

# Some People Who Followed God

THE FIERY FURNACE TEST  
PART 2



***OUR DAILY BREAD***

Junior Edition

8-19-07



## **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)

Whenever we have



## TROUBLES

it's hard to believe that God has either sent or allowed those troubles in our lives! But the WONDFERFUL FACT is that this is ABSOLUTLYE TRUE, no matter HOW HARD it is for us to believe it! You see, God is

### **SOVEREIGN!**

That word SOVEREIGN means that God has SUPREME POWER over ALL that exists! It means that God is IN CONTROL of everything! It means that God is the SUPREME RULER over EVERYTHING! God Himself SAYS SO!

Read these 2 scriptures.

"The LORD hath prepared his throne in the heavens; and his kingdom ruleth over all."

Psalm 103:19 KJB

"That *men* may know that thou, whose name alone *is* JEHOVAH, *art* the most high over all the earth."

Psalm 83:18 KJB

Read Psalm 104 to learn just a few of the things that God controls. Then do what Psalm 105:1-5 says to

do: Thank & praise God for His **WONDERFUL WORKS** as the **RULER OVER ALL - EVEN OVER OUR TROUBLES!** Read Ephesians 5:20 KJB too!

Now I'm sure that **SOME** of you must be wondering **WHY** it **IS** wonderful to **KNOW** that God is in **COMPLETE CONTROL** of **EVERYTHING -**

**EVEN OUR TROUBLES!**

Well, when we **KNOW** that God is in control of **THE KIND** of troubles we have, **THE TIME** our troubles will last & **THE SOLUTION** to our troubles, then **WE** won't have to

**WORRY & FRET!**



Instead, we'll open our Bibles & start **READING** what God has to say & **WAITING** for God to tell us what we should do or should **NOT** do & then we'll **DO IT** or **WON'T DO** whatever God tells us **NOT** to do!

And when we do all **THAT**, guess what happens! The God who is in **COMPLETE CONTROL** over **ALL** our lives will use even our **TROUBLES** to do **GOOD THINGS** for us & perhaps for others through us!

That's what the **SOVEREIGN, SUPREME RULER** of all this universe **PROMISES!** Read God's promise in Romans 8:28 KJB to those who love Him. (And remember, God says that the people who **LOVE HIM** are the people who "keep His commandments". John 14:21-24 KJB)

“And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to *his* purpose.”

Listen to THIS promise from God to people who want to do what God tells them to do:

“The young lions do lack, and suffer hunger: but they that seek the LORD shall not want (lack) any good *thing*.”

Psalm 34:10KJB

So now let’s get back to our lesson about Daniel’s 3 friends to see how God worked all things together for good for these 3 young men when He allowed them to be thrown into



## THE FIERY FURNACE TEST.

Let’s see how God used ALL THINGS to work together for GOOD for these 3 boys, AND even for the EVIL KING & all the people under his authority!

Let’s get back to Daniel chapter 3 to find out what happened. Last week we left off with the king’s COMMAND that when EVERYONE in his kingdom heard the sound of a certain kind of music, they should fall down & worship the huge golden image that he had made. Remember, this image was 90 feet tall & 9 feet wide. It was set up in the middle of a huge area of flat land called the “plain of Dura” in Babylon. It sure was EASY TO SEE it no matter WHERE you were in that kingdom!

The last part of the king’s command to all the

people was this:

“And whoso falleth not down and worshipping shall the same hour be cast into the midst of a burning fiery furnace.” Daniel 3:6 KJB

That evil king, king Nebuchadnezzar, made that statue & the threat of the **FIERY FURNACE** to try to **FORCE** all the people to worship that **ONE** idol that He made! King Nebuchadnezzar must have thought that **HE** was the sovereign ruler of all! He warned the people that the instant all that music was heard, they should **INSTANTLY** bow down to that statue in worship. If not, they would **INSTANTLY** - that **SAME HOUR** - be cast into the fiery furnace! He wanted to

**SCARE**

the people into  
**OBEYING HIS ORDERS!**

**WHAT WOULD YOU HAVE DONE?**



Well, let's see what those 3 young men, now named Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego did. Here is what some **TROUBLE-MAKERS** in the kingdom told the king about these 3 young men.

“There are certain Jews whom thou hast set over the affairs of the province of Babylon, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego; these men, O king, have not regarded thee: they serve not thy gods, nor worship the golden im-

age that thou hast set up." Daniel 3:12 KJB

Oh my! When the king heard THAT, he became

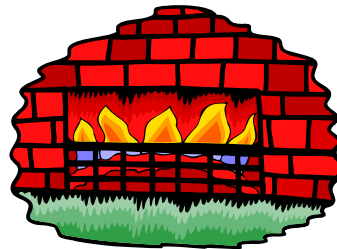
**VERY, VERY ANGRY!**

"Then Nebuchadnezzar in *his* rage and fury commanded to bring Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego. Then they brought these men before the king."

Daniel 3:13 KJB

When the 3 young men were brought to the king, the king told them that the next time they heard that music, they had better bow down to worship that golden image. Now carefully read what the king told them would happen to them if they did NOT!

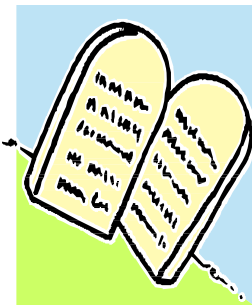
"...but if ye worship not, ye shall be cast the same hour into the midst of a burning fiery furnace; and who is that God that shall deliver you out of my hands?



Daniel 3:15d KJB

Did you notice those UNDERLINED words of the king? Do you understand what that king told those 3 young men? He said: "If you don't worship that image INSTANTLY when that music plays, you will be INSTANTLY cast into that fiery furnace. And who is that God that shall deliver you out of my hands? The king said to them, "Do you really think that your God has the POWER to rescue you from

THAT? He meant that there is NO GOD who could do that! Now let's see what those 3 boys chose to do. This was another TEST of TROUBLES that God allowed these boys to take. Would they OBEY THE KING out of FEAR to bow down & worship the golden image & serve his gods to AVOID the fiery furnace? Or would they FOLLOW GOD because they LOVED God to OBEY GOD'S COMMANDS



which they KNEW were these:

"Thou shalt have no other gods before me,  
Thou shalt not make unto thee any grave image, or any likeness of *any thing* that is in the heaven above, or that *is* in the earth beneath, or that *is* in the

water under the earth:

Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the LORD thy God *am* a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth *generation* of them that hate me;

And showing mercy unto thousands of them that love me, and keep my commandments."

Exodus 20:3-6 KJB

Let's see what these boys answered the king.

"Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego, answered and said to the king, O Nebuchadnezzar, we are not careful (not afraid) to answer thee in this



matter.

If it be so, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and he will deliver us out of thine hand, O king."

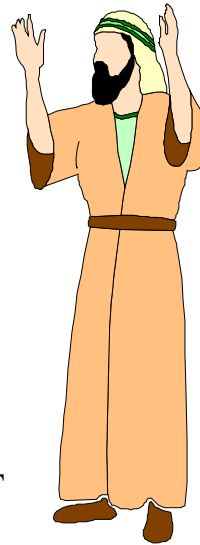
Daniel 3:16 KJB

Imagine that! These 3 boys were NOT afraid to answer the king at all! They told the king that if the king cast them into that fiery furnace, their God, the ONE & ONLY TRUE SOVEREIGN GOD OF ALL, is ABLE TO SAVE THEM FROM THAT FIERY FURNACE!

But what is even MORE AMAZING than that FIRST part of their answer, is this SECOND part of their answer:

"But if not, be it known unto thee, O king, that we will not serve thy gods, nor worship the golden image which thou hast set up."

Daniel 3:18 KJB



WHAT DID THOSE YOUNG MEN SAY?

They told the king that even if God chose NOT to take them out of that fiery furnace, they would STILL NOT WORSHIP the king's image or serve his gods.

THEY WOULD FOLLOW GOD  
NO MATTER WHAT!

We'll see what happens next week! See you then!

# 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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