

SO SEND I YOU, INC. 2024 LENTEN DEVOTIONAL

Saint John Baptist Church is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: 2024 LENTEN DEVOTIONAL

Time: Feb 16, 2024 06:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Every day, until Mar 31, 2024

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82089300351?pwd=qdHdd5LGaTRWPhJCRgOxsK6bL2Fnji.1>

Meeting ID: 820 8930 0351

Passcode: 628471

Dial by your location

- **+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)**
 - **+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)**
-

DAY 3 FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2024

LOOK UP AND LIVE

Dr. Joseph G. Ford

Numbers 21:9 So Moses made a bronze snake and put it on a pole. Then when anyone was bitten by a snake and looked at the bronze snake, they lived.

Leading up to Numbers 21:9 the children of Israel charged God with bringing them to the wilderness to die. Tired of their complaining, God sends judgment in the form of poisonous snakes. Israel repents and Moses intercedes on their behalf. God instructs Moses to make a serpent of bronze and put it on a pole. All who looked at the bronze snake would be healed.

The bronze serpent represents the embodiment of God's mercy. The serpents that had bitten the people were a consequence of their sin of complaining and rebellion. However, God, in His infinite mercy, provided a way for them to be forgiven and healed. God offered a straightforward path to forgiveness: by looking up to the bronze serpent, they received life and restoration.

It's a foreshadowing of what God would do through Jesus Christ. In the New Testament, Jesus Himself refers to this story as a symbol of His own crucifixion and its purpose. Jesus said in John 3:14-15, "And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even

so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.”

The bronze serpent served as a temporary solution to a physical problem, whereas Jesus’ crucifixion provides the ultimate solution to humanity’s spiritual problem of sin and separation from God.

Through His death and resurrection, Jesus offers forgiveness, salvation, and eternal life to all who believe in Him. Just as the Israelites found healing by looking at the bronze serpent, we too can find forgiveness and restoration by looking to God with repentant hearts.

Prayer:

Dear God, thank you that forgiveness is readily available to all who seek it. Thank you that it is as simple as lifting our eyes to God, confessing our sins, and accepting Your grace. In Jesus’ Name. Amen.