



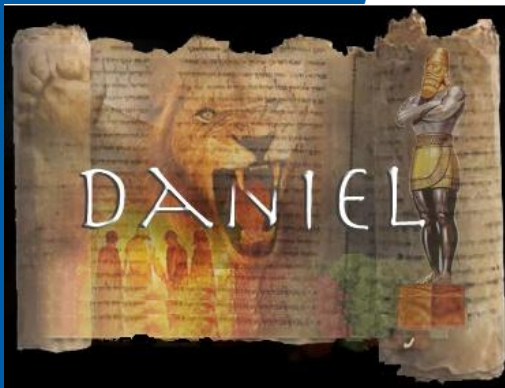
Daniel

In God I Trust

Lesson 05

Nebuchadnezzar's Ragtime Band

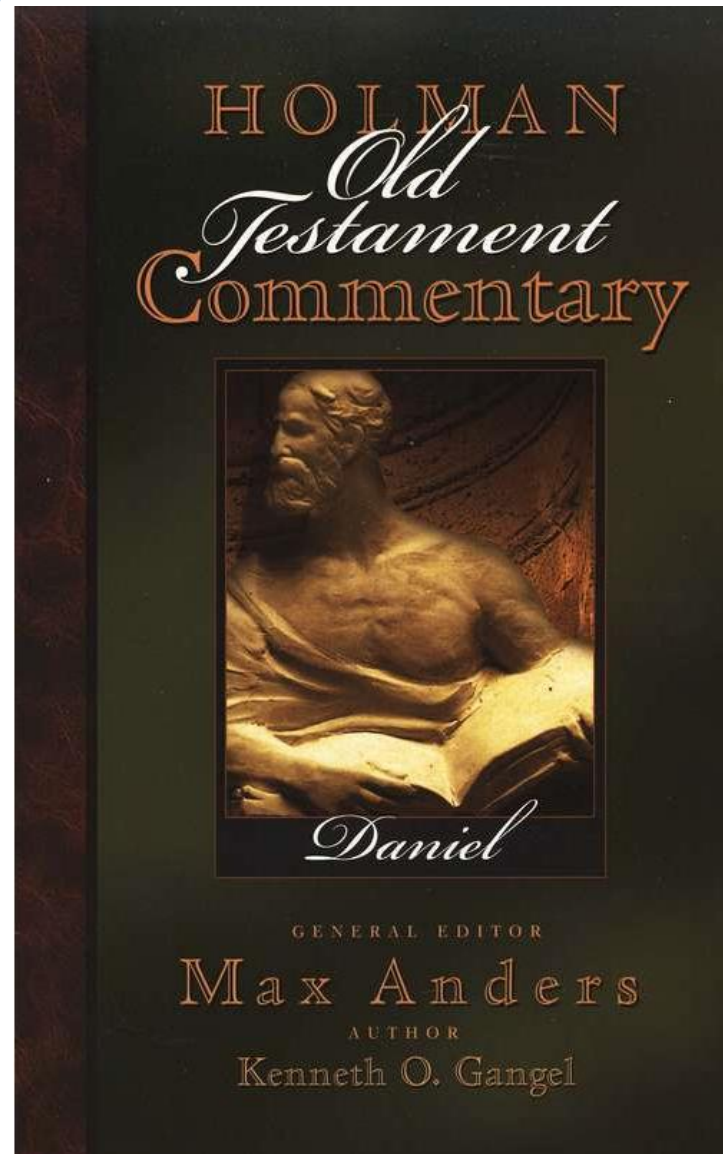
Daniel 3



Philip Giorgio

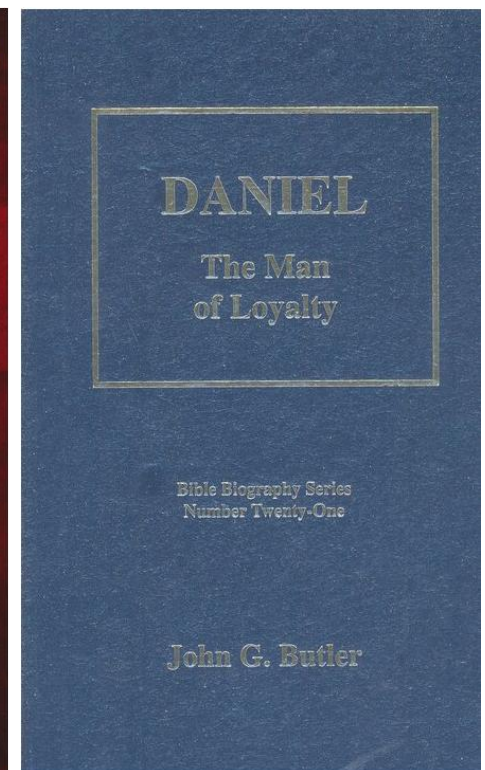
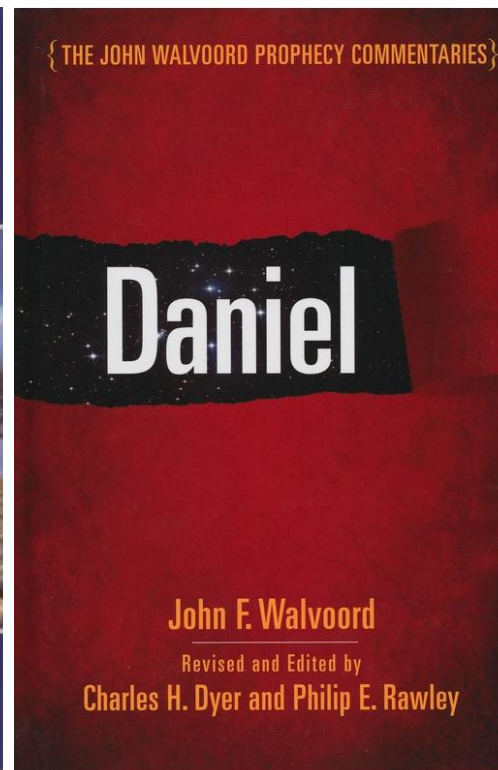
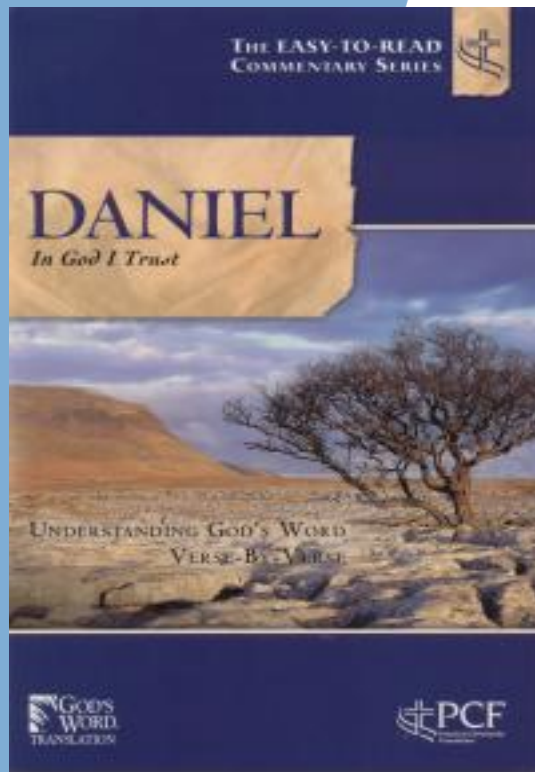
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Textbook



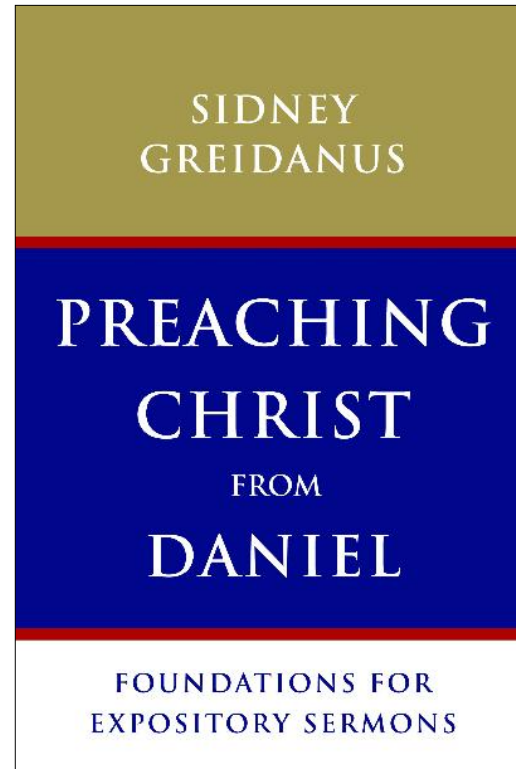
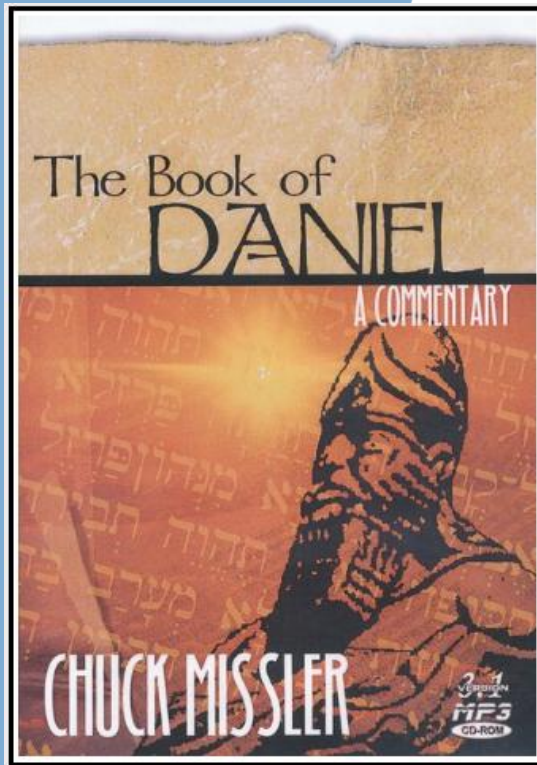


References



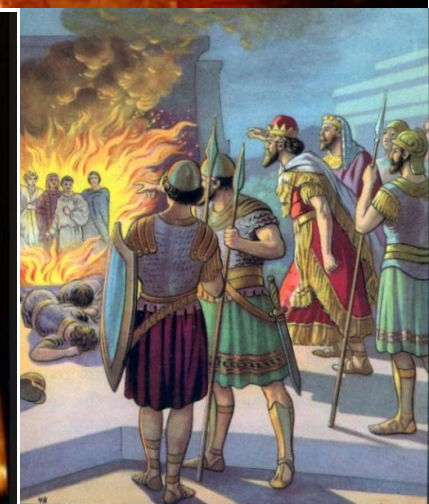


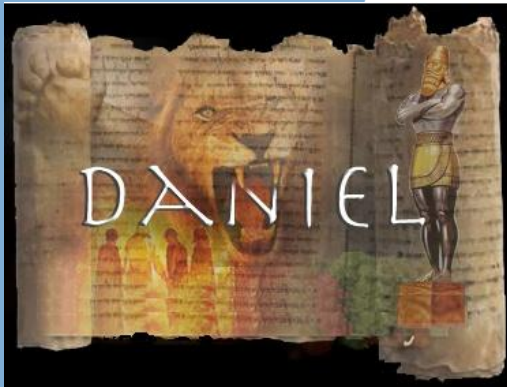
References





THE BOOK OF DANIEL





Course Outline

Course Outline - This Week's Lesson



▪ Daniel: In God I Trust

- Lesson 01: Introduction *[Book of Daniel]*
- Lesson 02: Lessons from Kidnapped Children *[Daniel 1:1-21]*
- Lesson 03: Monarchial Monument *[Daniel 2:1-23]*
- Lesson 04: DreamWorks, Inc *[Daniel 2:24-49]*
- Lesson 05: Nebuchadnezzar's Ragtime Band *[Daniel 3:1-30]*
- Lesson 06: The Green King *[Daniel 4:1-18]*
- Lesson 07: A Man Outstanding in His Field *[Daniel 4:19-37]*
- Lesson 08: Oddity at the Orgy *[Daniel 5:1-16]*
- Lesson 09: Heavenly Hermeneutic *[Daniel 5:17-31]*
- Lesson 10: The Lion's Den *[Daniel 6:1-28]*
- Lesson 11: The Ancient of Days *[Daniel 7:1-14]*
- Lesson 12: The Everlasting Kingdom *[Daniel 7:15-28]*
- Lesson 13: How the West Won *[Daniel 8:1-27]*
- Lesson 14: Daniel's Prayer *[Daniel 9:1-19]*
- Lesson 15: The Seventy Sevens *[Daniel 9:20-27]*
- Lesson 16: Angels in the Outfield *[Daniel 10:1-21]*
- Lesson 17: Wars and Rumors of Wars *[Daniel 11:1-45]*
- Lesson 18: Back to the Future *[Daniel 12:1-13]*

This weeks lesson.

Book of Daniel - Structure



Book of Daniel											
01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	12
Hebrew			Aramaic				Hebrew				
HISTORICAL - NARRATIVE						VISIONS - PROPHEPIC					

Book of Daniel									
01 606 BC	02 602 BC	03 580 BC	04 570 BC			05 539 BC	06 538 BC		
				07 556 BC	08 554 BC		09 538 BC	10 536 BC	11 534 BC
									12 534 BC

Book Overview - Chapter Focus



■ By Chapter Summaries

Chapter	Summary
01	Deported as a teenager.
02	Nebuchadnezzar's dream.
03	Bow or burn: the fiery furnace.
04	Nebuchadnezzar pride.
05	Belshazzar's feast: the fall of Babylon.
06	Daniel in the lion's den.
07	Daniel's first vision - four beasts.
08	Vision of the ram and goat.
09	Prophecy of Seventy Weeks
10	Vision of a man - a glimpse of the darkside.
11	Kings of the North and South - silent years in advance.
12	Epilogue - the consummation of all things.



Nebuchadnezzar's Ragtime Band

Text – New King James Version

Daniel 3:1-30

The Image of Gold

Daniel 3:1-7 - NKJV



3 Nebuchadnezzar the king made an image of gold, whose height *was* sixty cubits *and* its width six cubits. He set it up in the plain of Dura, in the province of Babylon. **2** And King Nebuchadnezzar sent *word* to gather together the satraps, the administrators, the governors, the counselors, the treasurers, the judges, the magistrates, and all the officials of the provinces, to come to the dedication of the image which King Nebuchadnezzar had set up. --- Daniel 3:1-2 ... NKJV

The Image of Gold

Daniel 3:1-7 - NKJV



3 So the satraps, the administrators, the governors, the counselors, the treasurers, the judges, the magistrates, and all the officials of the provinces gathered together for the dedication of the image that King Nebuchadnezzar had set up; and they stood before the image that Nebuchadnezzar had set up. **4** Then a herald cried aloud: "To you it is commanded, O peoples, nations, and languages,

--- Daniel 3:3-4 ... NKJV

The Image of Gold

Daniel 3:1-7 - NKJV



5 *that* at the time you hear the sound of the horn, flute, harp, lyre, *and* psaltery, in symphony with all kinds of music, you shall fall down and worship the gold image that King Nebuchadnezzar has set up; **6** and whoever does not fall down and worship shall be cast immediately into the midst of a burning fiery furnace."

--- Daniel 3:5-6 ... NKJV

The Image of Gold

Daniel 3:1-7 - NKJV



7 So at that time, when all the people heard the sound of the horn, flute, harp, *and* lyre, in symphony with all kinds of music, all the people, nations, and languages fell down *and* worshiped the gold image which King Nebuchadnezzar had set up.

--- Daniel 3:7 ... NKJV

Daniel's Friends Disobey the King

Daniel 3:8-18 - NKJV



8 Therefore at that time certain Chaldeans came forward and accused the Jews. **9** They spoke and said to King Nebuchadnezzar, “O king, live forever! **10** You, O king, have made a decree that everyone who hears the sound of the horn, flute, harp, lyre, *and* psaltery, in symphony with all kinds of music, shall fall down and worship the gold image;

--- Daniel 3:8-10 ... NKJV

Daniel's Friends Disobey the King

Daniel 3:8-18 - NKJV



11 and whoever does not fall down and worship shall be cast into the midst of a burning fiery furnace. **12** There are certain Jews whom you have set over the affairs of the province of Babylon: Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego; these men, O king, have not paid due regard to you. They do not serve your gods or worship the gold image which you have set up."

--- Daniel 3:11-12 ... NKJV

Daniel's Friends Disobey the King

Daniel 3:8-18 - NKJV



13 Then Nebuchadnezzar, in rage and fury, gave the command to bring Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego. So they brought these men before the king.

14 Nebuchadnezzar spoke, saying to them, "*Is it true, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego, that you do not serve my gods or worship the gold image which I have set up?*"

--- Daniel 3:13-14 ... NKJV

Daniel's Friends Disobey the King

Daniel 3:8-18 - NKJV



15 Now if you are ready at the time you hear the sound of the horn, flute, harp, lyre, *and* psaltery, in symphony with all kinds of music, and you fall down and worship the image which I have made, *good!* But if you do not worship, you shall be cast immediately into the midst of a burning fiery furnace. And who *is* the god who will deliver you from my hands?"

--- Daniel 3:15 ... NKJV

Daniel's Friends Disobey the King

Daniel 3:8-18 - NKJV



16 Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego answered and said to the king, “O Nebuchadnezzar, we have no need to answer you in this matter. **17** If that *is the case*, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and He will deliver *us* from your hand, O king. **18** But if not, let it be known to you, O king, that we do not serve your gods, nor will we worship the gold image which you have set up.”

--- Daniel 3:16-18 ... NKJV



19 Then Nebuchadnezzar was full of fury, and the expression on his face changed toward Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego. He spoke and commanded that they heat the furnace seven times more than it was usually heated. **20** And he commanded certain mighty men of valor who *were* in his army to bind Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego, *and* cast *them* into the burning fiery furnace.

--- Daniel 3:19-20 ... NKJV

Saved in Fiery Trial

Daniel 3:19-25 - NKJV



21 Then these men were bound in their coats, their trousers, their turbans, and their *other* garments, and were cast into the midst of the burning fiery furnace. **22** Therefore, because the king's command was urgent, and the furnace exceedingly hot, the flame of the fire killed those men who took up Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego. **23** And these three men, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego, fell down bound into the midst of the burning fiery furnace. --- Daniel 3:21-23 ... NKJV

Saved in Fiery Trial

Daniel 3:19-25 - NKJV



24 Then King Nebuchadnezzar was astonished; and he rose in haste *and* spoke, saying to his counselors,

“Did we not cast three men bound into the midst of the fire?”

They answered and said to the king,

“True, O king.”

25 “Look!” he answered, “I see four men loose, walking in the midst of the fire; and they are not hurt, and the form of the fourth is like the Son of God.” --- Daniel 3:24-25 ... NKJV

Nebuchadnezzar Praises God

Daniel 3:26-30 - NKJV



26 Then Nebuchadnezzar went near the mouth of the burning fiery furnace *and* spoke, saying, "Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego, servants of the Most High God, come out, and come *here*." Then Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego came from the midst of the fire.

--- Daniel 3:26 ... NKJV

Nebuchadnezzar Praises God

Daniel 3:26-30 - NKJV



27 And the satraps, administrators, governors, and the king's counselors gathered together, and they saw these men on whose bodies the fire had no power; the hair of their head was not singed nor were their garments affected, and the smell of fire was not on them.

--- Daniel 3:27 ... NKJV

Nebuchadnezzar Praises God

Daniel 3:26-30 - NKJV



28 Nebuchadnezzar spoke, saying, “Blessed be the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego, who sent His Angel and delivered His servants who trusted in Him, and they have frustrated the king’s word, and yielded their bodies, that they should not serve nor worship any god except their own God!

--- Daniel 3:28 ... NKJV

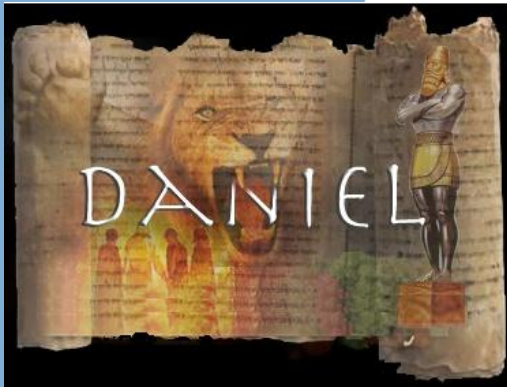
Nebuchadnezzar Praises God

Daniel 3:26-30 - NKJV



29 Therefore I make a decree that any people, nation, or language which speaks anything amiss against the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego shall be cut in pieces, and their houses shall be made an ash heap; because there is no other God who can deliver like this."

30 Then the king promoted Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego in the province of Babylon. --- Daniel 3:29-30 ... NKJV



Lesson Outline



▪ Lesson 05: Nebuchadnezzar's Ragtime Band

[Daniel 3:1-30]

- The Image of Gold... [Daniel 3:1-7]
- Daniel's Friends Disobey the King... [Daniel 3:8-18]
- Saved in Fiery Trial... [Daniel 3:19-25]
- Nebuchadnezzar Praises God... [Daniel 3:26-30]

Outline of what we will cover in this lesson.



Nebuchadnezzar's Ragtime Band

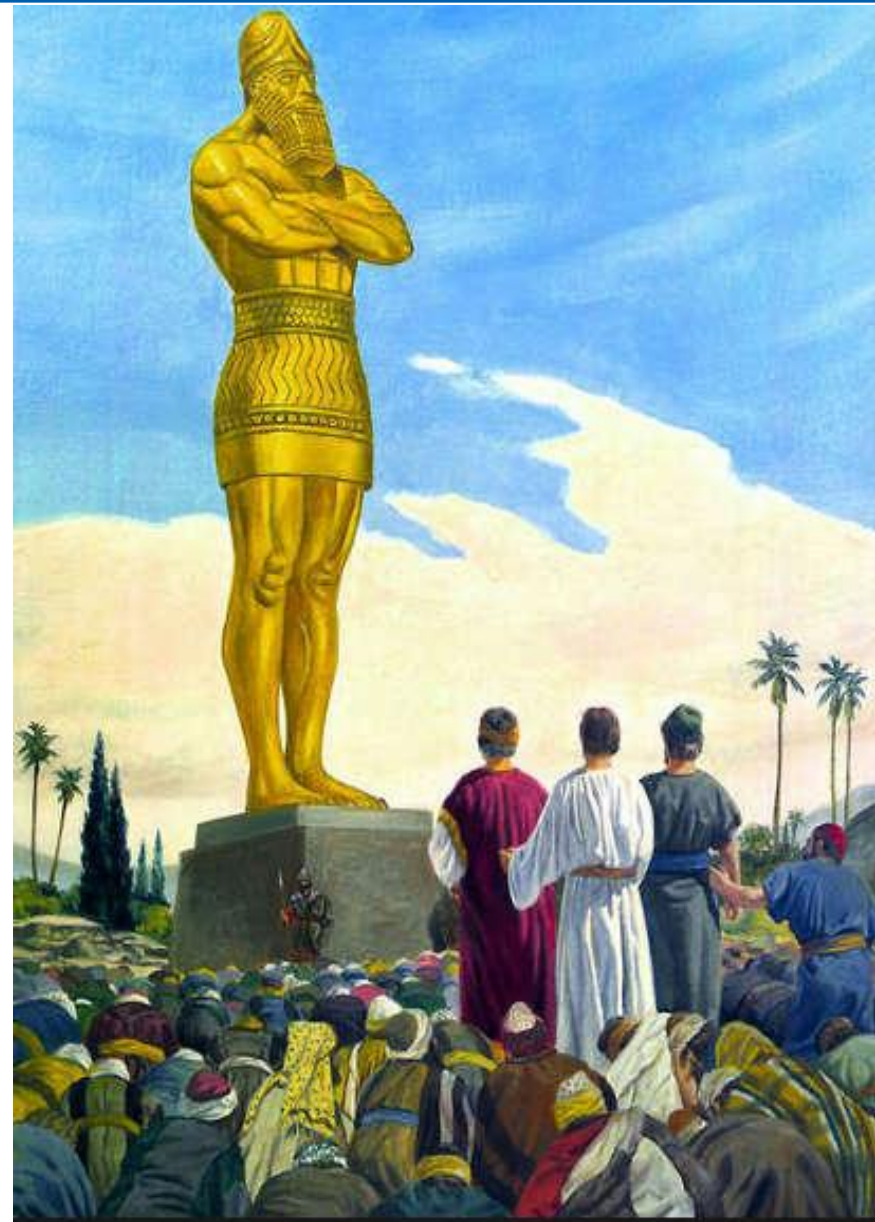
The Image of Gold

Daniel 3:1-7

The Image of Gold



GOLD		Babylonian Empire 606 B.C.
SILVER		Media-Persia 536 B.C.
BRONZE		Greek Empire 330 B.C.
IRON		Roman Empire 27 B.C.
IRON / CLAY		Endtimes





▪ Lesson 05: Nebuchadnezzar's Ragtime Band

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Daniel 3:1 - Observations



3 Nebuchadnezzar the king made an image of gold, whose height *was* sixty cubits *and* its width six cubits. He set it up in the plain of Dura, in the province of Babylon.

■ The King Made an Image of Gold

- Nebuchadnezzar makes a giant image
 - ✓ The text does **NOT** say what the image was
 - Most artistic renditions are of a man
 - » Presumably the man is Nebuchadnezzar
 - » Chapter 2 Dream Statue linkage with Head of Gold (this event ~8 yrs later)
 - Highly unlikely the image was of Nebuchadnezzar
 - » Except in Egypt (later in Rome) it was considered blasphemy for a man to set himself up to be equal with the gods
 - » Nebuchadnezzar means “*protector of Nebo’s boundaries*”
 - » He started out as a general in his father’s army -
 - » protecting and serving Nebo ... expanding Nebo’s boundaries
 - » He is not equal with Nebo - but acting on his behalf
 - Assyrian practice called for an image of a weapon of the king’s to be set up as an object to be honored as a symbol of loyalty to the king & gods
 - » This may be what Nebuchadnezzar has set up

Daniel 3:1 - Observations



3 Nebuchadnezzar the king made an image of gold, whose height *was* sixty cubits *and* its width six cubits. He set it up in the plain of Dura, in the province of Babylon.

■ The King Made an Image of Gold

• What the text does tell us ...

✓ **COMPOSITION:** Gold

- Probably wood overlaid with gold
- Like Ark of Covenant

✓ **Dimensions:** 60 cubits high and 6 cubits wide

- What's a cubit?
 - » Length of measure from elbow to finger tips ... ~18 inches
 - » Image is 90 feet tall by 9 feet wide
- Approx. 9 stories high but only 9 feet wide
 - » 10:1 ratio ... a tenth as wide as it is high
 - » Full image of a man would be distorted

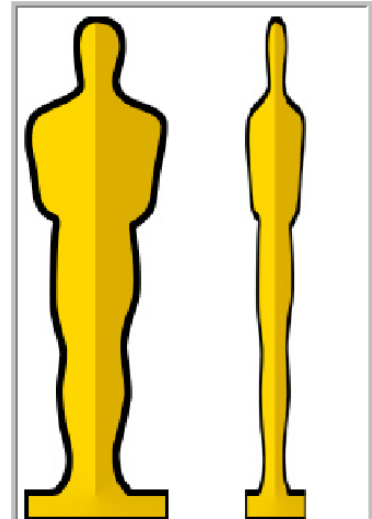
Notice anything
about the
numbers here ...

6 - man's number

✓ **Location:**

- Set up in the Plain of Dura (province of Babylon)
- 6 miles south east of Babylon

"enclosed by a wall"



Some say this was a statue of Nebuchadnezzar. That's impossible given the dimensions. The skinny Oscar statue (left) is 28% as wide as it is high. Shown on the right is a statue of a person measuring 10% as wide as it is high. This was obviously an image of something other than a man.

Province where Daniel and his companions served.

Daniel 3:1 - Observations



3 Nebuchadnezzar the king made an image of gold, whose height *was* sixty cubits *and* its width six cubits. He set it up in the plain of Dura, in the province of Babylon.

■ The King Made an Image of Gold

- Why did Nebuchadnezzar make the golden image?
 - ✓ A coup attempt against Nebuchadnezzar
 - December 595 BC - January 594 BC
 - During 10th year of his reign
 - Recorded in the Babylonian Chronicles (Walvoord)
 - ✓ After coup attempt failed ... Nebuchadnezzar
 - Summons all his provincial leaders and vassal kings back to Babylon
 - Reaffirm their loyalty to Nebuchadnezzar
 - Requiring their attendance and participate of the dedication of the image
 - ✓ Enemies of Daniel and his companions use the opportunity to set a trap
 - Ensure that worship of an image is involved in the test of loyalty

WHERE IS DANIEL?

Daniel 3:2 - Observations



² And King Nebuchadnezzar sent *word* to gather together the satraps, the administrators, the governors, the counselors, the treasurers, the judges, the magistrates, and all the officials of the provinces, to come to the dedication of the image which King Nebuchadnezzar had set up.

■ Nebuchadnezzar Sends Out the Invitations - *Attendance Required*

- The building of the image must have took some time to plan and build
 - ✓ Could easily have taken months to pull together
 - ✓ Designed to establish allegiance to Nebo (chief god) through the king
 - Reassert the king's grip on the kingdom
- Invitation is **sent** to all in leadership throughout his kingdom
 - ✓ The implication is that this is a mandatory meeting, no exceptions
 - ✓ All are to attend the **dedication of the image the king has set up**

Daniel 3:3 - Observations



³ So the satraps, the administrators, the governors, the counselors, the treasurers, the judges, the magistrates, and all the officials of the provinces gathered together for the dedication of the image that King Nebuchadnezzar had set up; and they stood before the image that Nebuchadnezzar had set up.

■ All Those Invited Gather for the Dedication of the Image

- **All** those invited arrive and stand before the image

- ✓ Kingdom-wide invitation to **all** leaders - **all** levels

- ✓ Shadrach, Meshach & Abed-Nego are there

- Must have been invited

- ✓ Daniel not there

- Not invited

⁴⁸ Then the king promoted Daniel and gave him many great gifts; and he made him ruler over the whole province of Babylon, and chief administrator over all the wise *men* of Babylon.

- » Remains in Babylon to run things while the king is in Dura

- » King has no doubt regarding Daniel's loyalty

Daniel 3:4 - Observations



⁴ Then a herald cried aloud: "To you it is commanded, O peoples, nations, and languages,

■ The Dedication Begins

- Command goes out
 - ✓ This is a command not a suggestion
 - ✓ Target Audience is comprehensive
 - Peoples ... *racial groups*
 - Nations ... *nations of the kingdom*
 - Languages ... *conquered nations with different native tongues*
 - ✓ This is not a local issue
 - ✓ Allegiance would demonstrate they would carry message to every corner of the kingdom

Daniel 3:5 - Observations



⁵ *that* at the time you hear the sound of the horn, flute, harp, lyre, *and* psaltery, in symphony with all kinds of music, you shall fall down and worship the gold image that King Nebuchadnezzar has set up;

■ Rules are Explained - Expectation is Set

- Commanded rules are really simple
 - ✓ When you hear the music
 - ✓ Fall down and worship the golden image
- Worship of the image was intended to express loyalty to Nebuchadnezzar
 - ✓ Protector of Nebo's boundaries
 - ✓ Enemies of Daniel and his companions knew that they would not comply
 - Not because they were not loyal to the king
 - But because they were loyal to their God

Daniel 3:6 - Observations



⁶ and whoever does not fall down and worship shall be cast immediately into the midst of a burning fiery furnace.”

■ Penalty for Non-Compliance

- Failure to express loyalty to Nebuchadnezzar
 - ✓ Not falling down and worshipping the image
 - ✓ Results is swift and severe punishment
 - **Swift**: “immediately”
 - **Severe**: “ into the midst of a burning fiery furnace”
 - ✓ Implies the furnace was ready to go
 - Later we learn that the furnace was indeed burning
 - And that is was turned up (7-times hotter)
 - ✓ Archeologists have found brick-making furnaces in Northern Iraq
 - Appear to have been used for execution

Daniel 3:7 - Observations



⁷ So at that time, when all the people heard the sound of the horn, flute, harp, *and* lyre, in symphony with all kinds of music, all the people, nations, and languages fell down *and* worshiped the gold image which King Nebuchadnezzar had set up.

■ Compliance by the Masses

- Music sounds
- All those gathered fall down and worship the image
 - ✓ Synchronized worship
 - ✓ Similar to the “call to prayer” by Muslims today
- Everything looks good for the king
 - ✓ Everything is going as planned
 - ✓ But wait... we need to get to the rest of the story

Principle - Application Table ... Daniel 3:1-7



Daniel Chapter 03		
Verse	Principle	Application
The Image of Gold ... Daniel 3:1-7		
1-7	God is sovereign in the affairs of all peoples, nations, and languages.	<p>I resolve to trust and obey all that God has instructed me to do, and leave all that is out of my control in His hands.</p> <p>Proverbs 3:5-6 "⁵ Trust in the Lord with all your heart, And lean not on your own understanding; ⁶ In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct[a] your paths."</p>



Nebuchadnezzar's Ragtime Band

Daniel's Friends Disobey the King

Daniel 3:8-18



▪ Lesson 05: Nebuchadnezzar's Ragtime Band

[Daniel 3:1-30]

- The Image of Gold... [Daniel 3:1-7]
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- Saved in Fiery Trial... [Daniel 3:19-25]
- Nebuchadnezzar Praises God... [Daniel 3:26-30]

Outline of what we will cover in this lesson.

Daniel 3:8-9 - Observations



- 8 Therefore at that time certain Chaldeans came forward and accused the Jews.
- 9 They spoke and said to King Nebuchadnezzar, "O king, live forever!"

■ Time to Spring the Trap

- Therefore - what is it there for
 - ✓ Chaldeans seize their opportunity to come forward and accuse the Jews
 - Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego
 - Clear tone of anti-Semitism
 - Why do you think these Chaldeans hated Daniel and his companions?
 - » Another race
 - » Captives (social standing)
 - ✓ Apparently all the others that gathered for the dedication, bowed in worship
 - Now was their time to strike
- O king, live forever
 - ✓ Early version of our modern day - "long live the king"

Daniel 3:10-11 - Observations



10 You, O king, have made a decree that everyone who hears the sound of the horn, flute, harp, lyre, *and* psaltery, in symphony with all kinds of music, shall fall down and worship the gold image; **11** and whoever does not fall down and worship shall be cast into the midst of a burning fiery furnace.

■ Decree Repeated

- Why repeat the decree (command)?
 - ✓ Looks like a legal proceeding designed to give the king no room to maneuver
 - ✓ Wanted to ensure those targeted were punished as stated in the decree
 - Cast into the midst of the burning fiery furnace
 - ✓ Immediately
 - Notice the repeated decree does not include the term “immediately”
 - The herald had included the term “immediately”
 - » Was he in on the scheme to quickly eliminate the Jews?
 - » Before Daniel could intervene?

Daniel 3:12 - Observations



12 There are certain Jews whom you have set over the affairs of the province of Babylon: Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego; these men, O king, have not paid due regard to you. They do not serve your gods or worship the gold image which you have set up.”

■ Accusations are Made

- 3 accusations are leveled against Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego
 - 1) They pay no attention to Nebuchadnezzar's command
 - 2) They do not serve the gods of Babylon
 - This is the heart of the matter
 - The issue the Chaldeans are certain of
 - This is what they will use to eliminate Shadrach, Meshach, & Abed-Nego
 - 3) They will not worship the golden image you have set up
 - Not worshipping the image is proof for not serving the Babylonian gods
- TRAP
 - ✓ To have the king set up the image - test of loyalty to the king and Nebo
 - ✓ Then have all in his kingdom worship the image
 - ✓ Those who do not, will show their disloyalty to the king and to Nebo
 - ✓ Those disloyal will be killed

Daniel 3:13 - Observations



13 Then Nebuchadnezzar, in rage and fury, gave the command to bring Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego. So they brought these men before the king.

■ The King Gets Mad

- In a rage Nebuchadnezzar commands to see Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego
 - ✓ He wants to get to the bottom of this
 - Chaldeans timed this to make him look bad in front of all his kingdom
 - » Notice they came to him, after all had bowed down
 - » If he does not follow through on his decree he will look weak
 - » Nebuchadnezzar is smart enough to know what they are doing
 - Not sure he really believes the Chaldeans accusations
 - » Must have seen their dealing with Daniel and his companions
 - » Understand jealousies and rivalries in the workplace
 - » I believe that he is sensing that he has been trapped

Daniel 3:14 - Observations



14 Nebuchadnezzar spoke, saying to them, "*Is it true*, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego, *that* you do not serve my gods or worship the gold image which I have set up?

■ King Confronts Shadrach, Meshach and Abed-Nego

- Is it true?
 - ✓ King can not believe it
 - Are the Chaldeans lying to me?
 - » Does not really trust the Chaldeans
 - Why would they not serve my gods or worship the golden image?
 - » From a polytheist perspective - it's just one more god
 - » Is it worth losing your life over?
- Bowing before an image is expressly prohibited in the Torah
 - ✓ Exodus 20:4-5
 - ✓ Leviticus 26:1
 - ✓ Deuteronomy 16:22

Daniel 3:14 - Observations



14 Nebuchadnezzar spoke, saying to them, “*Is it true*, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego, *that* you do not serve my gods or worship the gold image which I have set up?

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» Is it worth losing your life over?

• Bowing before an image is expressly prohibited in the Torah

✓ Exodus 20:4-5

✓ Leviticus 26:1

✓ Deuteronomy 16:22

⁴“You shall not make for yourself a carved image—any likeness of *anything* that *is* in heaven above, or that *is* in the earth beneath, or that *is* in the water under the earth; ⁵ you shall not bow down to them nor serve them. For I, the LORD your God, *am* a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children to the third and fourth *generations* of those who hate Me,

Daniel 3:14 - Observations



14 Nebuchadnezzar spoke, saying to them, "*Is it true*, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego, *that* you do not serve my gods or worship the gold image which I have set up?

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- ✓ Leviticus 26:1

- ✓ Deuteronomy 16:22

26 'You shall not make idols for yourselves; neither a carved image nor a *sacred* pillar shall you rear up for yourselves; nor shall you set up an engraved stone in your land, to bow down to it; for I *am* the LORD your God.

Daniel 3:14 - Observations



¹⁴ Nebuchadnezzar spoke, saying to them, "*Is it true*, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego, *that* you do not serve my gods or worship the gold image which I have set up?

■ King Confronts Shadrach, Meshach and Abed-Nego

- Is it true?
 - ✓ King can not believe it
 - Are the Chaldeans lying to me?
 - » Does not really trust the Chaldeans
 - Why would they not serve my gods or worship the golden image?
 - » From a polytheist perspective - it's just one more god
 - » Is it worth losing your life over?
- Bowing before an image is expressly prohibited in the Torah
 - ✓ Exodus 20:4-5
 - ✓ Leviticus 26:1
 - ✓ Deuteronomy 16:22

²² You shall not set up a *sacred* pillar, which the LORD your God hates.

Daniel 3:15 - Observations



15 Now if you are ready at the time you hear the sound of the horn, flute, harp, lyre, *and* psaltery, in symphony with all kinds of music, and you fall down and worship the image which I have made, *good!* But if you do not worship, you shall be cast immediately into the midst of a burning fiery furnace. And who *is* the god who will deliver you from my hands?"

■ Second Chance

- The decree did not give room for a second chance interview with the king
 - ✓ The king wants to put the whole incident behind him
 - ✓ Shows his distrust of the Chaldeans
 - If what the Chaldeans was saying was not true
 - Then here was their chance to rebut
 - ✓ Wants to spare Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego
 - If what the Chaldeans was saying was true
 - Then he would give them a second chance
 - » Simply bow and worship the image and be done with it
 - » Notice he does not include the serving of his gods here

Daniel 3:15 - Observations



15 Now if you are ready at the time you hear the sound of the horn, flute, harp, lyre, *and* psaltery, in symphony with all kinds of music, and you fall down and worship the image which I have made, *good!* But if you do not worship, you shall be cast immediately into the midst of a burning fiery furnace. And who *is* the god who will deliver you from my hands?"

■ Nebuchadnezzar's Challenge

- Who is the god who will deliver you from my hands?
 - ✓ Here we see the arrogance of Nebuchadnezzar again
 - ✓ The answer to the question is
 - The same God who revealed your dream and its interpretation via Daniel
 - ✓ Nebuchadnezzar felt supreme in his power
 - ✓ Nebuchadnezzar did not expect any god to interfere
 - Forgetting that Daniel had told him that his power was given to him by the God of Israel, Daniel's God, and not Nebo
- ~150 years earlier king Sennacherib (Assyria) challenged the God of Israel
 - ✓ One night lost 183,00 fighting men to a single angel of the LORD (2 Kings 19)

Daniel 3:16-18 - Observations



16 Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego answered and said to the king, "O Nebuchadnezzar, we have no need to answer you in this matter. **17** If that *is the case*, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and He will deliver *us* from your hand, O king. **18** But if not, let it be known to you, O king, that we do not serve your gods, nor will we worship the gold image which you have set up."

■ Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego Answer the King

- We have no need to answer you in this matter
 - ✓ Answer to the, "Is it True?" question
 - Yes it is true we will not bow to your image
 - Even given a second chance
- There is no fear in their answer only confidence in God
 - ✓ Confidence in His ability to deliver them
 - ✓ But confident that even if He does not deliver them
 - They will not bow to Nebuchadnezzar's image
 - They would rather suffer the consequences - even death
 - ✓ What faith
 - What an example to the Jewish readers
 - What an example to us

**FOCAL POINT OF THE
STORY**

Principle - Application Table ... Daniel 3:8-18



Daniel Chapter 03		
Verse	Principle	Application
Civil Disobedience... Daniel 3:8-18		
8-18	God is pleased when we follow His commands, no matter the circumstance or consequence.	I resolve to follow God's commands as presented in the Word of God. 1 John 2:3 "Now by this we know that we know Him, if we keep His commandments."



Nebuchadnezzar's Ragtime Band

Saved in Fiery Trial

Daniel 3:19-25



▪ Lesson 05: Nebuchadnezzar's Ragtime Band

[Daniel 3:1-30]

- The Image of Gold... [Daniel 3:1-7]
- Daniel's Friends Disobey the King... [Daniel 3:8-18]
- Saved in Fiery Trial... [Daniel 3:19-25]
- Nebuchadnezzar Praises God... [Daniel 3:26-30]

Outline of what we will cover in this lesson.

Daniel 3:19 - Observations



19 Then Nebuchadnezzar was full of fury, and the expression on his face changed toward Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego. He spoke and commanded that they heat the furnace seven times more than it was usually heated.

■ Nebuchadnezzar is Really Mad Now

- Full of fury - facial expression changes
 - ✓ Toward Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego
 - Up to this point the king was giving them every chance to save their lives
 - Understood that he was being played by the Chaldeans
 - But, in his mind, he had no choice
 - » The timing and setting of the accusations
 - » The refusal of the second chance offering
 - The refusal to bow to the image he set up
 - » Was an act of treason in his mind - a show of disloyalty
 - » A direct challenge to his authority - in front of all his kingdom
- Nebuchadnezzar snaps

Daniel 3:19 - Observations



19 Then Nebuchadnezzar was full of fury, and the expression on his face changed toward Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego. He spoke and commanded that they heat the furnace seven times more than it was usually heated.

■ Nebuchadnezzar Turns up the Heat

- Heat the furnace seven times hotter
 - ✓ Seven times? Not actually 7 times ... figure of speech to imply completeness
 - Normal firing temperature is 1000 degrees Celsius
 - ✓ This irrational command
 - Spoken in anger
 - This decision will not turn out well... we will see

Daniel 3:20-21 - Observations



20 And he commanded certain mighty men of valor who *were* in his army to bind Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego, *and* cast *them* into the burning fiery furnace. **21** Then these men were bound in their coats, their trousers, their turbans, and their *other* garments, and were cast into the midst of the burning fiery furnace.

■ Nebuchadnezzar Command to Bind and Cast into Fiery Furnace

- No indication of resistance from Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego
 - ✓ No need to have them bound by “certain mighty men of valor”
 - ✓ Seems like this is for show
 - He is taking this situation very seriously
 - All the eyes of the kingdom are on him to see how he responds to this apparent act of disloyalty
 - Must be Swift
 - Must be Severe
- Cast into the fiery furnace with their clothes on
 - ✓ Nebuchadnezzar did not allow them to strip down
 - Normal practice for this type of execution - at this time
 - ✓ Show the immediacy of the casting into the flames

Daniel 3:22 - Observations



22 Therefore, because the king's command was urgent, and the furnace exceedingly hot, the flame of the fire killed those men who took up Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego.

■ Mighty Men of Valor Killed by the Fire

- Because ...
 - ✓ King's command was urgent
 - ✓ King's command to turn up the heat 7-times hotter
 - Furnace was exceedingly hot
- Nebuchadnezzar loses some of the best in his army
 - ✓ Because of his irrational commands made in anger

Daniel 3:23 - Observations



23 And these three men, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego, fell down bound into the midst of the burning fiery furnace.

■ Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego in the Flames

- Nebuchadnezzar had accomplished his purpose
 - ✓ His decree had been fulfilled
 - ✓ He has saved face in front of all his kingdom
 - By making an example of these three who would show disloyalty
 - ✓ He could leave the rest to the fiery furnace

Daniel 3:24 - Observations



24 Then King Nebuchadnezzar was astonished; and he rose in haste *and* spoke, saying to his counselors, "Did we not cast three men bound into the midst of the fire?" They answered and said to the king, "True, O king."

■ Nebuchadnezzar was Astonished

- Apparently the king could see into the furnace
- He could not believe his eyes - He stood quickly
- He asked his counselors
 - ✓ Not the Chaldeans - whom he did not trust
 - ✓ Did we not throw **three bound** into the fire?
- The counselors answer in the affirmative

Daniel 3:25 - Observations



25 “Look!” he answered, “I see four men loose, walking in the midst of the fire; and they are not hurt, and the form of the fourth is like the Son of God.”

■ Look

- Nebuchadnezzar tells his counselors to look and see what he is seeing
 - ✓ Four men loose
 - NOT three men bound
 - ✓ Walking in the midst of the fire
 - ✓ They are not hurt
 - ✓ The fourth is like the Son of God
 - Could this be a Theophany -Christophany or an Angel
 - It is doubtful that Nebuchadnezzar could recognize the Son of God
 - But he knew that the 4th person was more than mere human

Principle - Application Table ... Daniel 3:19-25



Daniel Chapter 03		
Verse	Principle	Application
Saved Out of the Fire ... Daniel 3:19-25		
19-25	God promised that He would never leave us or forsake us.	<p>I resolve to believe that God will never leave me or forsake me no matter how grim the situation appears. He may not take me out of the situation, but He promises to be with me through the situation.</p> <p>Hebrews 13:5 "Let your conduct be without covetousness; be content with such things as you have. For He Himself has said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you.".</p>



Nebuchadnezzar's Ragtime Band

Nebuchadnezzar Praises God

Daniel 3:26-30



▪ Lesson 05: Nebuchadnezzar's Ragtime Band

[Daniel 3:1-30]

- The Image of Gold... [Daniel 3:1-7]
- Daniel's Friends Disobey the King... [Daniel 3:8-18]
- Save in Fiery Trial... [Daniel 3:19-25]
- Nebuchadnezzar Praises God... [Daniel 3:26-30]

Outline of what we will cover in this lesson.

Daniel 3:26 - Observations



26 Then Nebuchadnezzar went near the mouth of the burning fiery furnace *and* spoke, saying, "Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego, servants of the Most High God, come out, and come *here*." Then Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego came from the midst of the fire.

■ The Call for Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego to Come Out

- Notice he does not call out the 4th one
 - ✓ Just Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego
- Refers to them as the **servants of the Most High God**
 - ✓ Nebuchadnezzar recognizes the God of Israel is greater than the gods of Babylon, including Nebo
 - ✓ Still a polytheist - but his rankings have changed
- Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego comply with the king's request
 - ✓ They come out of the midst of the fire

Daniel 3:27 - Observations



27 And the satraps, administrators, governors, and the king's counselors gathered together, and they saw these men on whose bodies the fire had no power; the hair of their head was not singed nor were their garments affected, and the smell of fire was not on them.

■ Delivered

- All the leaders who gathered for the dedication witness the power of God
 - ✓ Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego bodies
 - Fire had no power over them ... Isaiah 43:1-2
 - » Hairs on their head not singed
 - » Clothes unaffected
 - » No smell of fire on them
- All leaders could go back
 - ✓ With this story
 - ✓ To every corner of the kingdom

43 But now, thus says the LORD, who created you, O Jacob, And He who formed you, O Israel:
"Fear not, for I have redeemed you;
I have called *you* by your name;
You *are* Mine.

2 When you pass through the waters, I *will be* with you;
And through the rivers, they shall not overflow you.
When you walk through the fire, you shall not be burned,
Nor shall the flame scorch you.

Daniel 3:28 - Observations



28 Nebuchadnezzar spoke, saying, "Blessed be the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego, who sent His Angel and delivered His servants who trusted in Him, and they have frustrated the king's word, and yielded their bodies, that they should not serve nor worship any god except their own God!

■ Nebuchadnezzar Blesses the God of Israel

- The king recognizes and blesses the God of Israel
 - ✓ In this blessing we see the Sovereignty of God
 - God sent His Angel to deliver His servants
 - » Who trusted Him
 - » Who frustrated the king's word
 - » Who yielded their bodies
 - » Who would not serve or worship any God except their own

Daniel 3:29 - Observations



29 Therefore I make a decree that any people, nation, or language which speaks anything amiss against the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego shall be cut in pieces, and their houses shall be made an ash heap; because there is no other God who can deliver like this.”

▪ Nebuchadnezzar Makes Another Decree

- **Extent of the Decree:** his entire kingdom
 - ✓ All who attended the dedication of the image
 - ✓ Witnessed the miracle of God
 - ✓ Would now take back the story and this Decree from Nebuchadnezzar
- **Decree**
 - ✓ Any people, nation or language who speak against the God of Israel
 - ✓ Will be cut in pieces
 - ✓ Houses made an ash heap
- **Target Audience** : Chaldeans who set him up
 - ✓ Aware of the setup
 - ✓ He sets up the decree to prevent this from happening again
 - Severe punishment for any further accusations against the Jews

**THERE IS NO OTHER
GOD WHO CAN
DELIVER LIKE THIS**

Daniel 3:30 - Observations



30 Then the king promoted Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego in the province of Babylon.

■ Promotion

- These men were already high officials
 - ✓ Promotions must have been significant

WHATEVER HAPPENED TO THE IMAGE?

- ✓ Nobody knows

Principle - Application Table ... Daniel 3:26-30



Daniel Chapter 03		
Verse	Principle	Application
Blessing and Decree ... Daniel 3:26-30		
26-30	God is blessed when we honor Him.	I resolve to do all I can to bring honor to my Lord, and never compromise His Word. Matthew 5:16 "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven."

A sunset scene with a tree silhouette and rays of light. The sun is low on the horizon, casting long, golden rays across a sky filled with soft, orange-tinted clouds. In the foreground, the dark silhouette of a tree stands against the bright background. The overall mood is peaceful and hopeful.

*John
11:25-26*

Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?"

