

Snake Bit

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BIG IDEA: It's not the big things in life that can harm us like a lion or a bear, but a snake bite.

Amos 5:18-19 (NLT)

18 What sorrow awaits you who say, "If only the day of the LORD were here!" You have no idea what you are wishing for. That day will bring darkness, not light. 19 In that day you will be like a man who runs from a lion— only to meet a bear. Escaping from the bear, he leans his hand against a wall in his house— and he's bitten by a snake.

Numbers 21:6 (BBE)

Then the Lord sent poison-snakes among the people; and their bites were a cause of death to numbers of the people of Israel.

THREE LETHAL SNAKE BITES

1. YOU MAY GET BITTEN BY _____

Proverbs 16:18 (NLT)

18 Pride goes before destruction, and haughtiness before a fall.

"Be not proud of race, face, place, or grace."
—Charles Haddon Spurgeon (1834-1892)

"Absalom was vain about his hair,
therefore was he hanged by his hair."
—Talmud

"Pride is a strange disease: it makes
everyone sick except the person who has it."
—Anon.

2. YOU MAY GET BITTEN BY _____

1 Corinthians 3:3 (NIV)

3 You are still worldly. For since there is jealousy and quarreling among you, are you not worldly? Are you not acting like mere men?

“Jealousy is the foolish child of pride.”
—Pierre Augustin Caron de Beaumarchais (1732-1799)

“A jealous man always finds
more than he is looking for.”
—Madeleine de Scudery

“Jealousy is not love, because love is self-giving,
while jealousy is self-serving.”
—Anon.

“Jealousy is the raw material of murder.”
—Anon.

3. YOU MAY GET BITTEN BY _____

Hebrews 12:15 (NLT)

15 Look after each other so that none of you fails to receive the grace of God. Watch out that no poisonous root of bitterness grows up to trouble you, corrupting many.

Bitterness: A feeling of resentment against another person or a situation.

Ephesians 4:31 (CEV)

Stop being bitter and angry and mad at others.

Don't yell at one another or curse each other or ever be rude.

Paul was bitten by a deadly serpent but he shook it off!

Acts 28:3-6 (ESV)

3 When Paul had gathered a bundle of sticks and put them on the fire, a viper came out because of the heat and fastened on his hand. 4 When the native people saw the creature hanging from his hand, they said to one another, “No doubt this man is a murderer. Though he has escaped from the sea, Justice has not allowed him to live.” 5 He, however, shook off the creature into the fire and suffered no harm. 6 They were waiting for him to swell up or suddenly fall down dead. But when they had waited a long time and saw no misfortune come to him, they changed their minds and said that he was a god.

Mark 16:17-18 (ESV)

17 And these signs will accompany those who believe: in my name they will cast out demons; they will speak in new tongues; 18 they will pick up serpents with their hands; and if they drink any deadly poison, it will not hurt them; they will lay their hands on the sick, and they will recover.”

Luke 10:19 (ESV)

19 Behold, I have given you authority to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall hurt you.

SNAKE BITES: SPIRITUAL FIRST AID

1. Call 911. (Prayer & Repentance)

Acts 3:19 (NKJV)

Repent therefore and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, so that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord,

2. Move beyond a second strike. (Forgiveness & Distance)

Genesis 33:12 (HCSB)

Then Esau said, "Let's move on, and I'll go ahead of you."

3. No unnecessary movement which could spread the venom. (Contain the Pain)

Proverbs 27:10 (MSG)

Don't leave your friends or your parents' friends and run home to your family when things get rough; Better a nearby friend than a distant family.

4. Position yourself, if possible, so that the bite is at or below the level of your heart.

Proverbs 4:23 (GW)

Guard your heart more than anything else, because the source of your life flows from it.

5. Clean the wound with soap and water. Cover it with a clean, dry dressing.

Psalms 147:3 (NLT)

He heals the brokenhearted and bandages their wounds.

ANSWERS:

1. PRIDE

2. JEALOUSY

3. BITTERNESS