

# Some People Who Followed God

THE FIERY FURNACE TEST  
PART I



***OUR DAILY BREAD***

Junior Edition

8-12-07



## **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)

There is something VERY IMPORTANT that ALL people should KNOW & it is this:



NOTHING CAN HAPPEN -  
GOOD OR BAD -  
UNLESS GOD SAYS SO!

God is the CREATOR of EVERYTHING that exists EVERYWHERE - in the heavens & down here on earth! He is the TOP AUTHORITY - THE BOSS over EVERYTHING! Even EVIL cannot happen unless God ALLOWS IT! Here's what God says about that FACT:

"...shall there be evil in a city, and the LORD hath not done *it?*"  
Amos 3:6b KJB

Read this next STATEMENT OF FACT that the Lord declares:

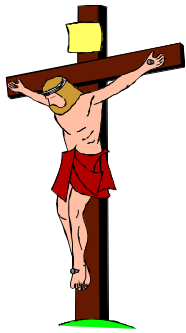
"I am the LORD, and *there is* none else, *there is* no God beside me: I girded thee, though thou hast not known me:

That they may know from the rising of the sun, and from the west, that *there is* none beside me. I *am* the LORD, and *there is* none else.

I form the light, and create darkness: I make peace, and create evil: I the LORD do all these *things.*"  
Isaiah 45:5-7

Now just in case you are thinking, "MY OH MY,

GOD SURE DOES SOUND LIKE A MEAN  
GOD!", think about THIS instead:     Ro 5:6b-8 KJB



"...in due time Christ died for the ungodly.

For scarcely for a righteous man will one die: yet peradventure for a good man some would even dare to die. But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us."

Think about this too!

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish but have everlasting life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved."     John 3:16-17 KJB

Realize that GOD is the One who CREATED you. God created you KNOWING you would sin & disobey Him. STILL, He sent Jesus to DIE FOR YOU so that you would be able to go to heaven someday if you simply accept Jesus as your Savior! God ALONE knows what CIRCUMSTANCES are BEST for you for each second of your life. God is NEVER WRONG when He allows something that TROUBLES us in our lives. He is NOT MEAN. He is HOLY, RIGHT & JUST! He is ALL-WISE! And He LOVES US & knows EXACTLY what to allow in our lives so that HE can work HIS GOOD in

our lives. And even though He may allow TROUBLES, we must KNOW this about the Lord:

"The LORD is good to all: and his tender mercies are over all his works."

All thy works shall praise thee, O LORD: and thy saints shall bless thee.

They shall speak of the glory of thy kingdom, and talk of thy power;

To make known to the sons of men his mighty acts, and the glorious majesty of his kingdom."

Psalm 145:9-12 KJB

When God allows troubles in your life, He is either



## WARNING YOU

to STOP doing things your own way & FOLLOW HIM instead, or if you HAVE been following Him, He is using those troubles to TEST you to show YOU what you REALLY think about Him. God already knows what you think about Him.

God also uses those troubles to GROW YOU UP & make you EVEN STRONGER IN YOUR FAITH & ABILITY TO HANDLE PROBLEMS. This way, when others see the way YOU handle things, they might want to know God too! WHATEVER God allows in our lives - GOOD TIMES OR TROUBLES - He is RIGHT & has our BEST INTEREST in mind. When we FOLLOW GOD through those GOOD TIMES AND TROUBLES, He will do just what that Psalm 145 says, He will accomplish His GOOD WORKS in us so that when we see His POWER, we will PRAISE HIM &

TELL OTHERS ABOUT HIM TOO! And GUESS WHAT! Those are the reasons God created you anyway - **TO PRAISE HIM & TELL OTHERS ABOUT HIM!** You can check this out for yourself in Revelation 4:11; 1Peter 2:9; Isaiah 43:21; Psalm 18:3 KJB

Remember, no matter who you are or what you've done, Jesus DIED for YOU! If you have accepted Jesus as your Savior, you now belong to God. So when God allows tests of troubles to come your way, remember this scripture:

"For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's." 1Corinthians 6:20 KJB

Remember this too! God will NEVER give you a test that you cannot handle WITH HIS WORD! Read 1 Corinthians 10:13 KJB. Now of course, if you choose to try to do things YOUR OWN WAY when troubles come, you most likely will NOT be able to handle them. It's ALWAYS better to do things GOD's WAY, especially when troubles come! Now let's take a look at how God used the EVIL of a certain king to bring 3 young men who FOLLOWED GOD

into a



## **FIERY FURNACE TEST!**

We will see how God USED this TERRIBLE CIRCUMSTANCE to show His POWER & GLORY & FAITHFULNESS

so that His people would praise Him & so that the evil king would eventually come to praise Him too!

The 3 young men who went into this **FIERY FURNACE TEST** were the same 3 young men who were taken captive with Daniel as we have learned in our past few lessons. They had been taken away from their home & families into the palace of this evil king called King Nebuchadnezzar. He even had their godly names **CHANGED** to names of pagan gods so that they would no longer **HEAR** the names that reminded them of their wonderful Lord & Savior. Their names were changed to Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego. We saw what their new names meant in one of our past lessons. We learned that the king did all he could to get these 3 teenagers to **FORGET THEIR GOD!** (We also learned that Satan & this world we live in wants us to forget God too!)

Today we will begin to see what happened. First of all, even though these 3 teenagers were **PRISONERS** of this evil king, God saw to it that these 3 young men were treated **VERY WELL** by him. God saw to it that these 3 teenagers were even given **HIGH POSITIONS** in that evil king's kingdom.

Daniel 2:49 KJB

"Then Daniel requested of the king, and he set Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego, over the affairs of the province of Babylon: but Daniel *sat* in the gate of the king."



This shows us that even when we are **TRAPPED** in any kind of **TROUBLE** And these 3 teenagers sure were **TRAPPED!**), God can **BLESS US & do GREAT**

THINGS for us! Now let's begin to see HOW those 3 boys whom the king liked ended up in the FIERY FURNACE!



"Nebuchadnezzar the king, made an image of gold, whose height *was* threescore cubits, *and* the breadth thereof six cubits: he set it up in the plain of Dura, in the province of Babylon." Daniel 3:1 KJB

King Nebuchadnezzar made a HUGE statue of some kind. It was 90 ft tall & 9 ft wide! (A cubit = 18 inches. A score = 20.) And he set this big statue out in a PLAIN! What is a plain? A plain is a huge area of FLAT LAND! Oh my! This statue sure could be seen from EVERYWHERE. Nothing blocked its view! That king made sure that EVERYONE could see that pagan statue! WHY did the king make this statue? Read the king's COMMAND in Daniel 3:4b-6 to find out.

"...To you it is commanded, O people, nations, and languages,

*That* at what time ye hear the sound of the cornet, flute, harp, sackbut, psaltery, dulcimer, and all kinds of musick, ye fall down and worship the golden image that Nebuchadnezzar the king hath set up:

And whoso falleth not down and worshipping shall the same hour be cast into the midst of a burning fiery furnace." Would YOU have obeyed the king? Next week, we'll see what the 3 boys did & why!



# Bible Study

God gave us His beautiful Word. It is now preserved for us to read in the King James Bible of 1611. In that Bible, God to tell us EVERYTHING He wants us to know. And one very important thing that God wants us to know is -

## WHY HE CREATED US!

Here are just a few verses where God tells us EXACTLY why He created us! See if you can see WHY!

"Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created." Revelation 4:11KJB

"This people have I formed for myself; they shall shew forth my praise." Isaiah 43:21

Also look up the following verses. See what they say.

1Peter 2:9 Psalm 100:1-5 Psalm 113:3

Psalm 105:5 Psalm 108:3 Psalm 111:1

Guess what! When you do what God created you to do, you'll start trusting God more & worrying less EVEN if you are in a

**TROUBLED TRAPPED SITUATION!**

# 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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