

What is the time frame for Daniel 3? _____

What happened in Nebuchadnezzar's life during the time from Daniel 2:47 to the opening of Chapter 3?

Nebuchadnezzar had an intellectual experience with God, but it didn't change his heart.

Without the new birth, there is no experience in life that can teach a man to know and worship God.

The officials were the representatives of all the people they ruled over. Nebuchadnezzar wanted all the representatives to bow down to the image so all the people would bow down to the image.

Music has been used for ages to soothe the spirit and to draw people into Godly worship. Music has also been used through the ages to entice people into worldliness and to entice people into the release of their fleshly inhibitions. In Godly worship, some music is inappropriate.

Nebuchadnezzar was exalting himself not only as head of state, but also as head of religion.

The image was 60 cubits high – 6 cubits wide. There were 6 instruments. Six is the number of man –Rev. 13:15-18.

The fiery furnace was hot enough to smelt iron. **What an altar call, "Bow or Burn?"**

We can see how readily sinners comply to the demands of wicked tyrants. In the last days, believers will prefer death in a temporary fire over torment in an eternal fire –Revelation 14:9-11.

Why could the Chaldeans accuse Shadrach, Meshach and Abed-Nego and not Daniel? _____

Nebuchadnezzar could not believe Shadrach, Meshach and Abed-Nego would not worship his god, so he gave them another chance. Shadrach, Meshach and Abed-Nego did not have to think about their response. They knew in their hearts they would not serve his gods.

❖ **If God decides to deliver us, He can do that... if not, that is fine too!** ❖

They had not merely theoretical faith. They had practical faith. They had faith that was ready to act.

Their faith: Danger couldn't shake it. Death couldn't break it.

Their faith in God enabled them to look beyond death to something more God had promised. We look beyond death and think, "What a day that will be." – but does that *Day* affect your life today?

They recognized that they worked for Nebuchadnezzar, but they served the One True God.

The furnace was heated seven times hotter. Shadrach, Meshach and Abed-Nego were bound and led into the furnace. Nebuchadnezzar was astounded. There were now four men in the furnace and they were loosed! The only thing that burnt was their shackles – the thing that bound them in this world.

The fourth man was like "the Son of God." The creature always recognizes the Creator.

There were many eyewitnesses when Shadrach, Meshach and Abed-Nego came out of the fiery furnace.
What a testimony their obedience brought!

In Daniel 2:47, the king had a conversion of his _____.
In Daniel 3:29, the king had a conversion of his _____.

How many people were thrown into the fire? _____ How many people were seen in the fire? _____
How many people came out of the fire? _____ WHERE IS THE FOURTH MAN?

**He's still in the fire and He's waiting for you and me...
and those that avoid the fire also miss the company of the Son of God in the fire.**