

THE BOOK OF DANIEL
“Bow or Burn”

1/31/10

Daniel 3:1-30

“King Nebuchadnezzar made a gold statue ninety feet tall and nine feet wide.” (v. 1 NLT)

1. THE *CONDITION*: (vs. 1-7)

“Then a herald shouted out, ‘People of all races and nations and languages, listen to the king’s command! When you hear the sound of the horn, flute, zither, lyre, harp, pipes, and other musical instruments, bow to the ground to worship King Nebuchadnezzar’s gold statue. Anyone who refuses to obey will immediately be thrown into a blazing furnace.’” (vs. 4-6)

2. THE *CRITICISM*: (vs. 8-12)

“But some of the astrologers (Chaldeans) went to the king and informed on the Jews.” (v. 8 NLT)

“They pay no attention to you. They refuse to serve your gods and do not worship the gold statue you have set up.” (v. 12)

3. THE *COMMITMENT*: (vs. 13-18)

“Then Nebuchadnezzar flew into a rage and ordered that Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego be brought before him.” (v. 13 NLT)

“If we are thrown into the blazing furnace, the God whom we serve is able to save us. He will rescue us from your power, Your Majesty. But even if he doesn’t, we want to make it clear to you, Your Majesty, that we will never serve your gods or worship the gold statue you have set up.” (vs. 16-18 NLT)

4. THE *COMMAND*: (vs. 19-23)

“Nebuchadnezzar was so furious with Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego that his face became distorted with rage. He commanded that the furnace be heated seven times hotter than usual.” (v. 19 NLT)

5. THE *CONCLUSION*: (v s. 24-30)

“But suddenly, Nebuchadnezzar jumped up in amazement and exclaimed to his advisers, ‘Didn’t we tie up three men and throw them into the furnace?’ ‘Yes, Your Majesty, we certainly did,’ they responded. ‘Look!’ Nebuchadnezzar shouted, ‘I see four men, unbound, walking around in the fire unharmed! And the fourth looks like a god!’” (vs 24-25 NLT)

“Then Nebuchadnezzar said, ‘Praise to the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego! He sent his angel to rescue his servants who trusted him.’” (v. 28 NLT)