Our King knew exactly why he had come. Jesus was born and lived so that he could be “lifted up from the earth” (John 12:27, 32-33). What a blessing **WE** have to be able to “look to Jesus” as the “founder and perfecter of our faith” (Hebrews 12:1-2)!

# FOUNDATION STONES



- 📌 How did the children of Israel get themselves in trouble in [Numbers 21](#)? They were “impatient.” They complained, even calling the food God was giving them “worthless.” Why is it an ugly, really bad idea to complain?
- 📌 What sort of things is it sometimes really easy for **US** to complain about?
- 📌 We heard really good news in [John 3:16](#): “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.” What has Jesus done for all of us?

