**Numbers 21:5-9**

**5**So the people spoke against God and against Moses, “Why have you brought us out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no bread, nor is there any water, and we loathe this miserable food.” **6**Then the Lord sent fiery (burning) serpents among the people; and they bit the people, and many Israelites died. **7**So the people came to Moses, and said, “We have sinned, for we have spoken against the Lord and against you; pray to the Lord, so that He will remove the serpents from us.” So Moses prayed for the people. **8**Then the Lord said to Moses, “Make a fiery *serpent* [of bronze] and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten will live when he looks at it.” **9**So Moses made a serpent of bronze and put it on the pole, and it happened that if a serpent had bitten any man, when he looked to the bronze serpent, he lived.

**John 3:14-15**

**14**Just as Moses lifted up the [bronze] serpent in the desert [on a pole], so must the Son of Man be lifted up[on the cross] **15**so that whoever believes will in Him have eternal life[after physical death, and will actually live forever].

**1 Corinthians 1:18-25**

**18**For the message of the cross is foolishness [absurd and illogical] to those who are perishing *and* spiritually dead [because they reject it], but to us who are being saved [by God’s grace] it is [the manifestation of] the power of God. **19**For it is written *and* forever remains written, I will destroy the wisdom of the wise [the philosophy of the philosophers],  
And the cleverness of the clever [who do not know Me] I will nullify.” **20**Where is the wise man (philosopher)? Where is the scribe (scholar)? Where is the debater (logician, orator) of this age? Has God not exposed the foolishness of this world’s wisdom? **21**For since the world through all its [earthly] wisdom failed to recognize God, God in His wisdom was well-pleased through the [[c](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Corinthians+1&version=AMP)]foolishness of the message preached [regarding salvation] to save those who believe [in Christ and welcome Him as Savior]. **22**For Jews demand signs (attesting miracles), and Greeks pursue [worldly] wisdom *and* philosophy, **23**but we preach Christ crucified, [a message which is] to Jews a stumbling block [that provokes their opposition], and to Gentiles foolishness [just utter nonsense], **24**but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks (Gentiles), Christ is the power of God and the wisdom of God. **25**[This is] because the foolishness of God [is not foolishness at all and] is wiser than men [far beyond human comprehension], and the weakness of God is stronger than men [far beyond the limits of human effort].

**Philippians 2:8-10**

**8**After He was found in [terms of His] outward appearance as a man [for a divinely-appointed time], He humbled Himself [still further] by becoming obedient [to the Father] to the point of death, even death on a cross. **9**For this reason also [because He obeyed and so completely humbled Himself], God has highly exalted Him and bestowed on Him the name which is above every name, **10**so that at the name of Jesus [[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Philippians+2&version=AMP)]every knee shall bow [in submission], of those who are in heaven and on earth and under the earth, **11**and that every tongue will confess *and* openly acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord (sovereign God), to the glory of God the Father.