Some People Who Followed God

FIERY FURNACE TEST PART 3



OUR DAILY BREAD

Junior Edition
8-26-07

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)

Did you know that God tells us some VERY IMPORTANT FACTS about Himself? Imagine! The God of all this universe cares enough about YOU, that He has given YOU the chance to know lots about HIM! He cares enough about YOU that He sent His Son, The Lord Jesus Christ to come down to earth to SHOW us what He is like & to DIE for all of us so that we CAN get to know God. He cares enough about YOU, that He had all the information about Himself that you will ever need TO KNOW WRITTEN DOWN in a LANGUAGE that



YOU CAN READ

or that someone can read to you!

Today YOU can read for YOURSELF everything that God has to say to us about Himself right there in

The KING JAMES BIBLE!

Oh what an awful WASTE to go through this life WITHOUT reading what God has written about Himself!

Here are some REAL IMPORTANT FACTS about God that you will find as YOU read for yourself:

God is HOLY!

God is ALWAYS RIGHT!

God is ALL-WISE!

God is the TOP AUTHORITY!

Last week we learned that the word that tells us that God is the TOP AUTHORITY - THE BOSS - THAT HE IS IN CONTROL OF EVERYTHING good or bad - is the word,

SOVEREIGN!

GOD IS ALSO FAITHFUL! GOD LOVES YOU!

No matter WHO you are or WHAT you've done, God LOVES you & wants YOU to KNOW HIM!

Now God has NOT told us EVERYTHING about Himself. Some things God has kept SECRET. But let's find out WHY God HAS chosen to tell us many things.



"The secret *things belong* unto the LORD our God: but those things which are revealed belong unto us and to our children for ever, that we may do all the words of this law."

Deuteronomy 29:29 KJB

God says that He has told us things about Himself that we ABSOLUTELY NEED TO KNOW! God says that He has told us things so that we will DO what He says! And WHY does God want us to DO what He says? Well, ONE reason is so that when TROUBLES come our way, if we do what God says there in His WRITTEN WORD, we'll be able to HANDLE the trouble no matter how BIG it is, no

matter HOW LONG God makes it last! God PROMISES THAT to all His children:

"There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God *is* faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear *it*."

1 Corinthians 10:13 KJB

So today, let's find out HOW God helped those 3 Jewish boys who OBEYED GOD'S WORD instead of the evil king's command to bow down to a huge golden image, even though the king threatened to throw them into a

FÎERY FURNACE!

Remember, these 3 boys ALREADY KNEW what God had said about bowing down to anyone else but Him in Exodus 20:3-6. but they chose to OBEY GOD no matter what the king did to them! They KNEW that God was IN CONTROL & would do what was ABSOLUTELY BEST for them as they obeyed His Word. Here's what those boys answered the king:

"...O Nebuchadnezzar we are <u>not careful</u> (worried, afraid) to answer thee in this matter, If it be so, our <u>God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace</u>, and He will deliver us out of thine hand, O king. 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 3:17-18 KJB

Why could these boys answer like that WITH-OUT being afraid of that king or his fiery furnace? Because those boys had ALREADY read & believed & obeyed God's Written Word many times BEFORE God brought them to this FIERY FURNACE TEST! These boys had LEARNED that when they obeyed God's Word, God worked ALL THINGS for GOOD in their lives! Those boys had ALREADY experienced God's power & faithfulness. So NOW, they did NOT hesitate a second! They answered that king that they would NOT bow down to his image!

Let's see what happened next: "Then was Nebuchadnezzar <u>full of fury</u>, and the form of his visage was changed against Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego; *there-fore* he spake, and commanded that they should heat the furnace one seven times more than it was wont to be heated.

And he commanded the most mighty men that were in his army to bind Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego, and to cast them into the burning fiery furnace." Then these men were bound in their coats, their hosen (stockings), and their hats, and their other garments, and were cast into the midst

of the burning fiery furnace." Daniel 3:19-21 KJB

The king got so angry when those 3 boys told him that they would NOT obey him, that the king had the furnace heated up 7 times HOTTER! He then ordered his STRONGEST MEN to tie the boys up with all their clothes on & then these boys were thrown into that FIERY FURNACE!

That furnace was SO HOT that the strong men who threw the boys in were



INSTANTLY BURNED UP!

Oh my! What about those 3 boys who FOLLOWED GOD!

WHAT HAPPENED TO THEM?

Remember now! Those 3 boys KNEW that when they OBEYED GOD, that God would EITHER

SAVE THEM FROM THAT FRE

OR

TAKE THEM from this earth TO PARADISE!

Let's find out what God did for these 3 boys who always wanted to FOLLOW GOD & OBEY HIS WORD!

"Then Nebuchadnezzar the king was astonied... (ASTONISHED totally SURPRISED)" Daniel 3:24a

The king was TOTALLY ASTONISHED!!!

Let's see WHY!

"..Lo, I see four men loose, walking in the midst of the fire, and they have no hurt; and the form of the fourth is like the Son of God."



Daniel 3:25 KJB

WHAT DID THAT KING SEE IN THE FIRE?

He saw the 3 boys COMPLETELY UN-TIED!
They were WALKING AROUND - COMPLETELY
UNHURT. The flames that had INSTANTLY
KILLED his strongest men had not touched those
boys at all! Instead, those flames ONLY BURNED
AWAY the ROPES with which the king HAD TIED
THOSE BOYS TO MAKE THEM HELPLESS to
escape on their own! And if that wasn't enough to
ASTONISH THE KING, he saw SOMEONE ELSE
in that fire WITH THE BOYS! Who was it! Well,
the king himself was right when he said "the form of
the 4th was like the Son of God! You see, right
there WITH THE BOYS in the middle of that FIERY
FURNACE was



THE SON OF GOD THE LORD JESUS CHRIST HIMSELF!

Imagine that! The Lord Himself was right in that fire with those 3 helpless boys. And REMEMBER!

One of the FACTS about God that those 3 boys AL-READY KNEW is that

God is SOVEREIGN!
GOD IS THE BOSS
OVER EVERYTHING!

EVEN THOSE FLAMES!

If God chooses to PROTECT us from certain things, He IS ABLE TO! But no matter WHAT the Lord allows to happen to us, He promises that HE WILL BE WITH US ALWAYS to help us HANDLE THE PROBLEM! And so, The Lord did NOT leave those boys alone in that fiery furnace. For this test, the Lord prevented those flames from touching those boys! The Lord chose to let those boys live a while longer on this earth instead of taking to heaven right then. Here are 2 promises from the Lord to ALL His children. Remember them when troubles come your way. "...for he hath said, I will never leave thee nor forsake thee.

So that we may boldly say, The Lord *is* my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me."

Hebrews 13:5b-6 KJB "For the LORD God *is* a sun and <u>shield</u>: the LORD will give grace and glory: <u>no good thing</u> will he withhold from them that walk uprightly. O LORD of hosts, <u>blessed</u> *is* the man that trusteth in thee."

Psalm 84:11-12 KJB

In our next lesson on this subject we will see the BLESSINGS God brought to many from this FIERY FURNACE TEST!

STAY TUNED!!

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 <u>Killingly St</u> (**Rt. 128**) Exit; *Right* off Exit.
- Take Killingly to end; *Right* Take <u>Mineral Spring</u> to end on <u>Manton Ave</u>; cross bridge. Take <u>Mineral Spring</u> to end and stay *Left* around the
- 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 <u>Mineral Spring</u> 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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