

The Deliverance (v.24-27)

Daniel 3:24-27 Then Nebuchadnezzar the king was astounded and hurriedly stood up; he answered and said to his high officials, "Was it not three men we cast tied up into the midst of the fire?" They answered and said to the king, "Certainly, O king." He answered and said, "Look! I see four men loosed *and* walking about in the midst of the fire without harm, and the appearance of the fourth is like a son of *the* gods!" Then Nebuchadnezzar came near to the door of the furnace of blazing fire; he answered and said, "Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego, come out, you servants of the Most High God, and come here!" Then Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego came out of the midst of the fire. Then the satraps, the prefects, the governors, and the king's high officials gathered around *and* saw in regard to these men that the fire had no power over the bodies of these men, nor was the hair of their head singed, nor were their trousers damaged, nor had the smell of fire *even* come upon them.

The Praise (v.28-30)

1. God is great by how He can _____ His people in miraculous ways.
"who has sent His angel and delivered His servants...(v.29)
there is no other god who is able to deliver in this way"
2. God is magnified when His people choose to _____ Him regardless of the cost and trust Him with their lives.

"put their trust in Him, violating the king's command, and yielded up their bodies so as not to serve or worship any god except their own God."

Application: our willingness to sacrifice anything in order to obey God is both a _____ to God and a _____ to those around us.

BLANKS: unneeded, save, outcome, goodness, deliver, obey, praise witness

Series: Daniel
Topic: Turn or Burn
Text: Daniel 3
Date: 3/17/2024

The Set Up (v.1-7)

Daniel 3:1 Nebuchadnezzar the king made an image of gold, the height of which was sixty cubits *and* its width six cubits; he set it up on the plain of Dura in the province of Babylon.

With no markers of time, this event happens in the same year Daniel revealed the king's dream (ch.2).

The statue was 90ft tall (including base) and 9 feet wide (no base).

"set up" occurs 6x in v.1-7. The author wants us to see that Nebuchadnezzar is setting himself up as deserving of worship when he just heard how God will set up his kingdom (2:44 same word as "rise up").

Daniel 3:4-6 Then the herald loudly called out: "To you it is said, O peoples, nations, and *men of every* tongue, that at the time you hear the sound of the horn, flute, lyre, trigon, psaltary, bagpipe, and all kinds of music, you are to fall down and worship the golden image that Nebuchadnezzar the king has set up. "But whoever does not fall down and worship shall immediately be cast into the midst of a furnace of blazing fire."

The consequence for disobedience is in v.6. "immediately" be cast into a furnace of fire. Immediately meant "in the same hour" referring to the severity and quickness of the punishment.

The Accusations (v.8-12)

Daniel 3:8 For this reason at that time certain Chaldeans came near and brought charges against the Jews.

"at that time" – same scene as v.7, not much later.

“certain Chaldeans brought charges against the Jews” – men either jealous of the Jews positions or desiring power/favor before the king, or both.

Daniel 3:12 “There are certain Jews whom you have appointed over the administration of the province of Babylon, *namely* Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego. These men, O king, do not pay attention to you; they do not serve your gods and do not worship the golden image which you have set up.”

The accusations are threefold:

- They do not respect or pay attention to the king.
- They do not serve the kings gods.
- They do not obey the king's words.

The Inquiry (v.13-15)

Daniel 3:13–15 Then Nebuchadnezzar in rage and wrath said to bring Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego; then these men were brought before the king. Nebuchadnezzar answered and said to them, “Is it true, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego, that you are not serving my gods and do not worship the golden image that I have set up? “Now if you are ready, at the time you hear the sound of the horn, flute, lyre, trigon, psaltery, and bagpipe and all kinds of music, then you shall fall down and worship the image that I have made. But if you do not worship, you will immediately be cast into the midst of a furnace of blazing fire; and what god is there who can save you out of my hands?”

A couple of observations from the king's interrogation of the three friends:

- Nebuchadnezzar did not assume that the accusation was true.
- Nebuchadnezzar offered them a chance to make it right by him.
- Nebuchadnezzar asserts his own power/will. “what god is there who can deliver you out of my hands”

The Response (v.16-18)

1. A statement of resolution that a time to reconsider their disobedience and an opportunity to obey the king's orders were _____ (v.16).

Daniel 3:16 Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego answered and said to the king, O Nebuchadnezzar, we do not need to respond to you with an answer concerning this matter.

2. A statement that the God they serve is able to _____ them from the power of the fire and the power of the king (v.17).

Daniel 3:17 If it be so, our God whom we serve is able to save us from the furnace of blazing fire; and He will save us out of your hand, O king.

3. A statement of faithfulness and obedience to God regardless of the _____ (v.18).

Daniel 3:18 “But if not, let it be known to you, O king, that we are not going to serve your gods, and we will not worship the golden image that you have set up.”

Application: strong faith is not certain that something will happen in a certain way but being certain of God's _____ regardless of what happens and having unconditional commitment to Him.

The Sentence (v.19-23)

Daniel 3:19 Then Nebuchadnezzar was filled with wrath, and the image of his face changed toward Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego. He answered and said to heat the furnace seven times more than it was usually heated.

“filled with wrath” – anger took over him/“facial expression was altered” – his image changed