

WHEN THE HEAT IS ON

UNSHAKABLE! Thriving in the Tests of Life — Part 5

DANIEL 3: SIMILARITIES TO US TODAY

“The king made a giant gold image of himself to be worshiped”

- 1. The world creates **LARGER** than life images for me to worship.**
See Daniel 3:1-7
- 2. I’m tempted to create a **FALSE** image of myself to impress others.**
- 3. If I reject the world’s idols, people will try to **BURN** me.**
See Daniel 3:8-12
- 4. Doing the right thing always makes some people **ANGRY**.**
See Daniel 3:13-15

WHAT SHOULD I DO WHEN THE HEAT IS ON?

- 1. Don’t worry about **DEFENDING** myself.**
“Then Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego replied, ‘O Nebuchadnezzar, we don’t need to defend ourselves in this matter’” Daniel 3:16
- 2. Remember that God has the power to **SAVE** me.**
*“IF we are thrown into the blazing furnace, the God we worship is ABLE to save us.”
Daniel 3:17a*
- 3. **BELIEVE** God will save me.**
“And HE WILL save us from your power, O king.” Daniel 3:17b

“WHEN you go through deep waters and great trouble, I will be with you. WHEN you go through rivers of difficulty, you will not drown! WHEN you walk through the fire of oppression, you will not be burned up; the flames will not consume you! For I am the Lord, your God!” Isaiah 43:2-3a (NLT)
- 4. I announce my **LOYALTY** to God no matter what.**
“BUT EVEN IF God DOESN’T save us, we will never serve your gods or worship the gold statue you set up.” Daniel 3:18

Faith in the furnace: Daniel 3:19-23

Three Ways GOD Can Save You from a Crisis

1. God saves us **FROM** the crisis.

"But suddenly, Nebuchadnezzar jumped up in amazement and asked his advisers, 'Didn't we tie up three men and throw them into the furnace?' 'Yes, we did.' they said, 'Well look now!' he shouted. 'You can see four men now, unbound, walking around freely in the fire, unharmed! And the fourth man looks like a son of the gods!'"
Daniel 3:24-25

2. God saves us **THROUGH** the crisis.

"I have refined you but not in the way silver is refined. Rather, I have refined you in the furnace of suffering."
Isaiah 48:10 (NLT)

3. God saves us **BY** the crisis.

"You let captors set foot on our neck; then we went through fire and water and you led us out to freedom."
Psalm 66:12 (NAB)

What happens WHEN I TRUST GOD IN THE furnace?

1. God will walk **THROUGH** the fire with me!

2. God will **BURN** off everything tying me down.

3. God will give me a new **FREEDOM**.

4. God makes sure I come out **UNHARMED**.

"Then Nebuchadnezzar came as close as he could to the door of the flaming furnace and shouted: 'Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, servants of the Most High God, come out! Come out at once!' So the 3 men stepped out of the fire. Then the princes, prefects, governors, and advisers crowded around them and saw that the fire had not touched them. Not a hair on their heads was singed, and their clothing was not scorched. They didn't even smell of smoke!" Daniel 3:26-27

5. I will bring **UNBELIEVERS** to God.

"Then the king said, "Praise to the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego who sent his angel to rescue his servants. THEY TRUSTED IN HIM. They defied my command and were willing to die rather than serve or worship any god except their own God." Daniel 3:28

"Therefore, I make this decree: If anyone says anything against the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, they will be put to death, and their houses will be destroyed. There is no other god who can save anyone like this! Then the king promoted Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego to even higher positions in the province of Babylon." Daniel 3:29-30

6. God will **REWARD** my faith in Heaven.

"Each of us must be careful how we build (our lives), because Christ is the only solid foundation. Whatever we build on that foundation will be tested by fire . . . If what we built is left standing, we will be rewarded! But if what we've built is burned up by the fire, we will lose our reward. Yet we will be saved, like someone escaping from flames." 1 Corinthians 3:10b-15