

## **John 3:14**

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(1)

Note: God used a man named Moses to lead the children of Israel from slavery in Egypt, through the wilderness, to the promised land. This journey took 40 years. This event took place on the way.

Think about [Numbers 21:4-9](#).

*From Mount Hor they set out by the way to the Red Sea, ... And the people became impatient on the way. And the people spoke against God and against Moses, "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 (hate) this worthless food."*

*Then the LORD sent fiery serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many people of Israel died.*

*And the people came to Moses and said, "We have sinned, for we have spoken against the LORD and against you. Pray to the LORD, that he take away the serpents from us." So Moses prayed for the people. And the LORD said to Moses, "Make 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 look at the bronze serpent and live.*

- Why did God send poisonous snakes among the people?
- What did the people do about the snakes?
- How did God answer their prayer?
- Could God have answered their prayer by just removing all the snakes? Why do you think God did not do that?

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(2)

Think about [John 3:14-15](#).

*(Jesus said) "as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life."*

*"The Son of Man" is a name Jesus called himself.*

- To what did Jesus compare himself?
- In what way is Jesus like the bronze serpent Moses made?

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(3)

Think about [John 3:16](#).

*For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish (be destroyed) but have eternal life.*

- What did God do for the people in this world?
- Why did he do that?
- What must people do to take God's gift?
- What two things are true for whoever receives God's gift?

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(4)

Think about [1John 4:9-10](#).

*God showed how much he loved us by sending his one and only Son into the world so that we might have eternal life through him. This is real love -- not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as a sacrifice to take away our sins.*

- How did God show how much he loves us?
- What does God want us to have?
- What did God's only Son become in this world? (See 1John 4:9-10 quoted above.)  
Also consider [2Corinthians 5:21](#). *God made (Jesus) the one who did not know sin, to be sin for us, so that in him we would become the righteousness of God.*

Jesus became the sacrifice that satisfies the justice of God, which results in peace between God and sinners.