

Some People who Followed God

Daniel & His 3 Friends
Part 2



OUR DAILY BREAD

Junior Edition

7-29-07



SOMETHING YOU MUST KNOW:

God is perfect. He is Holy. We are all sinners. ***For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God.***

(Romans 3:23a KJB)

None of us could ever make ourselves perfect or holy to be accepted by God. But God loves us all so much, that He gave His only Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, to go to the cross and pay the penalty for our sins IN FULL, ONCE and FOR ALL. Jesus died and rose again. Because of the Lord Jesus Christ, God can now make us holy and acceptable to Himself. ***For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the Spirit.*** (1 Peter 3:18 KJB)

Jesus Christ is our ONLY WAY to God and heaven.

Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life, no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

(John 14:6 KJB)

Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved. (Acts 16:31 KJB)

Without Jesus Christ, you can NEVER be accepted by God or go to heaven. When you believe in Jesus Christ as your Savior, God makes you His child. When you leave this world, you will spend all of eternity with Him! ***But as many as received him to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name.*** (John 1:12 KJB) While you are still here on earth, learn His beautiful Word. Believe it and obey it, so you can enjoy all God has done for you.

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom.

(Colossians 3:16a KJB)



Have you read any
newspapers
lately?

How about any textbooks or magazines? Have you watched any television programs or listened to the radio? Have you talked to people at work or at school - whether teacher, bosses or even other co-workers or students. I'm sure all of you have done at least **SOME** of these things. Well, the next time you **DO** any of these things, we'd like you take special notice of an **AWFUL FACT!** What is that **AWFUL FACT?** It is the **AWFUL FACT** that the **ONE TRUE GOD, THE LORD JESUS CHRIST** is almost **NEVER MENTIONED!** Have you ever stopped to think about **WHY?** Well, the very **BASIC REASON** is this - **THE WORLD DOES NOT WANT TO ADMIT THAT THE ONE TRUE GOD DOES EXIST!** Why not? Well, than **THAT** would mean that they would realize that the One True God is Someone they should **OBEY & SERVE**. Most people do **NOT** like being told what they should or should not do. They would rather do things their own way! The world tries to get people to **FORGET GOD!**

In other lessons, we have talked about the 2 different viewpoints in this world - God's & the world's. But the main thing to realize is this: As history continues, we will hear less & less about Jesus in public places - at school, at

work, on the radio & TV. Here is an example of how this is happening right here in our own United States.

Back in the 1800's in the United States, the children learned about The Lord Jesus Christ right here in our public schools. How do I know this? Well, I happen to have 2 textbooks from that time of history - one is a 2nd grade spelling book. The other is a second grade reading book. The title of this spelling book is The Analytical Speller. It was published for SCHOOL TEXT BOOKS, & C. in New York in the year 1871.

Here is a sample of some words from one of the spelling lists that children in the 2nd grade were required to study & learn.

God	Christ
Lord	Messiah
Father	Savior
Jehovah	Redeemer
Almighty	Mediator
Creator	Immanuel
Lamb of God	



Today, only about 129 years later, we NEVER see these words on a public school spelling list. Why not? Because, as we are learning, the world wants people to FORGET THAT the ONE TRUE GOD, THE LORD JESUS CHRIST EXISTS! And guess what! Satan is the leader - the god - of what the world thinks! Satan has taken God's TRUTH and added lies to it. See Genesis 3. He's also done many things to keep people from knowing God's truth. Satan especially tries to hide the truth of the Gospel. The Gospels says that Jesus is the Lord, God who came down from heaven to earth. The Gospel says that Jesus died on the cross to pay for the sins of the ENTIRE WORLD! The Gospel says that Jesus went back up to heaven & that anyone who simply BELIEVES IN JESUS is accepted completely by God & will

also go to heaven someday to live with God FOREVER! See 1Corinthians 15:1-4 KJB & Acts 16:31 KJB.

God says that Satan is the father of lies. Jo 8:44 KJB
God says that Satan is the god of this world who tries to hide all God's truths. How do I know that? God says so right there in the King James Bible. You can read it for yourself in 2 Corinthians 4:3-4 KJB.



"But if our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost:
In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them."

But the WONDERFUL THING is, is that even though we live IN this world, we do NOT have to THINK, SPEAK or ACT like the world does. God has given EVERYONE the opportunity to believe in Jesus & then start to learn HIS TRUTH about God & how we should live while God keeps us here in this world. We live IN this world, but we don't have to live LIKE this world does! We can FOLLOW GOD instead. The Bible is FILLED with examples of people who chose to FOLLOW GOD while they lived down here on earth. And we are now studying the lives of some of these people. Today we will continue learning about Daniel & his 3 friends.

Back in Daniel's day, Satan was also at work

trying to get people in the world to FORGET GOD!
We saw how one certain Babylonian king, who himself at first believed Satan's lies, took a whole nation of people captive & tried to get them to FORGET their LORD, the One true God & serve him & his gods instead. He did this in many kinds of evil ways. This king went even so far as to have the GODLY NAMES of 4 young boys CHANGED to PAGAN NAMES to get these 4 young boys to FORGET THEIR GOD & serve him & his gods instead. Think about it. When these boys lived at home in Israel, every time someone called their GODLY name, these boys would be reminded of what the TRUE GOD IS LIKE!



And lets face it, we all hear our names called quite a bit each day!



By taking away their GODLY names & giving them names of pagan gods, these boys would no longer have that reminder of the True God. Instead they would constantly be reminded of the pagan gods. But as we will see, no matter WHAT that evil king did to these 4 boys, Daniel and his friends continued to FOLLOW GOD!

Last week, we learned about Daniel's name change. Let's see how the names of the other 3 boys were changed to try to get them to FORGET GOD!

One of Daniel's friends was named
HANANIA which means
WHOM JEHOVAH GRACIOUSLY GAVE.

JEHOVAH is the Hebrew word for THE LORD!
Every time Hanania heard his name called, he would be reminded of the Lord's GRACE in creating him & giving him EVERYTHING he needed to live on this earth! Hanania's name reminded him that since God had done all this for him, he should love & honor &



SERVE HIS CREATOR who loved him!
Do YOU realize that too? Do you realize that you are here on earth ONLY because the ONE TRUE GOD GRACIOUSLY GAVE YOUR LIFE TO

YOU? ! (Grace is all of God's blessings & favors that He gives us FREELY! We don't deserve any of them, nor can we earn them. God did not send Jesus to die for us because we were GOOD! In fact, compared to God, NONE of us are good. We are ALL SINNERS! Romans 3:23 KJB God sent Jesus IN GRACE, because God LOVES His creation! See Romans 5:6-11 & Hebrews 4:14-16 KJB If more people realized all this, they might want to listen to God instead of the world!

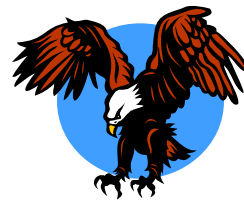
We still live in this world. Many of us have to attend schools or go to work where Jesus or His Word are never mentioned. But no matter WHAT the world tells us on the TV, the radio through friends, teachers etc, we must NEVER FORGET that once we belong to Jesus, we belong to the ONE TRUE God. God WANTS us to KNOW that He can give us the STRENGTH & POWER to obey Him & handle ANYTHING at all while we still live IN this world!

So what new UNGODLY name was Hanania given?

He was named SHADRACH. What does Shadrach mean? It means “servant of Aku”. And just who is Aku? Why Aku was the pagan moon god! Imagine! That king wanted Hanania to STOP serving JEHOVAH, the REAL & ONLY GOD & START serving a made up moon god! How foolish the pagans are to think that there is a moon god! God CREATED the moon. God rules the moon & tells it what to do & when to do it!

Now what about Daniel’s friend **Mishael**? Well, his Hebrew name means **WHO BELONGS TO GOD!** Every time Mishael heard his name called, he would be reminded that He belonged to God, the MOST POWERFUL PERSON IN THE UNIVERSE - GOD ALMIGHTY, who loved him & could give him the STRENGTH to handle any situation at all.

Read Isaiah 40:28-31 KJB!



But Misahel’s GODLY NAME was changed to the UNGODLY NAME - MESHACH. What does Meshach mean? It is believed that it means “I have become weak”. Well, that evil king sure would have liked Mishael to FORGET that he belonged to the most POWERFUL PERSON. That way, Mishael would feel weak & helpless & be afraid NOT to obey the king & serve him & his pagan gods! But look what God tells His children in Ephesians 6:10-18 KJB & 2Timothy 1:7 KJB!

And finally, what about Daniel's friend **AZARIAH**? His GODLY NAME means **WHOM JEHOVAH AIDS or JEHOVAH HAS HELPED.**

Every time Azariah heard his GODLY NAME, he would be reminded that God is ALL WISE & ALWAYS available & able to help him! He would be reminded that God knows EVERYTHING about EVERYTHING including what we need for EVERY SITUATION! Azariah knew Isaiah 46:9-13 & Psalm 121:1-8! Also read God's PROMISES in Philippians 4:13,19 KJB, Matthew 6:25-34 & Hebrews 13:5 KJB.

So what UNGODLY name was he given? He was named ABED-NEGO which means "servant of Nego or Nebo". Who was Nego or Nebo? That was the Babylonian god of wisdom who had something to do with the planet Mercury! The pagan king wanted Azariah to FORGET that the Lord is his ONLY TRUE HELPER - ALL WISE & ALL POWERFUL! Instead, he wanted Azariah to look to a foolish pagan god for help, so he gave him a name that would remind him of that pagan god everyday, instead of the ONE TRUE GOD! Read Jude 24-25



Always remember, we do live IN this world, but we do NOT have to THINK, SPEAK, OR ACT like the people in the world who do NOT believe in the One True God & Savior, The Lord Jesus Christ! Believe in Jesus & then READ, BELIEVE & OBEY HIS WORD EVERY DAY! He'll show you the right way to choose!

GRACE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

Pastor John A. Ricci

Sunday Morning Service

10:00 A.M.

Sunday Transportation Service ~ Call 24 hours Prior

Weekly Services

Wednesday & Friday Evenings, 7:30 P.M.

Prayer Meeting

Wednesday & Friday Evenings, 7:00-7:20 P.M.

Communion Service

First Sunday of Every Month

Children's Prep School (Ages 5-14) & Mother's Room

Available for Every Service

Email

info@gracecfellowship.org

From I-95

- RI Exit #22; *Left* at split to **Rt. 6 W.**
- Take Killingly St (Rt. 128) Exit; *Right* off Exit.
- Take Killingly to end; *Right* on Manton Ave; cross bridge.
- Turn *Left* at light (CVS on corner), and then bear *Left* at the split. You are now on Woonasquatucket Ave.
- Go about 1 mi.
- **G.C.F.** is on the *Left*.



From Rt. 146

- Mineral Spring Ave Exit in Providence.
- From **146 N** turn *Left* off Exit; from **146 S** turn *Right*.
- Take Mineral Spring to end and stay *Left* around the rotary (pass North Providence Town Hall).
- Take next *Right* onto Woonasquatucket Ave.
- Go about 1½ mi.
- **G.C.F.** is on the *Right*.

Grace Christian Fellowship

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