



Life Lessons from the Book of Daniel Chapters 1-6

Chapter 3 – Idolatry versus God.

The well-known story of Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego and the fiery furnace, is a favorite children's story we love to tell. But familiarity with this story has brought obstacles which prevents some people from benefitting from this passage. Familiarity can breed ignorance to the message. Secondly, many people believe this whole story sounds like a fairy-tale.

The Bible tells us much about man's religious nature. It is characteristic of man to create a god like himself and then become more and more like that god. Man is good at creating idols to worship besides the One true God. It's idolatry versus God. Don't be fooled by the power of external pressures, as earthly idols lure us to defile ourselves, and that compromises our faith. We must stand courageous and uncompromising when faced with worldly pressures.

The question of Daniel, chapter 3 as we will see with Nebuchadnezzar, is what to do with God? Where to put God is a rather constant theme throughout Scripture and throughout human history. Even today there is the conflict between those who give God a rightful place and those who refuse to do that. It's idolatry versus God.



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Daniel 3; Idolatry versus God.

- 1) Nebuchadnezzar builds a huge image (idolatry) -vs- Already shown his future in chapter 2 (God).
- 2) Nebuchadnezzar builds it of gold (idolatry) -vs- Do you see it still standing? (God)
- 3) Nebuchadnezzar tried to unify his nation (idolatry) -vs- Pagan nation already in decline (God).
- 4) Everyone is forced to worship and bow to an image (idolatry) -vs- Doesn't force, He delivers (God).
- 5) People willing to break under external pressure (idolatry) -vs- Uncompromising faith (God).
- 6) Chaldeans maliciously accuse (idolatry) -vs- Admission of conviction (God).
- 7) Pitting yourself against God (idolatry) -vs- Exalting Him (God).
- 8) Persecuting God's people (idolatry) -vs- Deliverance and salvation (God).

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