

AN UNGRATEFUL **PEOPLE**

MAIN POINT

God saves people who look to His salvation.

HIS STORY

1. ISRAEL SINS AGAINST GOD

HOW DOES COMPLAINING RELATE TO THE SIN OF IMPATIENCE?

WHY DO WE TEND TO FORGET GOOD THINGS SO QUICKLY WHILE FIXATING ON OUR PROBLEMS?

2. GOD JUDGES THE PEOPLE FOR THEIR SINS

WHAT HAS GOD USED IN YOUR LIFE TO GET YOUR ATTENTION AND HUMBLE YOU?
HOW SHOULD YOU IMITATE THE ISRAELITES' RESPONSE IN THIS STORY?

3. GOD PROVIDES A WAY OF SALVATION

HOW DOES THE BRONZE SERPENT POINT TO THE CROSS?

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO LOOK TO JESUS FOR ETERNAL LIFE?

ESSENTIAL DOCTRINE • SIN AS SELFISHNESS

When we sin, we are acting out of a selfish attitude and mindset that assumes our action will lead us to more happiness than if we were to obey God. Because sin is manifested in our tendency to be "curved inward" toward self, it is the opposite of love. Love looks outwardly to place others before oneself, operating from the mind-set that others are more important (Phil. 2:3). Where sin selfishly seeks personal gratification and happiness, love works for the joy of others in the hopes of making others happy in God.

CHRIST CONNECTION

When the Israelites were mortally wounded because of their sin, God called on them to look upon the bronze serpent lifted high on the pole to be healed. We, too, are mortally wounded because of sin. God has likewise called on us to look with faith upon Jesus Christ lifted high on the cross so that we might be saved from the punishment of our sin.



WHAT DOES THIS STORY TEACH US ABOUT GOD'S JUSTICE AND GRACE?



HOW DOES PRIDE KEEP US AND OTHERS FROM GOD'S SALVATION?



HOW CAN WE HAVE A LIFESTYLE OF HUMILITY, CONFESSION, AND FAITH?