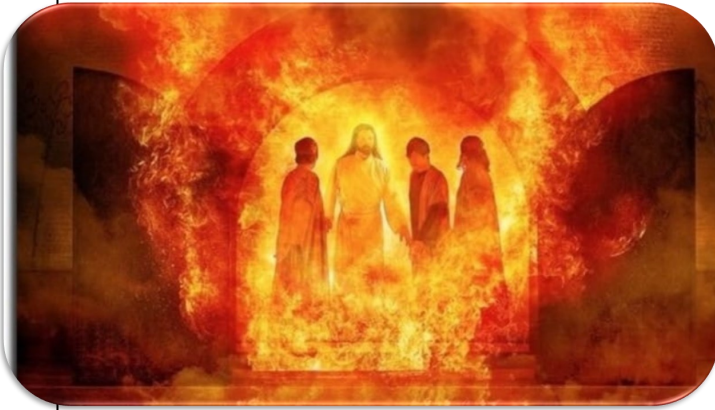


# DANIEL THREE

This chapter of Daniel and chapter 6 (lion's den) are the most famous and known chapters in this book. It is a chapter of incredible faith, conviction, courage in the face of incredible opposition and challenges. This is a chapter for all of us to check our faith and what we are willing to do.

## The Background:



### Fiery Furnaces Before & After

- **Before:** "When you walk through the fire, you will not be scorched, nor will the flame burn you" (Isa 43:2b)
- **After:** "Quenched the power of fire..." (Heb 11:34a)

1. It is believed that a few year have past since Nebuchadnezzar's statue dream of chapter two

- in that dream the head was gold, representing Babylon
- the statue Nebuchadnezzar made is gold, not just the head (maybe emphasizing the enduring power of Babylon and that he didn't believe in the reality that other kingdoms would come)

2. All the officials of Babylon are invited

- we are not told where Daniel is. His presence is not found in this chapter
  - this was more than a dedication of a new statue. This was a worship (3:5)
  - a musical celebration is part of this worship (3:7)
- May have been an attempt to unify the people (3:4)

3. The Jewish trio are reported to the king for refusing to bow

- Nebuchadnezzar is furious (3:13)
  - He is willing to give them a second chance (3:15)
  - They respond confidently that will not bow
- God is \_\_\_\_\_ to deliver us (17) - they would have known this by faith (Israel and Egypt, Joshua and Jericho, David and Saul)
- Even if God does not deliver, they will \_\_\_\_\_ bow
- Likely they never saw a miracle before and the nation was in punishment by God. Y\_\_\_\_\_, away from home and a \_\_\_\_\_
- They knew God is greater than Babylon and they knew S\_\_\_\_\_

### The Violent and Severe Nature of Nebuchadnezzar surfaces again

- In ch 2 the wise men were threatened with death if they could not tell what the dream was
  - 3:6 death for any who will not worship the statue
- Nebuchadnezzar uses fear to control and rule his people*

**"What god is there who can deliver you out of my hands? (3:15)**

### The Fire:

It was heated seven times more intense (3:19)

- the Jewish trio (called by their Babylonian names) are tied up (3:21)
- the valiant warriors putting the three into the fire died by the heat (3:22)

1. Nebuchadnezzar hastened to look into the fire (3:24)
2. He sees a "fourth" person
  - "like a son of the gods" (3:25)
  - God sent an angel (3:28)
3. The officials gather around to examine and witness (3:27)
4. A decree honoring God is put forth and the three prosper (3:29-30)

### "My God is So Big"

They were \_\_\_\_\_ about (3:25)

Their hair was not \_\_\_\_\_ (3:27)

Their clothes were not \_\_\_\_\_ (3:27)

They didn't even smell of \_\_\_\_\_ (3:27)

### The Lesson of Conviction (Ex 20:3-5):

1. They were \_\_\_\_\_
  2. They were \_\_\_\_\_
  3. They had to \_\_\_\_\_
  4. They \_\_\_\_\_ consequences (God did not keep them out of the fire)
- Satan always wants you to \_\_\_\_\_ his way
- There comes a time when you must decide whose \_\_\_\_\_ you are on
- You will be \_\_\_\_\_
- You can make a \_\_\_\_\_

### They could have tried to:

- C \_\_\_\_\_
- J \_\_\_\_\_ (just one time)
- Thought "It's the law"
- R \_\_\_\_\_ the king

**You may have your own "fiery" furnace: job, family, social pressure—Rev 12:11**