

The Christian Pilgrimage – Pictures of Salvation and Heaven.

This week – We continue our lessons teaching us about how to live now, anticipating Heaven.

*“Look unto Me, and be ye saved,  
all the ends of the earth: for I am God,  
and there is none else.”* *Isaiah40 v24*

**Bible Readings for this week:**

(Choose a regular time each day to read the Bible and pray whether it be when you first wake up or just before you go to sleep)

Day	Bible Reading	Tick When Read
Sunday	Numbers 21v1-9 (God’s Gracious Invite, ‘Look and Live’)	
Monday	John 3v1-21 (Christ Lifted Up Like The Brazen Serpent)	
Tuesday	Isaiah 45v1-17 (In The Lord We Have Righteousness)	
Wednesday	Isaiah 40v1-17 (The Lord is Sovereign Over All)	
Thursday	Isaiah 40v18-31 (Wait On The Lord for Strength)	
Friday	Romans 6v1-23 (In Christ, Made Free From Sin)	
Saturday	Hebrews 12v1-17 (Looking Unto Jesus in Faith)	

**Important Thought for us Today: Poisonous snakes and their venomous bites.** The only poisonous snake in the wild in the UK is the Adder, whose bite can be fatal if medical treatment is not sought. The venom circulates via the blood stream and then starts attacking vital parts of our bodily function. The Bible likens sin to a venomous snake bite because sin affects all the functioning of our soul. This includes i). **Our heart’s affections** - where we love the wrong things and hate the right things; ii). **Our minds** - causing us to have selfish desires with unclean and impure thoughts. Medical advice says that, if bitten, we should **not try to treat it ourselves** (as this will only make it worse) but **seek medical help immediately**. So too with the soul – we are unable to satisfactorily remove the **‘venom of sin’** by our own methods. The Bible tells us that this is futile and will leave us heading for eternal death. God’s Word also tells us that we need the quickening power of The Holy Spirit **(to remove the ‘venom of sin’ and its deadly consequences (separation from God))**. He gives us the gift of faith which causes us to repent and to **‘Look to Christ’** as our personal Saviour and Lord. **Read Ephesians 2v1-5.**

**A Hymn that reminds us to trust in the Lord Jesus’ death for salvation: (61. Our Own Hymn Book)**

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| 1. Look to Jesus, seeking one,<br>Look and live! look and live!<br>Look at what the Lord has done,<br>Look and live!<br>See Him lifted on the tree,<br>Look and live! look and live!<br>Hear Him say, “Look unto Me!”<br>Look and live! | 2. Though unworthy, vile, unclean,<br>Look and live! look and live!<br>Look away from self and sin,<br>Look and live!<br>Long by Satan’s power enslaved,<br>Look and live! look and live!<br>Look to Me, ye shall be saved,<br>Look and live! |
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EDT Bible/College Class Take Home Sheet

This sheet is given to remind you of the lesson and to encourage you to read your Bible.

## The Brazen Serpent – Look and Live.

● **Background to Today’s Lesson.**

- The adults of Israel refused to believe that God had the power to give them the Promised Land no matter how strong the enemy. Instead, they thought only on the reports of ‘giants’ and strong cities. Their punishment was to remain in the desert for 40 more years and die. Then God would lead their children, as adults, into the land.

● **The Children of Israel Repeat the Sin of Unbelief.**

- They complained again about God’s provision of manna, desiring the food of Egypt.
- We too can complain about God despite His kindness and patience shown to us.

● **The Result - There is Always a Consequence for Sin.**

- God removed His protection - allowing them to die when bitten by the poisonous snakes; reminding them that it was only His power and mercy that kept them safe.

● **Their Repentance.**

- They saw that there was ONLY One who could save them – **The Lord God**.
- Moses was asked to confess their sin to God, interceding on their behalf. God heard.
- He answered by providing a way to survive the bite without removing the snakes.

● **God’s Remedy - He always shows His forgiveness to repentant sinners.**

- Moses was told to:
  - Erect a bronze snake on a pole in the middle of the camp for all to see.
- The people were told:
  - Do not worship it as an idol but look to it, believing God’s promise to save.
  - If bitten, look and believe that God would heal them, and they would live.
  - If they refused to look with remorse and repentance, then they would die.

● **How Can We Be Forgiven and Saved from Eternal Death?**

- This **‘snake on a pole’** is a picture of how God saves us from the deadly guilt of our sinful unbelief, our rebellious murmurings, and our ingratitude towards Him.
- The Lord Jesus Christ was **‘lifted up’** on the Cross of Calvary so that we can ‘look’ to Him in repentance and faith – trusting Him to heal our sin-sick soul. To save us.
  - A **‘look’** is an easy thing to do - young or old, rich, or poor - anyone can do it.
  - To **‘look’** means we humbly repent of our sin with true sorrow, turning from it.
  - To **‘look’** is saying ‘I have nothing to bring or add because I am a needy lost sinner’.

● **How Long Must We Look?**

- **Just long enough** - to **‘see’** our sinfulness, to **‘see’** the love of God in sending His Son to die on Calvary to save us, to **‘see’** Jesus Christ as our Saviour and dearest Friend.
- We must **‘look’** until the amazing love of God overwhelms us, and we give ourselves gladly and willingly to obey and serve the Saviour Who has given Himself for us.

**Will you look to the Saviour today and live? Seek and receive forgiveness for your sin.**

*“And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up: That whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have eternal life”* *John 3v14,15.*