

# WALKING IN THE MIDST OF THE FIRE DANIEL 3

Text: Daniel 3:25

(Daniel 3:25 KJV) "He answered and said, 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."

Introduction:

Our text finds three men walking in the fire who were on fire for the Lord. I long to have men and women, boys and girls who are on fire for the Lord. These men had a choice to either bow or burn. They refused to bow...but did not burn.

Notice with me.

## **1. THESE MEN WERE DIFFERENT (VSS. 12)**

(Daniel 3:12 KJV) "There are certain Jews whom thou hast set over the affairs of the province of Babylon, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego; these men, O king,

have not regarded thee: they serve not thy gods, nor worship the golden image which thou hast set up."

A. The regarded not the king, nor his gods, nor his golden image.

B. Our Lord was different.

1. He was sinless in a sinful world.

(John 8:12 KJV) "Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life."

2. He was light in a darkened world.

3. His teachings demanded a different lifestyle.

C. We are to be different, changed by the gospel.

1. Born again, new creatures.

(2 Corinthians 5:17 KJV) "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new."

Illustrations:

Corinthians

(1 Corinthians 6:9-11 KJV) "Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind, {10} Nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God. {11} And such were some of you: but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God."

## **2. THESE MEN WERE DARING (vs. 16)**

(Daniel 3:16 KJV) "Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, answered and said to the king, O Nebuchadnezzar, we are not careful to answer thee in this matter."

A. Were not careful to answer

B. The thrill of new Christianity.

1. Taking new stands

2. Risking position, job, and friends.

3. Fresh zeal in soul winning.
- C. Then we become careful.

1. So tactful that we never witness.
2. So tolerant of sin that we compromise with the world.
3. So conservative that we make no advances for Christ.

D. The walk of faith is a daring walk.

### **3. THESE MEN WERE DEDICATED. (VSS. 17-18)**

(Daniel 3:17-18 KJV) "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. {18} 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."

- A. The Lord is able to deliver.
- B. But if the Lord chooses not to, we will still be true.
- C. Some get angry with God if He doesn't deliver.

Illustration:

Lady whose son was killed in accident in MO., who said the she didn't believe in God.

D. Notice these men's total commitment.

Illustration:

Job

(Job 13:15 KJV) "Though he slay me, yet will I trust in him: but I will maintain mine own ways before him."

E. They were like Jesus in Gethsemane.

## **4. THEY WERE DELIVERED (VSS. 25-27)**

A. What a deliverance

1. Jesus walked with them in the fire.
2. Only the ropes burned off.
3. The smell of fire was not on them.
4. Not even their hair was singed.

B. Why?

1. Because they were already on fire.

Close:

The best way to not burn out is to stay on fire.