



# God's Pursuit of a Pagan King

Daniel Chapter 3

# CREATION - kingdom of pride

Dan 3:1-2 King

Nebuchadnezzar made a gold statue **ninety feet tall** and nine feet wide



## COMMAND - worship or burn

5...when you hear the sound of .....music, **you are to fall down and worship** the golden image

6 And **whoever does not fall down and worship shall immediately be cast into a burning fiery furnace.**

COMPLIANCE - maintains status quo, no  
transformation of hearts

..... all the peoples, nations, and languages fell  
down and worshiped the golden image

COMMITMENT - a heart resolved to honor  
God's word

12 There are certain Jews whom you have appointed over the affairs of the province of Babylon: Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. These men, O king, pay no attention to you; they do not serve your gods or worship the golden image that you have set up."

# COMMITMENT → A CATALYST FOR CHANGE

13 Then Nebuchadnezzar **in furious rage** commanded that Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego be brought. So they brought these men before the king.

Is it true that you do not **serve** my gods or **worship** the golden image that I have set up?

if you do not worship, you shall immediately be cast into **a burning fiery furnace.**

And **who is the god who will deliver you** out of my hands?" --

# GOD IS ABLE...BUT IF NOT...WE WILL NOT WORSHIP

[THEY SAID] our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and he will deliver us out of your hand, O king. 18 But if not, be it known to you, O king, that we will not serve your gods or worship the golden image that you have set up.”

## From FURIOUS RAGE to FILLED WITH FURY

19 Then Nebuchadnezzar was filled with fury, and the expression of his face was changed against Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. He ordered the furnace heated seven times more than it was usually heated.

21 ..... they were **thrown into the burning fiery furnace.** 22 Because the king's order was urgent and the furnace overheated, the flame of the fire killed those men who took up Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. 23 And these three men, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, fell bound into the burning fiery furnace.

## From FILLED WITH FURY to ASTONISHMENT

24 Then King Nebuchadnezzar was **astonished** and rose up in haste. He declared to his counselors, "Did we not cast three men bound into the fire?" They answered and said to the king, "True, O king." 25 He answered and said, "But **I see four men unbound**, walking in the midst of the fire, and they are not hurt; and the appearance of **the fourth is like a son of the gods.**"



**"I see four men unbound"**  
**Deliverance AND Revelation**

## From ASTONISHMENT to ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

26 Then Nebuchadnezzar came near to the door of the burning fiery furnace; he declared, "Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, **servants of the Most High God**, come out, and come here!".....[everyone] saw that the fire had not had any power over the bodies of those men. The hair of their heads was not singed, their cloaks were not harmed, and no smell of fire had come upon them.

## From ACKNOWLEDGEMENT to WORSHIP

28 Nebuchadnezzar answered and said,  
"Blessed be the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and  
Abednego, who has sent his angel and delivered  
his servants, who trusted in him, and set aside  
the king's command, and yielded up their bodies  
rather than serve and worship any god except  
their own God.

## From WORSHIP to PROCLAMATION

29 Therefore I make a decree: Any people, nation, or language that speaks anything against the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego shall be torn limb from limb, and their houses laid in ruins, for **there is no other god who is able to rescue in this way.**" 30 Then the king promoted Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego in the province of Babylon.