

## DANIEL: Thriving In Babylon

Lesson Four • Daniel 3:1-30

### Faith Stands Tall

#### The True Story of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego

These three young men were willing to STAND TALL for their faith in God, even if it might cost them their lives.

*"For to me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain." ~Paul, Philippians 1:21*

#### A Golden Image Stands Tall

King Nebuchadnezzar's statue of gold stands tall for all to BOW DOWN to in worship.

*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. Daniel 3:1*

### Faith Stands Tall

## 1. Faith Stands Tall Before the Statue: The Three Young Men Would Not BOW to the Golden Image! Vs. 4-12

#### Mark It Down

- God's people will be CONFRONTED with the idols of this world.

*Then a herald cried aloud: "To you it is commanded, O peoples, nations, and languages, 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; and whoever does not fall down and worship shall be cast immediately into the midst of a burning fiery furnace." 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 3:4-7*

- God's people will be CRITICIZED by the people of this world.

*Therefore at that time certain Chaldeans came forward and accused the Jews. Daniel 3:8*

## 2. Faith Stands Tall Before the King: The Three Young Men Would Not BEND to the King's Pressure! Vs. 13-18

#### The Consequences of Nonconformity

- God's people will be CHALLENGED to worship the gods of this world.

*"But if you do not worship, you shall be cast immediately into the midst of the burning fiery furnace. And who is the god who will deliver you from my hands?" Daniel 3:15*

- God's people must be COURAGEOUS in the face of pressure from this world.

*"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. 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*

## 3. Faith Stands Tall In the Furnace: The Three Young Men Would Not BURN in the Fiery Furnace! Vs. 19-30

#### Faith in the Fire

God's people can be CONFIDENT the Lord is with them no matter what happens.

*"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 3:25*  
*When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned; the flames will not set you ablaze. Isaiah 43:2 NIV*

#### Life Lessons Learned for Thriving in Babylon

- ❖ You must have an absolute CONVICTION that God is able.
- ❖ You must have an unwavering COMMITMENT to worship God.