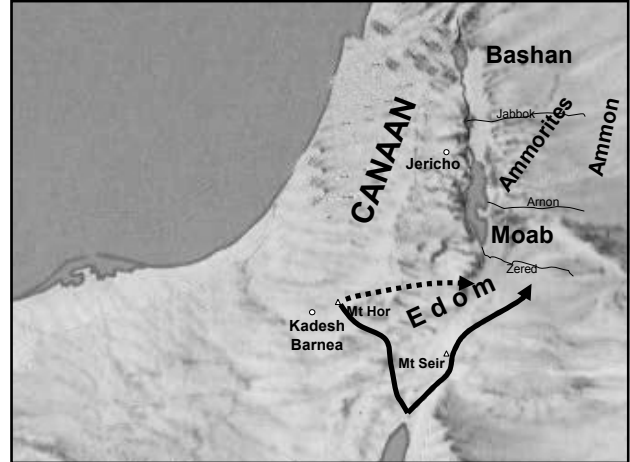


## Communion Meditation

*"The Serpent in the Wilderness"*  
(Numbers 21:4-9)



## The Bronze Serpent

### Numbers 21:4-9

#### 1. Sin & Judgment

- Grumbled against God – rejection of God and His gracious provision (manna)
- The Lord sent deadly, poisonous snakes (“fiery”) among them as a form of judgment

## The Bronze Serpent

### Numbers 21:4-9

#### 2. God’s Merciful Provision

- God used a detestable symbol of death as the means for gaining life
- Each person had to look to the bronze serpent – a deliberate response of faith in God’s mercy

## The Bronze Serpent

### Numbers 21:4-9

#### Q: Why did God do this?

- This remedy for sin and death provided by God is a picture of God’s ultimate remedy for sin and death in His Son

## The Bronze Serpent

### John 3:14-15

*“And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up; that whoever believes may in Him have eternal life.”*

## The Bronze Serpent

### Fulfilled in Christ

1. Pictured His crucifixion as the means of life
  - the cross was a detestable symbol of death that God transformed into the means of life
  - Christ became a "curse" for us so that God's curse (judgment) is removed from us

## The Bronze Serpent

### Fulfilled in Christ

2. Pictured the necessity of faith in Christ
  - Displays man's desperate condition in his sin – no human remedy (no self-effort); faith alone in Christ
  - Christ Himself is the source of "eternal" life – new, resurrected life of the age to come