

GREENFOREST COMMUNITY BAPTIST CHURCH

3250 Rainbow Drive / Decatur, GA 30034 / Pastor Berry / Greenforest.org
Teaching on Tuesday Bible Study via Facebook Live (6/9/20)

Daniel 3 – “Are you **BOWING DOWN** or **STANDING UP?**”

I. **What should we know about King Nebuchadnezzar’s leadership style?**

1. Nebuchadnezzar was particular & prideful.
2. Nebuchadnezzar was petty & pretentious.
3. Nebuchadnezzar was punitive & poisonous.
4. Nebuchadnezzar was paralyzing & problematic.

II. **What should we know about Daniel?**

1. Daniel was determined to honor God no matter what.
2. Daniel was disciplined with his diet.
3. Daniel was a dreamer with great discernment.
4. Daniel was dedicated to God even in the face of danger & death.

III. **MAIN POINTS – What are 7 things we can learn from the 3 Hebrew boys in Daniel 3?**

A. **The 3 Hebrew boys had a UNIFIED PARTNERSHIP (v.10-12)**

“10) Your Majesty has issued a decree that everyone who hears the sound of the horn, flute, zither, lyre, harp, pipe and all kinds of music must fall down and worship the image of gold, 11) and that whoever does not fall down and worship will be thrown into a blazing furnace. 12) But there are some Jews whom you have set over the affairs of the province of Babylon—Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego—who pay no attention to you, Your Majesty. They neither serve your gods nor worship the image of gold you have set up.”

B. **The 3 Hebrew boys made God their UNWAVERING PRIORITY (v.10-12)**

“10) Your Majesty has issued a decree that everyone who hears the sound of the horn, flute, zither, lyre, harp, pipe and all kinds of music must fall down and worship the image of gold, 11) and that whoever does not fall down and worship will be thrown into a blazing furnace. 12) But there are some Jews whom you have set over the affairs of the province of Babylon—Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego—who pay no attention to you, Your Majesty. They neither serve your gods nor worship the image of gold you have set up.”

C. **The 3 Hebrew boys endured UNEXPECTED PERSECUTION (v.13-15)**

“13) Furious with rage, Nebuchadnezzar summoned Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego. So these men were brought before the king, 14) and Nebuchadnezzar said to them, “Is it true, Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, that you do not serve my gods or worship the image of gold I have set up? 15) Now when you hear the sound of the horn, flute, zither, lyre, harp, pipe and all kinds of music, if you are ready to fall down and worship the image I made, very good. But if you do not worship it, you will be thrown immediately into a blazing furnace. Then what god will be able to rescue you from my hand?”

D. **The 3 Hebrew boys had faith in God’s UNSHAKEABLE PROMISES (v.16-18)**

“16) Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego replied to him, “King Nebuchadnezzar, we do not need to defend ourselves before you in this matter. 17) If we are thrown into the blazing furnace, the God we serve is able to deliver us from it, and he will deliver us from Your Majesty’s hand. 18) But even if he does not, we want you to know, Your Majesty, that we will not serve your gods or worship the image of gold you have set up.”

E. **The 3 Hebrew boys experienced God’s UNBREAKABLE PROTECTION (v.24-28)**

“24) Then King Nebuchadnezzar leaped to his feet in amazement and asked his advisers, “Weren’t there three men that we tied up and threw into the fire?” They replied, “Certainly, Your Majesty.” 25) He said, “Look! I see four men walking around in the fire, unbound and unharmed, and the fourth looks like a son of the gods.” 26) Nebuchadnezzar then approached the opening of the blazing furnace and shouted, “Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, servants of the Most High God, come out! Come here!” So Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego came out of the fire, 27) and the satraps, prefects, governors and royal advisers crowded around them. They saw that the fire had not harmed their bodies, nor was a hair of their heads singed; their robes were not scorched, and there was no smell of fire on them.”

F. **The 3 Hebrew boys witnessed Nebuchadnezzar’s UNDENIABLE PRAISE of God (v.28-29)**

28) Then Nebuchadnezzar said, “Praise be to the God of Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, who has sent his angel and rescued his servants! They trusted in him and defied the king’s command and were willing to give up their lives rather than serve or worship any god except their own God.” 29) Therefore I decree that the people of any nation or language who say anything against the God of Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego be cut into pieces and their houses be turned into piles of rubble, for no other god can save in this way.”

G. **The 3 Hebrew boys were blessed with an UNIMAGINABLE PROMOTION (v.30)**

“30) Then the king promoted Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego in the province of Babylon.”