

Episode 7: The Snake and the Cross—The Gospel before the Gospel

Chapter 21

1. Who was captured by the Canaanite king in verse one? (Numbers 21:1)
2. What vow did Israel make to the Lord in this verse? (Numbers 21:2)
3. How did the Lord respond to Israel’s plea in verse three? (Numbers 21:3)
4. Where did the people of Israel become impatient? (Numbers 21:4)
5. How did the people express their impatience against God and Moses? (Numbers 21:5)
6. What kind of punishment did the Lord give the Israelites for being impatient? (Numbers 21:6)
7. How did the people ask Moses to intervene on their behalf in verse seven? (Numbers 21:7)
8. What did the Lord tell Moses to do with a snake in verse eight? (Numbers 21:8)
9. If someone was bitten by a snake, how could he or she be healed? (Numbers 21:9)
10. Why did Jesus make reference to this story when talking with Nicodemus (John 3:14)
11. How does your knowledge of this story influence your understanding of John 3:16 and the nature of faith?
12. How does this story in Numbers relate to Jesus’ words in John 12:27-33?
13. Why can we not truly understand John 3:16 unless we understand John 3:14?
14. What does John 3:14-15 have to say about the mission of the church?