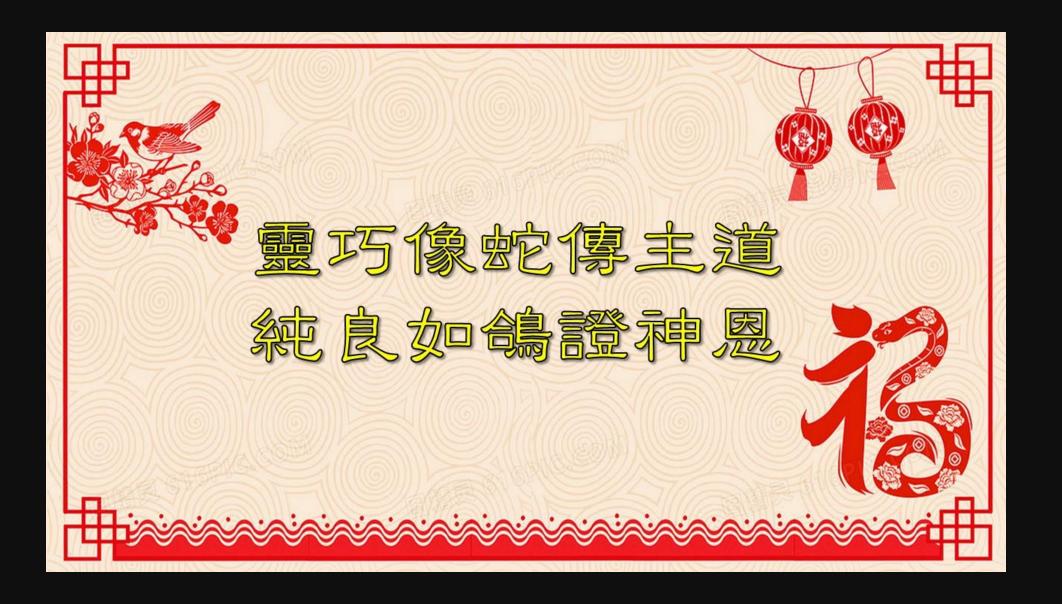
In the Cross, on the year of Serpent

仰望十架談蛇年





曲



1. Greetings in the year of serpent: Be Innocent yet be shrewd!





蛇年問候: 馴良如鴿, 靈巧像蛇

Mat 10:16 "Behold, I am sending you out as sheep in the midst of wolves, so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves. (ESV)

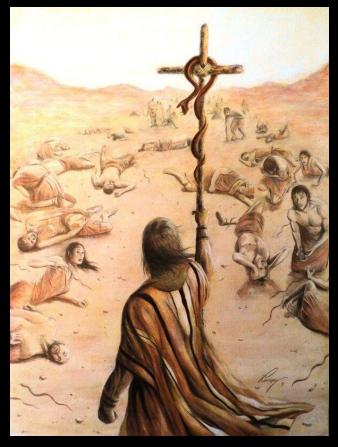
太10:16 我差你們去,如同羊進入狼群,所以你們要靈巧像蛇,馴良像鴿子。



Gen 3:4-6 But the <u>serpent</u> said to the woman, "You will not surely die. 5 For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." 6 So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate.

創 3:4 <u>蛇</u>對女人說: "<u>你們不一定死</u>, 5 因為 神知道, 你們吃的日子<u>眼睛就明亮了</u>, <u>你們便如 神能知道善</u>恶。" 6 於是, 女人見那棵樹的果子好作食物, 也悅人的眼目, 且是可喜愛的, 能使人有智慧, 就摘下果子來吃了; 又給她丈夫, 她丈夫也吃了。

2. The Serpent Lifted Up: A Sign of Christ's Redemption?!



曠野舉蛇,基督救贖的預表?!

Num 21:4 From Mount Hor they set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom. And the people became impatient on the way. 5 And the people spoke against God and against Moses, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we loathe this worthless food."

民 21:4 他們從何珥山起行,往紅海那條路走,要繞過以東地。百姓因這路難行,心中甚是煩躁,5就怨讟神和摩西說:"你們為甚麼把我們從埃及領出來,使我們死在曠野呢?這裡沒有糧,沒有水,我們的心厭惡這淡薄的食物。"

Num 21:6 Then the LORD sent fiery serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many people of Israel died. 7 And the people came to Moses and said, "We have sinned, for we have spoken against the LORD and against you. Pray to the LORD, that he take away the serpents from us." So Moses prayed for the people.

民 21:6 於是, 耶和華使火蛇進入百姓中間, 蛇就咬他們, 以色列人中死了許多。7 百姓到摩西那裡說: "我們怨讟耶和華和你, 有罪了, 求你禱告耶和華, 叫這些蛇離開我們。"於是, 摩西為百姓禱告。

Num 21:8 And the LORD said to Moses, "Make a fiery serpent and set it on a pole, and everyone who is bitten, when he sees it, shall live." 9 So Moses made a bronze serpent and set it on a pole. And if a serpent bit anyone, he would look at the bronze serpent and live.

民 21:8 耶和華對摩西說: "你製造一條火蛇,掛在杆子上,凡被咬的,一望這蛇,就必得活。" 9 摩西便製造一條銅蛇,掛在杆子上,凡被蛇咬的,一望這銅蛇,就活了。



Joh 3:13 No one has ascended into heaven except he who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. 14 And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, 15 that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. (ESV)

約3:13除了從天降下仍舊在天的人子,沒有人升過天。14摩西在曠野怎樣舉蛇,人子也必照樣被舉起來,15叫一切信他的都得永生(或作"叫一切信的人在他裡面得永生")。

Irenaeus of Lyons (c. 130–202) (St. John's disciple's disciple)

"For the law never hindered them from believing in the Son of God; nay, but it even exhorted them <u>Numbers 21:8</u> so to do, saying that men can be saved in no other way from the old wound of the serpent than by believing in Him who, in the likeness of sinful flesh, is lifted up from the earth upon the tree of martyrdom, and draws all things to Himself, <u>John 12:32</u>, <u>John 3:14</u> and vivifies the dead." Against Heresies (Book 4, Chapter 2)

里昂的爱任纽(约公元 130-202)(圣约翰门徒的门徒):

"律法从未阻止人们相信神的儿子,反而劝勉他们如此行<u>(民数记21:8)</u>,表明人类无法以其他方式从蛇留下的旧创伤中得救,唯有相信那位'取了罪身的形状'<u>(罗马书 8:3)</u>,从地上被高举在殉道的木十字架上,并吸引万物归向自己的主(<u>约翰福音 12:32,约翰福音 3:14</u>)。 他使死人复活,使万物归向生命。"——《驳异端》(卷四,第二章) "Rom 8:3 For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do. By sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, ..."

1Pe 2:22;24 He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in his mouth... 1Pe 2:24 He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed.

"羅 8:3 律法既因肉體軟弱,有所不能行的, 神就差遣自己的 兒子成為罪身的形狀,作了贖罪祭,在肉體中定了罪案,"

彼前2:22;24"他並沒有犯罪,口裡也沒有詭詐。… 24 他被掛在木頭上,親身擔當了我們的罪,使我們既然在罪上 死,就得以在義上活。因他受的鞭傷,你們便得了醫治。"

2. The Serpent Lifted Up: A Sign of Christ's Redemption? Yes, Indeed!

2. 曠野學蛇,基督救贖的預表?的確是的!

3. A Pole of Healing or Judgment?



醫治的杖還是審判的杆?

3. A Pole of Healing or Judgment?

The Judgment of SIN, and The Healing for sinners

是醫治的杖還是審判的杆?

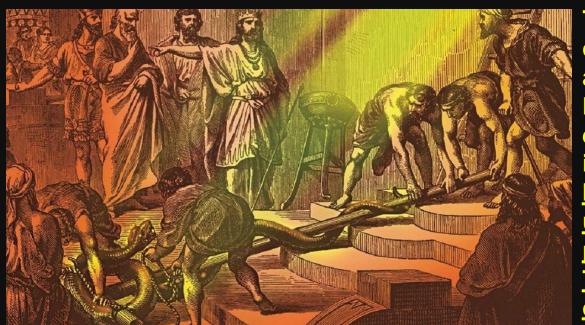
是審判"罪"的杆,確實"醫治"罪人的杖

4. Hezekiah's Enigma of Nehushtan (Bronze Serpent)!

希西家銅蛇的难题!

2Ki 18:4 He removed the high places and broke the pillars and cut down the Asherah. And he broke in pieces the bronze serpent that Moses had made, for until those days the people of Israel had made offerings to it (it was called Nehushtan).

王下18:4 他廢去邱壇, 毀壞柱像, 砍下木偶, 打碎摩西所造的銅蛇, 因為到那時以色列人仍向銅蛇燒香。希西家叫銅蛇為銅塊(或作"人稱銅蛇為銅像")。



The bronze serpent's destruction likely occurred around 715–710 BC, early in Hezekiah's reign, as part of his efforts to restore true worship in Judah.

In January 2025, archaeologists uncovered a 3,000-year-old pagan shrine near Jerusalem's Temple Mount which was destroyed about the time.

銅蛇的摧毀可能發生在公元前 715-710 年,即希西家王統治初期,作為他恢復猶大敬拜真神的一部分。2025年一月,考古學家在耶路撒冷聖殿山北邊,發現一處3000年久的異教徒的神壇,有石頭像,約在希西家王時代被毀!



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5. In the cross, Be my glory ever!

十字架永是我的榮耀!

5. In the cross, Be my glory ever!

Rom 6:6-8 We know that our old self was crucified with him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin. 7 For one who has died has been set free from sin. 8 Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him.

十字架永是我的榮耀!

羅 6:6-8 因為知道我們的舊人和他同釘十字架,使罪身滅絕,叫我們不再作罪的奴僕,7 因為已死的人是脫離了罪。8 我們若是與基督同死,就信必與他同活,

5. In the cross, Be my glory ever! Reflection:

- Has my old self truly died with Christ? (Galatians 2:20, Romans 6:6)
- Have I crushed my Nehushtan—anything that takes God's place? (2 Kings 18:4)
- Do I live daily to bear my cross and follow Him? (Luke 9:23)

十字架永是我的榮耀!

反思:

- 我的老我是否真的與基督同死了? (加 2:20, 羅 6:6)
- · 我是否已經打碎了我的銅蛇? --任何取代神的位置的事物? (王下 18:4)
- 我是否每日背起自己的十字架,跟隨祂? (路 9:23)