



### **1. The Poison of Complaint – Forgetting God’s Grace (vv. 4–5)**

Israel complains about God’s provision, calling the manna “worthless” and grumbling over the hard road God has led them on. This exposes their forgetfulness of grace and ingratitude in hardship.

#### **Discussion Questions**

- Where in my life am I tempted to see God’s provision as “worthless” because it’s not what I expected or wanted?
- What spiritual disciplines (like gratitude or remembrance) could help me combat a complaining spirit?
- Have I mistaken a divine detour for a mistake? How might God be using this “backtracking” for my protection or preparation?

### **2. The Bite of Judgment – Dealing with Sin (v. 6)**

God responds to Israel’s rebellion with judgment: fiery serpents. Their complaints escalated from frustration with Moses to dishonoring God Himself. Sin always leads to consequences.

#### **Discussion Questions**

- What patterns of complaint or bitterness in my heart might be signs of a deeper issue of unbelief or rebellion?
- How seriously do I take God’s holiness? When I see that even Moses was kept from the Promised Land for failing to uphold God as holy before the people, how does that challenge me to honor Him with obedience—especially when I’m tired or under pressure?
- In what moments of pressure have I responded with impulsive anger or disobedience? What were the consequences, and what did I learn?

### **3. The Cry of Repentance – Beginning to Heal (v. 7)**

Israel confesses their sin and asks Moses to intercede. They do what’s right—finally. True healing begins with honest repentance and a humble plea for mercy.

#### **Discussion Questions**

- What unconfessed sin or pattern do I need to honestly bring before God today?
- How do I respond when others point out my sin—defensive pride or humble repentance?
- Do I wait until the consequences are unbearable before I repent? How can I cultivate a lifestyle of daily confession?

### **4. The Symbol of Suffering – Leading to Life (v. 8–9)**

God provides a surprising cure: a bronze serpent lifted high. Those who look at it live. Jesus refers to this in John 3 as a foreshadowing of His crucifixion.



## LOOK AND LIVE

Numbers 21:4–9 | Pastor Mohan Zachariah

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*in the*  
**Wilderness**

### Discussion Questions

- What do I tend to look to for healing or hope besides Jesus? What would it look like to “look to Him and live”?
- How can I guard against turning good things (like traditions or symbols) into idols that distract me from Christ?
- In what way does Jesus’ cross reframe how I understand both suffering and salvation?