

# The Son Of Man Was Lifted Up For You

March 11, 2018 – John 3:14-15

---

*“Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the desert, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, that everyone who believes in Him may have eternal life.”*

One of the most familiar Passages in the Bible is: **John 3:16: “For God so loved the World, that He gave His One and Only Son, that Whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have Eternal Life.”**

When we hear this Passage there are some questions that might come to mind:

## 1. What does John 3:16 mean?

Easy right? God Loved the Entire World so much that He sent His Son Jesus to be that Savior of the World and that Jesus would come and die on the cross to pay the price for the sin of all people of all time, and those who believe in Jesus will live in heaven forever. Those who do not believe in Jesus will spend eternity in hell. Plain – simple and straight forward.

## 2. Who is speaking these Words of John 3:16?

John 3:16 is spoken by Jesus, as recorded by the Apostle John.

## 3. Who are these words of John 3:16 being spoken to?

Jesus is speaking to a man by the name of Nicodemus. Since Nicodemus was familiar with the Old Testament, as would have been many if not all of the Jews, Jesus reaches back into the History of Israel when they were wandering in the wilderness (40 years) after God delivered them from Slavery in Egypt. Jesus speaks the Words of our Sermon Text Today:

**Vs. 14 – Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the desert, so the Son of Man must be lifted up,**

**Vs. 15 - that everyone who believes in Him may have eternal life.**

As the children of Israel were coming to the end of their 40 years of wandering in the wilderness, the people had been complaining to Moses, - but really against GOD - about the food. So God sent snakes to bit the people, and many people died. Then the people went back to Moses and begged Moses to go to God to take the snakes away.

God did not take the snakes away. Instead, God directed Moses to make a snake and put it on a pole, and anyone who looked at the snake on the pole would live. Those who hardened their heart and refused to look at the snake on the pole – would die. To human logic, such a command of God seems silly, but this is what God said, and What God says, God means. It was an opportunity to demonstrate their trust in God, their Faith.

Jesus then tells Nicodemus that Eternal Life is ours by trusting in the Son of God = Jesus. Again, to human logic, it seems silly, but that is what God says, and what God says, God Means. Trusting in Jesus who gave up His life on the Cross of Calvary is Eternal Life in Heaven. AMEN

A bit of History concerning the two verses for our text comes from the Old Testament book of: **II Kings 18:4 – “King Hezekiah removed the high places, smashed the sacred stones and cut down the Asherah poles. He broke into pieces the bronze snake Moses had made, for up to that time the Israelites had been burning incense to it. (It was called Nehushtan.)”** (715 B.C.)