

Day 75 – May 12

“What are you trusting in that makes you so confident?”

This is the great question of faith. In what are we placing our trust? The Israelites, like us, seem to have a hard time answering this question. King after king leaves Asherah poles and altars to other gods standing because the people have put their trust in foreign gods. They have even taken a God-given gift of their heritage, the bronze snake on the pole, and worshiped it as a god, going so far as to name it – Nehushtan! If you remember, when venomous snakes entered the camp of the wandering Israelites, people were dying of snakebites. So God instructed Moses to make this bronze snake, attach it to a pole, and raise it up. Whenever someone who was dying from a snakebite looked upon this snake, they were healed. In fact, later in their history, Jesus would use this as a metaphor for Himself, raised in the desert on a pole for salvation. Yet here, the people decide it is a god rather than a gift from God, and they put their trust in it.

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To stand against this culture, whether politically or socially or financially or religiously, we will have to trust in something to see us through. For us to be confident enough to stand in opposition to the greed, selfishness, individualism, and corruption of this culture, we need something stronger in which to trust. So the questions we have to ask are these: Are we standing against this culture or simply part of it? If we are not standing against it, why not with Jesus made it clear as day that we should? If we are, what are we trusting in that we feel is stronger?

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