

Healing of the Impatient

Num 21:1-9



Key Concept

Confession and repentance will lead to healing.

**The people believe the bad report
from the spies and must wander in
the desert for 40 years
(Num 14)**

**Today's Lesson
Because of the people's
grumblings, God sends
snakes but also heals them
(Num 21)**

**Moses and Aaron strike the rock
and are forbidden from entering
the promised land
(Num 20)**

**Before his death, Moses gives the
law to the new generation on the
Plains of Moab
(Deu)**



Desert of Arabah



Wadi Arabah / Edom Mts



God allows a wilderness of trials!

**But...as a believer you must
follow God through impossible
terrain and trust in the divine
provisions for survival**

God used the snake as a symbol of sin (poison) that will kill us.

But, Jesus was born in the likeness of sinful flesh so He could become the symbol of death and redemption.

- **What is the name of this symbol?**



Caduceus

- What king destroyed the bronze snake and approximately how long were the Israelites worshipping it / burning incense etc? **Hezekiah ~ about 700 years**
- What community has adopted this same type image to represent their profession in current culture?

Medical staff / doctors / nurses etc
“Two snakes on a staff”

•What is the approximate amount of time in years from when the Israelites were condemned to 40 years in the desert to today's lesson (bronze snake) Num 14 to Num 21? **37-38 years**

•God's _____ is always available within His judgment? **mercy**

- How is the bronze snake a precursor to the salvation of Jesus Christ?

Like Moses, Jesus said He must be lifted up, anyone who looks to Him would be saved and given eternal life.

John 3:14-15

- How much food per day and water would have been needed to feed and water the Israelites and their livestock?

1500 tons of food / 3.5 million gals water

•What type snake did God likely use to bite the Israelites ?

Saw scaled / carpet viper: often burying themselves to eye level in the sand

