



# Fiery Furnace

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**Bible Class Lesson 18**  
**Lord Jesus Christ Community Baptist Church**  
**Michigan**



# Why Should We Read and Study Daniel?

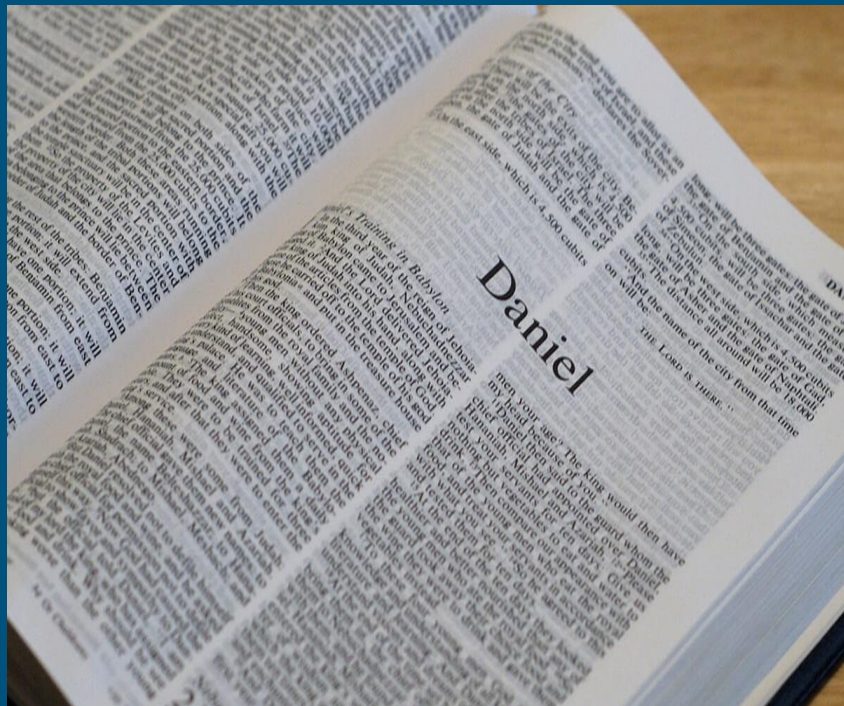
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Daniel story gives us a blueprint for us on how to live our life faithful and obedient to God under immense culture pressure. It proves that God is sovereign over all earthly kingdoms. Daniel life and story tell us our importance to have a mentor in our life and why we need to strengthen our faith in God and his kingdom forever to eternity. We need to have a church home and go to church services and bible study weekly to become strong disciples to God.

# Scriptures

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- Daniel 3:16-25



# History of Fiery Furnace

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- A story about three men who were saved by the burning furnace by God.
- Fiery Furnace is a pivotal part of the story of Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego.
- King Nebuchadnezzar II of Babylon threw the three men into the furnace for refusing to bow to his golden image.
- The fiery furnace represents times of extreme trials, prosecution and testing of faith.
- God purifying presence and ultimate judgement against evil.
- King Nebuchadnezzar builds a massive golden statue at the plain of Dura and orders everyone in his kingdom to bow down and worship it.



# The Stand: Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego

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- Three faithful Jewish officials refused to worship the idol.
- They are firm believers of one true God.



# The Famous Response: The “Even if Not” Faith

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“If we are thrown into the blazing furnace, the God we serve is able to deliver us. But even if he does not, we will never serve your gods”

The climax is in the Hebrews declaration that they would remain faithful even if God did not save them. God displayed power through the miraculous survival of the three men in the fire. God authority is supreme.



# The Fourth Man

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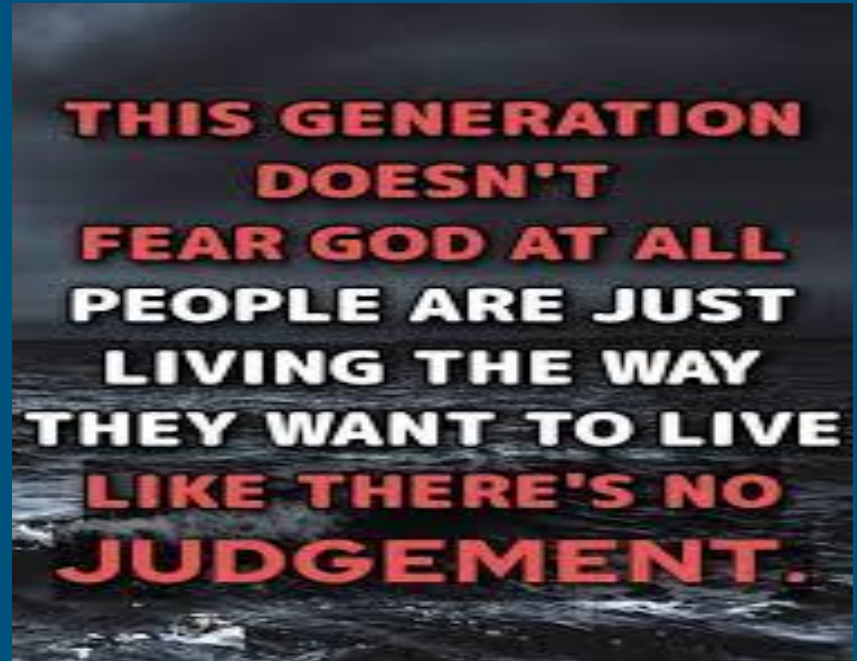
- Babylonian King Nebuchadnezzar witnessed the three men emerged unharmed from the furnace and saw a fourth figure.
- Fourth person was the appearance of Jesus Christ walking with them in the Fiery furnace.
- The presence of the fourth man is seen as a reminder that God is with believers in difficult and trials.
- We are never alone.



# How to apply Daniel 3 to our life?

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- We understand God is with us in difficult times. God is with you when you are going through financial troubles. God is with you when you are dealing with homelessness with food insecurity and no place to go. God is with you when you are dealing with mental health and reducing your mental health. God is with you daily to help you avoid sin, being a tax collector and mammon.
- God will guide you during your trials and tribulations because we must not let the world be our source to help us out with our trials and tribulations.
- Trust in God daily and his plan
- Standing up to your convictions
- Avoid sin, support others



# The Exit

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- The three individuals were unharmed in the fire and king called them out. The king noticed that their clothing, hair and smell of smoke.
- The king confessed to the three men about their God.
- The fire did not harm them because God protected them as their glorified and faithful God. The three men are humble to God.

# Our Fiery Furnaces

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- God is with you when we are dealing with medical and pre existing conditions. Also, we are not alone when we are health scare and challenges. Doctors are there to cure us from illnesses, but God is our healer. God is the one that can cure and take away our pain
- God is with us when we have problems managing our personal finances and household budget while living in poverty and not living in poverty.
- We must understand that God is with us and we do not have to hustle to make ends meet daily to take care of our financial responsibilities. God is the only one that can help us get out of debt and help us recover from debt. Devil wants us to be in debt to have us live in sin.
- If you have mental health and feel like you about to go into rage, you need to take a step back and call on God to save you by meditating and prayer to God. God is with you and can help you recover from being wicked and renew your mind.
- If you catch yourself gossiping about people, you need to take a step back and think about the Lord to prevent leaning on your own understanding.
- Make sure you have strong contentment to God to prevent you from being unsure of yourself to avoid pride, leaning on your own understanding, temptation, bondage, abomination, sin and idolatry.

# Apply the Fiery Furnace to Holiday Season

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- We hear some homeless people at homeless shelters talking negative about family and how family will not help them out in bad and difficult times. We need to be thankful for our families and people that love us. We must forgive and love our family members, not hate them.
- If you are not able to travel or spend time with family for the holiday season, we must call them on the holidays to tell them that you love them unconditionally, appreciate them and thankful for them. We live in times now with the everyone may not have the money to travel or spend time with family for the holidays. Homeless men and women in homeless program not allowed to travel should get permission from case management to call their family members. This is for people that stay at homeless shelters that not allowed to have their phone while in programs at homeless shelters.
- If you do not get any gifts from family, do not get yourself stressed out because living under God grace and serving God is all the gift we need in our life.
- If you have been taking my advice and recruit your 12+ disciples like Jesus did, you will have a support system. That is another gift you can be thankful for during the holiday season from God. Your disciples is your support system to help you build on faith and strengthen your faith during your spiritual journal to God.
- Keep your focus on God during holiday season and that God can help you with anything during difficult times.

# The “Even if Not” Challenge

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1. What is the biggest fire or difficult situation you have faced?
2. Have you ever been tempted to compromise your beliefs to avoid consequences?
3. What is the difference God saving us from a challenge and walking with us through it?
4. What does the fourth person in the fire symbolize or mean to you personally?
5. What is something good or right that you are afraid to do because it would make you stand out from others?
6. What idols or pressures in our modern culture demand our allegiance today similar to the Nebuchadnezzar statue built?
7. How did the king's understanding of God change throughout the story? What can we learn from his reaction to the miracle?
8. How do we reconcile the fact that some faithful people suffer, and are not miraculously saved with the story of fiery furnace?
9. What can we learn from the three men about trusting God with the outcome regardless of the consequences?
10. What would it feel like to stand in the fire, alive and see Jesus beside you?
11. What would you be thinking as you watched the three men thrown in the fire?

# This Week Exercise

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1. Write down in a journal a list things that God has helped you in difficult times. This is an important journaling exercise to write down in the journal daily about what God has help you with during difficult times. This is an exercise that families and friends need to do among themselves daily.
2. Prepare a personal testimony about asking the following question:
  - a. What can you do to reveal that you are trusting God 100% and living obedient to his word?
  - b. What are you doing to move the devil out of the way to avoid sin in your life?
  - c. What are doing to make sure your spouse live obedient to God during difficult times?
  - d. What are you doing daily to keep your trust in God?
  - e. Are you communicating the fiery furnace to your workers to help them avoid sin and make sure they are living an obedient life to God?
  - f. Are you providing comfort to people including family and friends that are living and dealing with difficult times?
3. Pick a place to volunteer in your community to help the poor and homeless? It can be a homeless shelter, social service organization and/or work on a personal project with a church involve helping the poor and evangelicalism, start your own personal project that involved evangelism and helping the poor.