We are members of the Oak Ridge church of Christ. We call ourselves Christians ([**Acts 11:26**](http://oakridgechurch.lakesonline.com/passage.asp?v=Acts%2011:26)) and we hold to the Bible as our one and only Truth. Church of Christ is a biblical description of Christians who work together for the cause of Christ ([**Ro. 16:16**](http://oakridgechurch.lakesonline.com/passage.asp?v=Romans%2016:16)). We are independent assemblies with no organization beyond our own number as described in [**Phil. 1:1**](http://oakridgechurch.lakesonline.com/passage.asp?v=Philippians%201:1). There are Christians across the world working with local congregations of God’s people such as described in [**Rev. 2**](http://oakridgechurch.lakesonline.com/passage.asp?v=Revelation%202)**-3**. Christians are members of Christ’s body, which is also known as His Church ([**Acts 2:47**](http://oakridgechurch.lakesonline.com/passage.asp?v=Acts%202:47)**,**[**Eph. 5:23**](http://oakridgechurch.lakesonline.com/passage.asp?v=Ephesians%205:23)). Our mission is to stand for God’s truth (the gospel) and teach it to all people ([**Matt. 28:18-20**](http://oakridgechurch.lakesonline.com/passage.asp?v=Matthew%2028:18-20)**,**[**Romans 1:16**](http://oakridgechurch.lakesonline.com/passage.asp?v=Romans%201:16)**,**[**1 Tim. 3:15**](http://oakridgechurch.lakesonline.com/passage.asp?v=1%20Timothy%203:15)). We are accountable to our one and only Head Jesus Christ ([**Eph. 1:22-23**](http://oakridgechurch.lakesonline.com/passage.asp?v=Ephesians%201:22-23)**,**[**Col. 1:18**](http://oakridgechurch.lakesonline.com/passage.asp?v=Colossians%201:18)).

Introduction: As Christians we know that Jesus is our ultimate example of perfection. There are also many individuals in the scriptures that we can look to as examples of righteousness, and thus did many things in ways similar to Jesus. We are in the midst of a series of programs that compares some of these individuals to Jesus. In this, our last of this series, we are going to compare not a person, but an object from the Old Testament with Christ. **The Bronze Serpent and The Christ!**

**Sequence of events with the Bronze Serpent (Numbers 21:4-9)**

Israel Complains **(Numbers 21:5)**

The Serpent Bites **(Numbers 21:6)**

Israel acknowledges their sin **(Numbers 21:7)**

The Bronze Serpent is lifted **(Numbers 21:8)**

The Israelites Believe & Behold **(Numbers 21:9)**

The Believers and Beholders lived **(Numbers 21:9)**

**Sequence of events where man needs Jesus today (John 3:14-21)**

Many are not content **(2 Timothy 4:1-4)**

Man’s has the problem of sin **(Romans 3:23, 6:23)**

Godly sorrow draws man near to God **(2 Corinthians 7:10, James 4:8-9)**

Christ was lifted up for everyone **(John 12:31-32, Hebrews 2:9)**

Man needs to Believe & Obey **(John 3:16, Hebrews 5:9)**

Salvation comes to those who Believe & Obey Jesus **(Mark 16:15-16, Acts 2:47)**

**Comparison between the OT Bronze Serpent and the NT Christ**

• Only one serpent for all: Today there is only one Savior and church for all! (**Acts 4:11-12, 1 John 2:1-2, Ephesians 1:22-23**)

• No choice of cures for the serpent bites: Today there is no choice of the way of salvation! (**John 14:6, Proverbs 16:25**)

• The news of the serpent had to be spread: Today the gospel must be preached! (**Romans 1:16, Luke 24:46-47, Acts 10:39-43**)

• No one was forced to look upon the serpent: Today no one is forced to obey Jesus. (**Acts 13:46, Revelation 3:20, 22:17, John 5:40**)

• The Israelites were not healed by faith only: Today no one is saved by faith only. (**John 12:42-43, James 2:20-26, Galatians 3:26-27**)

• Looking did not do away with God’s grace: Today obedience does not do away with God’s grace. (**Ephesians 2:8-10, Titus 2:11-14, Romans 5:1-2**)

• The healing that came by looking at the bronze serpent marked a beginning: Today baptism marks a beginning. (**Romans 6:4, Acts 2:40-42, 8:39, Hebrews 12:1-2**)

Closing: We invite all in our audience to our Bible studies on Wednesday at 7pm and Sunday morning at 9am. We would love to study God’s together with you!

**Have you become a disciple of Jesus by being baptized in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit** (**Matthew 28:18-20**)? By believing the one who was lifted up on a cross for you, you can begin your walk on the path that leads to eternal life in Heaven!

Please check the scriptures we have covered tonight. We want to help you in any way we can. Contact us for Bible studies by telephone, e-mail, or simply come to one of our assemblies. Contact: We assemble at 225 North Purdue Ave. in Oak Ridge at 9am on Sundays and 7pm on Wednesdays; oakridgechurch.com; david.barry@oakridgechurch.com, murray.wade@oakridgechurch.com; (865) 693-1416.

We plan to have a re-airing of this program on Monday, June 20 and our next live program, due to the TV studies being closed for the July 4th Holiday, is planned for August 1, 2022 when we hope to study, **"What Motivated Jesus?”.** We hope to see you next time on **"Speaking The Truth In Love".**