

# DANIEL

MESSAGE: NATHAN BAIRD

MUSIC: DAN GILLETTE

DATE: JULY 17, 2022

**Daniel 3:  
"Our God whom we serve is able to deliver us"**

## Nebuchadnezzar's offer and his challenge

***Daniel 3:15** Now if you are ready ... to fall down and worship the image that I have made, well and good. But 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?"*

## Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego remain faithful under threat of death...

- ...actively demonstrating their resolve.  
***Daniel 3:16** Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego answered and said to the king, "O Nebuchadnezzar, we have no need to answer you in this matter.*
- ...maintaining complete confidence in their God's power and care.  
***Daniel 3:17** If this be so, 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.*
- ...having pre-determined to remain loyal to God regardless of short-term consequences.  
***Daniel 3:18** 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."*

## Yahweh vindicates his reputation and that of his faithful servants by...

***Daniel 3:29** 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.*

- ...displaying his divine power—even over death.  
***Daniel 3:26b** Then Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego came out from the fire. **27** And the satraps, the prefects, the governors, and the king's counselors gathered together and saw that the fire had not had any power over the bodies of those men...*
- ...publicly demonstrating his supreme authority—overruling flawed human judgment.  
***Daniel 3:27b** The hair of their heads was not singed, their cloaks were not harmed, and no smell of fire had come upon them.*
- ...revealing his personal attention and care for his loyal servants.  
***Daniel 3:28** 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.*

## How does Daniel 3 encourage us as New Covenant people?

1. God is patient and kind to those not yet in relationship to him.
2. God's power & character are shown when we act based on who he is rather than circumstances.
3. God's judgment—not human opinion—is of ultimate importance.
4. God is personally concerned for, and present with, his people in our trials.

## Reflection/Discussion

1. Compare the attitudes and actions of Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego in Daniel 3 to Revelation 2:8-11. How might this statement by King Jesus encourage you when facing external pressure to dishonor Christ?
2. Reread the four encouragements from Daniel 3. Which of these statements do you find personally helpful right now? Which of the four do you need to hold on to with greater certainty?
3. Can you remember a time when you have experienced the personal care of God in a difficult time? Consider creating a "Sacred History", a written record of God's faithful care in your life.

## SONGS

"GRATEFUL" - Stefan Green, Chris Brown, Matthew Ntlele, and Steven Furtick

"GREAT IS THY FAITHFULNESS" - Thomas Obediah Chisholm, William Marion Runyan

"GOD OF REVIVAL" - Brian Johnson and Phil Wickham

"REIGN ABOVE IT ALL" - Ethan Hulse, Hannah McClure, Jess Cates, and Paul McClure

## BUDGET

GIVING LAST WEEK: \$ 30,101.24  
WEEKLY NEED: \$ 36,093.00

Y-T-D GIVING: \$930,292.19  
Y-T-D GENERAL NEED: \$1,010,604.00