

The Serpent and the Son

In the early days of Jesus' ministry, he had a late-night encounter with Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. You have probably read the account, and maybe you have wondered what the serpent being lifted up was all about. Read John 3:9–12 and answer the following questions.

1. What does the phrase “lifted up” mean (also see John 8:28, 12:30–34)?
2. Who is the Son of Man?
3. What is the purpose of the Son of Man being lifted up?
4. What parallels can you draw between the bronze serpent passage and what Jesus describes in this passage?
5. What ever happened to the bronze serpent (see 2 Kings 18:4)?