

# The Son of Man Must Be Lifted Up

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Jesus said, "And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so **must the Son of man be lifted up**; so that whoever believes in Him (in Jesus) should not perish, but **have Eternal Life**. For God so loved the world, that **He gave His Only Begotten Son**, so that whoever **believes in Him** should not perish, but **have Everlasting Life**. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through Him (through Jesus) might be saved." (John 3:14-17)

Jesus said, "Now is the judgment of this world; now shall the prince of this world be cast out. And I, **if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto Me.**' This He said, **signifying what death He should die**. The people answered him, 'We have heard out of the law that the Christ **lives forever**; and so how do You say, '**The Son of Man must be lifted up?**' Who is this Son of Man?" (John 12:31-34)

**Son:** from the Greek word *Huion* which means: son, in context a male descendent who shares the same nature as that of his father. Jesus shares the same nature as the Father!

**Man:** from the Greek word *anthropoid* which means: man, men, or mankind; human beings.

**Son of Man:** this title of Christ Jesus is altogether different than titles of Christ such as: Son of Abraham, Son of David, Son of Joseph, or even Son of God, all of which speak of a named father person. No father person is implied with the title Son of Man. The root context of this title is that Jesus is a Son of Mankind. In context: Jesus has taken upon Himself the same nature as Man-kind.

**Must:** from the Greek word *die* which means: must; properly, what must happen, what is absolutely necessary; a duty or responsibility in regards to what is required to achieve or fulfill a goal. In context: the absolute necessity that Christ Jesus be lifted up on the Cross and crucified for our salvation, and for the forgiveness of our sin.

**Be Lifted Up:** from the Greek word *hyphenation* which means: to be lifted up; from *hupsoo* - to lift or raise up, to elevate; to exalt, to uplift. In context: used of the lifting up of Jesus on the Cross.

## Historical Context:

**"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 bread, nor is there any water; and our soul loathes this light bread (manna). And the LORD sent fiery serpents among the people, and they bit the people; and many people of Israel died. Therefore the people came to Moses, and said, 'We have sinned, for we have spoken against the LORD, and against you. Pray unto the LORD, that He take away the serpents from us.' And Moses prayed for the people. And the LORD said unto Moses, 'Make you a fiery serpent, and set it upon a pole: and it shall come to pass, that every one who is bitten, when he looks upon it, shall live.' And Moses made a serpent of brass, and put it upon a pole, and it came to pass, that if a serpent had bitten any man, when he beheld the serpent of brass, he lived." (Numbers 21:4-9)

It was **an absolute necessity** for someone who was bitten by a fiery (poisonous) serpent to **look at the brass serpent**, that was lifted up high on the pole, to be delivered from death. In order to live they **must look** at the brass serpent, while believing that God, who made the promise, would heal them! Jesus directly compares this incident, the lifting up of the brass serpent, with His own lifting up of Himself on the Cross. Just as the bitten Israelites had to look up to the brass serpent to be delivered from the deadly poison in their bodies; so also all people **must look** unto Jesus, believing that salvation and Eternal Life from the deadly sin within us, comes through Jesus. Consider the following:

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“Therefore, seeing we also are encompassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which does so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, **Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith**; who for the joy that was set before Him **endured the cross**, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.” (Hebrews 12:1-2)

Jesus spoke of the “must do necessity” of Himself being lifted up and dying on the Cross. Consider these spoken statements:

“And He (Jesus) began to teach them that **the Son of man must suffer many things**, and be rejected by the elders, and of the chief priests, and scribes, **and be killed**, and after three days rise again.” (Mark 8:31)

“And it came to pass, as He (Jesus) was alone praying, His disciples were with Him: and He asked them, saying, 'Who do the people say that I am?' They answered saying, 'John the Baptist; but some say, Elijah; and others say, that one of the old prophets is risen again.' He said unto them, 'But who do you say that I am?' Peter answering said, 'The Christ of God.' And He strictly charged them, and commanded them to tell no man that thing; saying, '**The Son of man must suffer many things**, and be rejected of the elders and chief priests and scribes, **and be slain**, and be raised the third day.'” (Luke 9:18-22)

“And He (Jesus) said unto the disciples, 'The days will come, when you shall desire to see one of the days of the Son of Man, and you shall not see it. And they shall say to you, 'See here; or, see there; do not go after them, nor follow them.' For as the lightning, that lightens out of the one part under heaven, shines unto the other part under heaven; so shall also the Son of Man be in His day. **But first He must suffer many things, and be rejected by this generation.**” (Luke 17:22-25)

When Peter intervened in the garden, when Jesus was being arrested, Jesus chastised him as follows:

“And, behold, one of them (Peter) who was with Jesus stretched out his hand, and drew his sword, and struck a servant of the high priest's, and struck off his ear. Then Jesus said unto him, 'Put away your sword into its place; for all those who take the sword shall perish with the sword. Do you think that I cannot now pray to My Father, and He shall presently give Me more than twelve legions of angels? But how then shall the scriptures be fulfilled, **that it thus must be?**” (Matthew 26:51-54)

In order for The Son of God to be lifted up upon the Cross He had to come to earth as the Son of Man! Consider the following:

“Forasmuch then as the children (mankind) are partakers of flesh and blood, He (Jesus) also Himself likewise took part of the same (a human body); **so that through death** He might destroy him who had the power of death, that is, the devil; and deliver them who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage. For truly He took not on the nature of angels; **but he took on the seed of Abraham** (He became a human descendent of Abraham). Therefore, in all things **it was necessary** for Him **to be made like unto His brethren**, so that He might be a Merciful and Faithful High Priest in things pertaining to God, to make reconciliation for the sins of the people. For in that He Himself has suffered being tempted, He is able to help those who are tempted.” (Hebrews 2:14-18)

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Jesus affirmed, that for mankind, there is no other way by which we might come to the Father and receive eternal Life and be saved:

“ Let not your heart be troubled: you believe in God, believe also in Me. In My Father's house are many dwelling places: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, **I will come again, and receive you unto Myself**; so that where I am, there you may be also. And where I go you know, and the way you know.' But Thomas said unto Him, 'Lord, we do not know where You are going; and how can we know the way?' Jesus said unto him, '**I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man comes unto the Father, but through Me.**' (John 14:1-6)

After Jesus had risen from the dead, He reaffirmed the absolute necessity of His suffering and lifting up upon the Cross:

And He (Jesus) said unto them, 'These are the words which I spoke unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the psalms, concerning Me.' Then He opened their understanding, so that they might understand the scriptures, And said unto them, 'Thus it is written, and thus **it was necessary for Christ to suffer**, and to rise from the dead the third day; and that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.'" (Luke 24:44-47)

“Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said unto them, 'You rulers of the people, and elders of Israel, if we this day are being examined of the good deed done to the impotent man, by what means he is made whole; be it known unto you all, and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead, even by Him does this man stand here before you whole. This is (speaking of Jesus) the **Stone** which was rejected by you builders, which has become the head cornerstone. Nor is there salvation in any other: for there is no other name (except for the Name of Jesus) under heaven given among men, by which we must be saved.' (Acts 4:8-12)

“For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior; who desires all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth. For there is one God, **and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus**; who gave Himself to be a ransom for all, to be testified in due time." (1 Timothy 2:3-6)

## For Jesus the Son of Man it Was Necessary to Be Lifted Up

**It was necessary for Jesus to be made human like us!**

**It was necessary for Christ to suffer death on the Cross in our place!**

**It was necessary for Jesus to be lifted up from the earth, to draw all men unto Himself!**

**There is no other name under heaven given among men, by which we must be saved!**

**We must look unto Jesus, who is the Author and Finisher of our faith!**

**No man comes unto the Father, but through Jesus!**

**All Praise, Honor, Glory, and Dominion be Yours Lord Jesus!**

**You suffered many things for my salvation!**

**But now you have been raised up to the Right Hand of the Father in Heaven!**

**Thank You Lord Jesus for drawing me into Your Everlasting Kingdom!**