

WALKING THROUGH THE FIRE by Jarrod Davidoff April 26, 2020

LESSONS LEARNT FROM SHADRACH, MESHACH AND ABED-NEGO

1) THEY WERE TAKEN

Daniel 1:1 In the third year of the reign of Jehoiakim king of Judah, Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came to Jerusalem and besieged it. **2** And the Lord gave Jehoiakim king of Judah into his hand, with some of the articles of the house of God, which he carried into the land of Shinar to the house of his god; and he brought the articles into the treasure house of his god.

3 Then the king instructed Ashpenaz, the master of his eunuchs, to bring some of the children of Israel

Deuteronomy 28:8 “The Lord will command the blessing on you in your storehouses and in all to which you set your hand, and He will bless you in the land which the Lord your God is giving you.

Psalms 146:9 The Lord watches over the strangers;

Romans 8:28 And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to *His* purpose.

Isaiah 58:11 And the Lord shall guide thee continually, and satisfy thy soul in drought, and make fat thy bones: and thou shalt be like a watered garden, and like a spring of water, whose waters fail not.

2) THEY WERE TRAINED

Daniel 1:3 Then the king instructed Ashpenaz, the master of his eunuchs, to bring some of the children of Israel and some of the king’s descendants and some of the nobles, **4** young men in whom *there was* no blemish, but good-looking, gifted in all wisdom, possessing knowledge and quick to

understand, who *had* ability to serve in the king's palace, and whom they might teach the language and literature of the Chaldeans.

5 And the king appointed for them a daily provision of the king's delicacies and of the wine which he drank, and **three years of training for them**, so that at the end of *that time* they might serve before the king. **6** Now from among those of the sons of Judah were Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah. **7** To them the chief of the eunuchs gave names: he gave Daniel *the name* Belteshazzar; to Hananiah, Shadrach; to Mishael, Meshach; and to Azariah, Abed-Nego.

8 But Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself with the portion of the king's delicacies, nor with the wine which he drank; therefore he requested of the chief of the eunuchs that he might not defile himself. **9** Now God had brought Daniel into the favor and goodwill of the chief of the eunuchs. **10** And the chief of the eunuchs said to Daniel, "I fear my lord the king, who has appointed your food and drink. For why should he see your faces looking worse than the young men who *are* your age? Then you would endanger my head before the king."

11 So Daniel said to the steward whom the chief of the eunuchs had set over Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah, **12** "Please test your servants for ten days, and let them give us vegetables to eat and water to drink. **13** Then let our appearance be examined before you, and the appearance of the young men who eat the portion of the king's delicacies; and as you see fit, so deal with your servants." **14** So he consented with them in this matter, and tested them ten days.

15 And at the end of ten days their features appeared better and fatter in flesh than all the young men who ate the portion of the king's delicacies. **16** Thus the steward took away their portion of delicacies and the wine that they were to drink, and gave them vegetables.

17 As for these four young men, God gave them **knowledge and skill in all literature and wisdom**; and Daniel had understanding in all visions and dreams.

Proverbs 22:6 Train up a child in the way he should go, And when he is old he will not depart from it.

2 Timothy 2:15 Study *and* do your best to present yourself to God approved, a workman [tested by trial] who has no reason to be ashamed, accurately handling *and* skillfully teaching the word of truth.

2 Timothy 3:16 All Scripture *is* given by inspiration of God, and *is* profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, **17** that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.

Ephesians 6:4 And you, fathers, do not provoke your children to wrath, but bring them up in the training and admonition of the Lord.

3) THEY WERE TESTED

Daniel 1:18 Now at the end of the days, when the king had said that they should be brought in, the chief of the eunuchs brought them in before Nebuchadnezzar. **19** Then the king **interviewed** them, and among them all none was found like Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah; therefore they served before the king. **20** And in all matters of wisdom *and* understanding about which the king examined them, he found them ten times better than all the magicians *and* astrologers who *were* in all his realm. **21** Thus Daniel continued until the first year of King Cyrus.

1 Peter 1:6 In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while, if need be, you have been grieved by various trials, **7** that the genuineness of your faith, *being* much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is **tested** by fire...

Genesis 22:1 Now it came to pass after these things that God **tested** Abraham, and said to him, "Abraham!"

And he said, "Here I am."

2 Then He said, “Take now your son, your only *son* Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you.”

Psalm 66:10 For You, O God, have **tested** us; You have refined us as silver is refined.

Deuteronomy 8:2 And you shall remember that the Lord your God led you all the way these forty years in the wilderness, to humble you *and test* you, to know what *was* in your heart, whether you would keep His commandments or not.

4) THEY WERE TRIED BY FIRE

Daniel 2:48 Then the king promoted Daniel and gave him many great gifts; and he made him ruler over the whole province of Babylon, and chief administrator over all the wise *men* of Babylon.

Daniel 2:49 Also Daniel petitioned the king, and he set Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego over the affairs of the province of Babylon; but Daniel sat in the gate of the king.

Daniel 3:3 Nebuchadnezzar the king made an image of gold, whose height *was* sixty cubits *and* its width six cubits.

Daniel 3:1 He set it up in the plain of Dura, in the province of Babylon. **2** And King Nebuchadnezzar sent *word* to gather together the satraps, the administrators, the governors, the counselors, the treasurers, the judges, the magistrates, and all the officials of the provinces, to come to the dedication of the image which King Nebuchadnezzar had set up. **3** So the satraps, the administrators, the governors, the counselors, the treasurers, the judges, the magistrates, and all the officials of the provinces gathered together for the dedication of the image that King Nebuchadnezzar had set up; and they stood before the image that Nebuchadnezzar had set up.

4 Then a herald cried aloud: “To you it is commanded, O peoples, nations, and languages, **5** *that* at the time you hear the sound of the horn, flute, harp, lyre, *and* psaltery, in symphony with all kinds of music, you shall fall

down and worship the gold image that King Nebuchadnezzar has set up; **6** and **whoever does not fall down** and worship **shall be cast immediately into the midst of a burning fiery furnace.**”

7 So at that time, when **all the people** heard the sound of the horn, flute, harp, *and* lyre, in symphony with all kinds of music, all the people, nations, and languages **fell down and worshiped** the gold image which King Nebuchadnezzar had set up.

In life you are going to be tempted to BOW.

BOW TO

- Negative Peer pressure
- Political pressure
- Lying and bribery
- Sexual immorality
- The golden calf of money

What does it mean to BOW?

It means to compromise. It's a feeling that unless you do what the other party wants you to do, that's illegal or immoral to do, you won't get what you want to achieve.

Meaning of compromise

- to make a shameful or disreputable concession
- to reveal or expose to an unauthorized person and especially to an enemy (spy. Traitor)

Revelation 2:12 “And to the angel of the church in Pergamos write...

Revelation 2:14 But I have a few things against you, because you have there those who hold the doctrine of Balaam, who taught Balak to put a stumbling block before the children of Israel, to eat things sacrificed to

idols, and to commit sexual immorality. **15** Thus you also have those who hold the doctrine of the Nicolaitans, which thing I hate. **16** Repent, or else I will come to you quickly and will fight against them with the sword of My mouth.

Daniel 3:8 Therefore at that time certain Chaldeans came forward and accused the Jews. **9** They spoke and said to King Nebuchadnezzar, “O king, live forever! **10** You, O king, have made a decree that everyone who hears the sound of the horn, flute, harp, lyre, *and* psaltery, in symphony with all kinds of music, shall fall down and worship the gold image; **11** and whoever does not fall down and worship shall be cast into the midst of a burning fiery furnace. **12** There are certain Jews whom you have set over the affairs of the province of Babylon: Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego; these men, O king, have not paid due regard to you. They do not serve your gods or worship the gold image which you have set up.”

13 Then Nebuchadnezzar, in rage and fury, gave the command to bring Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego. So they brought these men before the king.

14 Nebuchadnezzar spoke, saying to them, “*Is it true*, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego, *that* you do not serve my gods or worship the gold image which I have set up?

15 Now if you are ready at the time you hear the sound of the horn, flute, harp, lyre, *and* psaltery, in symphony with all kinds of music, and you fall down and worship the image which I have made, *good!*

Revelation 20:4 And I saw thrones, and they sat on them, and judgment was committed to them. Then *I* saw the souls of those who had been beheaded for their witness to Jesus and for the word of God, who had not worshiped the beast or his image, and had not received *his* mark on their foreheads or on their hands. And they lived and reigned with Christ

Daniel 3:16 Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego answered and said to the king, “O Nebuchadnezzar, we have no need to answer you in this matter. **17** If that *is the case*, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us

from the burning fiery furnace, and He will deliver *us* from your hand, O king.

18 But if not, let it be known to you, O king, that we do not serve your gods, nor will we worship the gold image which you have set up.”

James 1:2 My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials, **3** knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience. **4** But let patience have *its* perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing.

James 1:12 (ESV) Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial, for when he has **stood the test** he will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love him.

1 Peter 4:12 Beloved, do not think it strange concerning the **fiery trial** which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened to you; **13** but rejoice to the extent that you partake of Christ’s sufferings, that when His glory is revealed, you may also be glad with exceeding joy. **14** If you are reproached for the name of Christ, blessed *are you*, for the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you

Proverbs 17:3 **The refining pot** *is* for silver and **the furnace** for gold, But the Lord tests the hearts.

Psalms 10:10 For You, O God, have tested us; You have refined us as silver is refined. **11** You brought us into the net; You laid affliction on our backs. **12** You have caused men to ride over our heads; We went through fire and through water; But You brought us out to rich *fulfillment*.

5) THEY WERE PROMOTED

Daniel 3:19 Then Nebuchadnezzar was full of fury, and the expression on his face changed toward Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego. He spoke and commanded that they **heat the furnace seven times more than it was usually heated**.

To put this into perspective an **average house fire** will usually burn at a temperature between 1,000 and 2,000 degrees

1,948°F melts gold

Daniel 3:20 And he commanded certain **mighty men of valor who were in his army** to bind Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego, *and cast them* into the burning fiery furnace. **21** Then these men were bound in their coats, their trousers, their turbans, and their *other* garments, and were cast into the midst of the burning fiery furnace.

22 Therefore, because the king's command was urgent, and the furnace exceedingly hot, the flame of the fire killed those men who took up Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego. **23** And these three men, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego, fell down bound into the midst of the burning fiery furnace.

24 Then King Nebuchadnezzar was astonished; and he rose in haste *and* spoke, saying to his counselors, "**Did we not cast three men bound into the midst of the fire?**"

They answered and said to the king, "True, O king."

25 "Look!" he answered, "**I see four men loose**, walking in the midst of the fire; and they are not hurt, and the form of the fourth is like the Son of God."

26 Then Nebuchadnezzar went near the mouth of the burning fiery furnace *and* spoke, saying, "Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego, servants of the Most High God, come out, and come *here*." Then Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego came from the midst of the fire. **27** And the satraps, administrators, governors, and the king's counselors gathered together, and they saw these men on whose bodies the fire had no power; the hair of their head was not singed nor were their garments affected, and the smell of fire was not on them.

28 Nebuchadnezzar spoke, saying, "Blessed be the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego, who sent His Angel and delivered His servants who trusted in Him, and they have frustrated the king's word, and yielded their bodies, that they should not serve nor worship any god except their

own God! **29** Therefore I make a decree that any people, nation, or language which speaks anything amiss against the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego shall be cut in pieces, and their houses shall be made an ash heap; because there is no other God who can deliver like this.”

30 Then the king promoted Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego in the province of Babylon.

Psalm 20:4 May He grant you according to your heart's *desire*, And fulfill all your purpose.

James 4:10 Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and He will lift you up.

Genesis 12:2 I will make you a great nation; I will bless you And make your name great; And you shall be a blessing.