

## Awful!

It was a late night in the village. Our neighbor next door has just been bitten by a poisonous snake! It was his agonizing shriek that woke father who was already snoring. Machete in hand, he dashed out to offer help. Eaten up by curiosity, I tip-toed after father and hid behind our neighbor's mud-house. "From there, I could see the shadowy figures of sympathizing neighbors and hear every conversation in the moonlit night. There he was, sitting on the bare, dusty ground in front of his thatched house, supported by another neighbor sitting on a large stone. He was writhing in pain, moaning weakly, and foaming in the mouth while one of his legs involuntarily kicked up dust...he was dying, slowly!

"Ah! it's a very poisonous snake...unless we get an antidote soon,

he won't last two hours" Someone whispered desperately to father, dragging him aside from the rest of the shadowy crowd.

"Cow urine...undiluted cow urine, urgently! it's the sure antidote" The village native doctor who just arrived yelled at no one after briefly examining the snake bite.

Cow urine? Horrible...!

But...by daybreak, and several calabashes of concentrated cow urine later, he was well...

Supposing you were bitten by the same snake, for what good reason would you reject the cow urine antidote when your survival depends on it? Shame? Your position in the village? The disgusting smell and taste of cow urine...?

But the fact is that you are bitten! Bitten by a worse snake, it's called sin and the sting is worse than a viper's. It's in you, right this moment, terminating your life gradually!

## BITTEN!

" "The sting of death is sin, and the strength of sin is the law" (1 Corinthians 15:56).

Why would you die when you could receive the antidote, the gift of eternal life through Christ Jesus, escape the wages of sin, and live? "For the wages of sin is death but the gift of God is eternal life through Christ Jesus" (Romans 6:23).

Why would you go to eternal punishment in Hell when God offers you free pardon bought with the blood of Jesus Christ his Son "...the blood of Jesus Christ His son cleanses us from all sin" (1John 1:7b).

God says "...today...I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing; therefore, choose life that both you and your descendants may live" (Deuteronomy 30:19). What would you choose?

Choose life and live...!

Believe that you are a sinner, and that Jesus came to earth to suffer and die for your sins. Repent with your whole heart, confess your sins to God alone and ask for His forgiveness. "If we confess our sin, God is faithful and just to forgive us and cleanse us from all unrighteousness" (1John 1:9). Ask God to put His Holy Spirit in your heart.

If you have done this then, you are saved and you are a child of God! "But as many, as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name" (John 1:12).

For further help towards your Christian growth and maturity, write to us at... info@viewpointministriesinternational.org





