

John # 40 “Real Lovers Give of Themselves” *Numbers 21:1-9; John 3:14-16*

Nicodemus was an extremely religious man with a theology that was completely out of whack because although he was an Old Testament scholar, all he had to go on to govern his life was human viewpoint due to his legalistic tendencies which caused him to think he was in charge of his life.

And as any serious Bible student will tell you, the human viewpoint solution is no solution at all, the divine solution to our problems is the only solution because only God can correctly define the problems of mankind.

The greatest problem that man faces is the fatal problem of his sin.

Since the time of Adam, Eve and their son Cain, man has been full of himself to the extent that he constantly tries to develop systems and solutions to solve his over-arching problem but they are always inadequate and therefore, don't work out as permanent solutions.

MOSES' BRASS SERPENT THE CROSS

THE ISSUE:

Provision for sin

Provision for sin

REPRESENTS:

Salvation as a symbol

Guarantees salvation as actual

IT PROVIDES:

Temporary physical deliverance

Eternal spiritual
deliverance

THE MECHANICS:

Look at the serpent for
appropriation

Believe on TLJC for
appropriation

THE SCOPE:

Uniquely exclusive

Uniquely exclusive

TYPES OR SYMBOLS OF

THE LORD JESUS CHRIST'S DEATH:

1. Noah's Ark
2. The coats of animal
3. The bread and the cup
4. The offering of Isaac
5. Joseph
6. Manna
7. The "Rock" smitten
8. The tabernacle
9. The brass serpent

What a person is, is what they are in their soul.

2nd Corinthians 4:3-4 “*And even if our Gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the Gospel that displays the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.*”

God knew every frustration and failure we would ever have and He made provision for all of them. There will never be a trial or testing, suffering or heartache which is too great for the plan of God.

Billions of years ago, the One and only God thought about us and His mental attitude toward us of unconditional impersonal love preceded His ‘giving’ expression of that love.

It is true that God is love but when a human being bypasses the expression of that love (i.e. the cross), He is the subject of divine wrath.

Good leadership balances compassion with toughness which is integrity.

God loves those who are incapable of loving Him (the spiritually dead).

Spiritual death means more than being separated from God; it means we do not have the ability to love God!

Only one child in history had the capacity to love God the Father, and that was the Lord Jesus Christ.

We are what we think.