

# The Book of Daniel: Chapter 3

*April 19 & April 26, 2023*

**Chapter Overview:** Nebuchadnezzar builds a large image of gold, demanding all to worship it (1 – 7). Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego refuse the conditions of the decree (8 – 18) and are thrown into a fiery furnace (19 – 23). God saves them (24 – 27), prompting King Nebuchadnezzar to praise God (28 – 30).

**(1 – 3)** What did Nebuchadnezzar set up on the plain of Dura? What did it represent?

**(4 – 7)** What decree was made regarding the statue? What punishment was threatened if people did not worship it? How did the people respond?

**(8 – 12)** What accusation was brought against the Jews regarding the decree? Who specifically was charged with not worshiping the gold image, and what was the likely motivation of the accusers? (*Daniel 6: 4 – 5*)

**(13 – 15)** How did the king respond? What opportunity did he give to the three men concerning the allegations?

**(16 – 18)** When threatened to be cast into the furnace, how did they respond? What example does their response provide about faith and trusting the Lord? (*Joshua 24: 14 – 15; Romans 8: 28; 1 Peter 3: 13 – 17*)

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**(19 – 20)** How did the king respond, and what command did he give regarding the three men?

**(21 – 23)** What happened as the three men were being cast into the furnace?

**(24 – 25)** What did Nebuchadnezzar see as he looked into the furnace? Who might have been the fourth “man” in the furnace? (*Daniel 3: 28*)

**(26 – 27)** When the three men came out of the furnace, what was their condition? Who observed them?

**(28 – 29)** What conclusion did the king draw based on what he had witnessed? What decree did he make?  
(*Isaiah 12: 2; Matthew 5: 14 – 16; 1 Peter 2: 11 – 12*)

**(30)** What was the outcome for the three men?