



"Courage Facing the Fire"

Daniel 3

Feb. 15, 2015

**Scripture Reading** – Daniel 3:15-30

1. The Choice (3:1-7)  
*(Who or what will you worship? v.5b)*
2. The Charge of Treason. (3:8-12)  
*(They do not serve you! v.12)*
3. The Challenge. (3:13-15)  
*(Who is the god who will deliver you? v.15)*
4. Their Confidence in God. (3:16-18)  
*(He is able to deliver us. v.17)*
5. The Consequences. (3:19-23)  
*(The fiery furnace. V.21)*
6. The Calm in the midst of the fire. (24-28)  
*(“I see four men unbound, walking in the midst of the fire, and they are not hurt;” v. 25)*

**Application:**

1. What kind of “fiery furnaces” are you facing as you walk with Christ? What can you apply to your life based on this study?
2. Pray for the courage to be strong when facing trials this week.



Bible Study Questions/ Discussion

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1. Discuss the kind and degree of persecution you have faced as a Christ-follower. (From family, work, or others?) Read Daniel 3:1-5. Why do you think King Nebuchadnezzar had this idea of a large gold image? (See Daniel 2:38) Discuss the desire for Satan to be worshipped. (Isa. 14:13-14; Matt. 4:9; I Thess. 2:4)
2. Who alone deserves our worship? (Psalm 95:6; 97:7; Phil. 2:10) Share how Christ-followers worship the Lord every day and not merely at church.
3. The three men who were friends of Daniel were accused of treason because they would not worship the gold image. (Daniel 3:8-12) See v. 12 and identify the personal nature of their accusations. Jesus was also charged with treason. (Lk. 23:2; Jn. 19:12) When persecution becomes something that a government begins doing against God’s people then the consequences can become very severe.
4. The king did not believe that there was any god who could deliver them out of his mighty hand. (Daniel 3:13-15) See similar challenges to God’s people in Ex. 5:2; 2 Kings 18:35. Share with one another examples of God’s deliverance or miraculous provision.
5. Read Daniel 3:16-18. Describe the confidence the men had in their God. They believed in God’s ability to deliver them but they also clearly state that even if they are not delivered their faith in the Lord would not waver. Not every person of faith is delivered from hardship or suffering. (See Heb. 11:36) Discuss the idea that our ultimate confidence is in Him not in what we can get out of Him. (See Job 13:15; 2 Tim. 4:18)
6. What kind of response did the king have toward the faith of these three men? (Daniel 3:19-23) Compare the story of how the unbelieving Jews responded to Stephen in Acts 7:54-58. What does Jesus say about those that mistreat us? Why do they really persecute Christians? (John 15:18)
7. Describe the miracle that occurred in the fiery furnace. (Daniel 3:24-25) Who was with them? (2 possibilities –Dan. 3:28 and Heb. 1:14 or Gen. 18:1. Though the fire had instantly killed the king’s soldiers, what kind of damage did the three men experience? (Daniel 3:27) (Also Isa. 43:2)
8. What new perspective does the King now have concerning the God of the Hebrews? (Daniel 3:28) (Also Prov. 16:7) What was the overall conclusion of the king? (Daniel 3:29) Pray that we too would have such fearless faith in our stand for Jesus.