

# From Defeat to Victory (Daniel 2, 3 6)

*The Bible Series – Part 4*

Life Church St. Louis – April 21, 2013

Lead Pastor – Dr. Dan Walker

*Daniel 3:17-18 (NKJV) our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, ... 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."*

## 1. Have you been given an impossible \_\_\_\_\_?

*Daniel 2:1-2 (NIV) In the second year of his reign, Nebuchadnezzar had dreams; his mind was troubled and he could not sleep. So the king summoned the magicians, enchanters, sorcerers and astrologers to tell him what he had dreamed.*

*Daniel 2:12-13 (NIV) This made the king so angry and furious that he ordered the execution of all the wise men of Babylon. So the decree was issued to put the wise men to death, and men were sent to look for Daniel and his friends to put them to death.*

### A. \_\_\_\_\_ for God's help

*Daniel 2:18 (NIV) He urged them to plead for mercy from the God of heaven concerning this mystery, so that he and his friends might not be executed with the rest of the wise men of Babylon.*

### B. \_\_\_\_\_ comes from God in heaven

*Daniel 2:27-28 (NIV) Daniel replied, "No wise man, enchanter, magician or diviner can explain to the king the mystery he has asked about, but there is a God in heaven who reveals mysteries. He has shown King Nebuchadnezzar what will happen in days to come. Your dream and the visions that passed through your mind as you lay on your bed are these:*

## 2. Are you facing an impossible \_\_\_\_\_?

*Daniel 3:4-6 (NIV) "This is what you are commanded to do, O peoples, nations and men of every language: As soon as you hear the sound of ... all kinds of music, you must fall down and worship the image of gold that King Nebuchadnezzar has set up. Whoever does not fall down and worship will immediately be thrown into a blazing furnace."*

## A. Choose to \_\_\_\_\_ God

*Daniel 3:12 (NIV) But there are some Jews whom you have set over the affairs of the province of Babylon--Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego--who pay no attention to you, O king. They neither serve your gods nor worship the image of gold you have set up."*

*Daniel 3:17-18 (NIV) If we are thrown into the blazing furnace, the God we serve is able to save us from it, and he will rescue us from your hand, O king. But even if he does not, we want you to know, O king, that we will not serve your gods or worship the image of gold you have set up."*

## B. \_\_\_\_\_ comes from the God you serve

*Daniel 3:25-26 (NIV) He said, "Look! I see four men walking around in the fire, unbound and unharmed, and the fourth looks like a son of the gods." Nebuchadnezzar then approached the opening of the blazing furnace and shouted, "Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, servants of the Most High God, come out! Come here!" So Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego came out of the fire,*

## 3. Are you in a \_\_\_\_\_ situation?

*Daniel 6:7 (NIV) The royal administrators, prefects, satraps, advisers and governors have all agreed that the king should issue an edict and enforce the decree that anyone who prays to any god or man during the next thirty days, except to you, O king, shall be thrown into the lions' den.*

### A. Remain \_\_\_\_\_ to your faith

*Daniel 6:10 (NIV) Now when Daniel learned that the decree had been published, he went home to his upstairs room where the windows opened toward Jerusalem. Three times a day he got down on his knees and prayed, giving thanks to his God, just as he had done before.*

### B. \_\_\_\_\_ comes from God

*Daniel 6:16 (NIV) So the king gave the order, and they brought Daniel and threw him into the lions' den. The king said to Daniel, "May your God, whom you serve continually, rescue you!"*

*Daniel 6:22 (NIV) My God sent his angel, and he shut the mouths of the lions. They have not hurt me, because I was found innocent in his sight.*

# From Defeat to Victory (Daniel 2, 3 6) – Study Guide

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Intro. What similarities do you see between our society and Babylon in Daniel's time?

What opportunities and challenges do you see for believers as our culture drifts farther from its biblical roots?

How does Lot's example in 2 Peter 2:7-9 speak to us in modern society today?

1A. Why do you think King Nebuchadnezzar gave such an impossible task (Daniel 2:1-2, 12-13)?

1B. What does Daniel's response to the situation tell you about him (Daniel 2:18)?

1C. In what ways is there still a God in heaven who reveals mysteries today (Daniel 2:27-28)?

2A. What was so difficult about the decision that Daniel's three friends faced (Daniel 3:4-6)?

2B. What does the three friend's response to the king tell you about them (Daniel 3:12, 17-18)?

2C. How does the presence of the fourth man in the fire encourage you in your life (Daniel 3:25-26)? What fires are you facing?

3A. In what ways are believers being targeted today, just as Daniel was (Daniel 6:7)?

3B. What do Daniel's actions in response to the royal edict tell you about him (Daniel 6:10)?

3C. Why do you think God protected Daniel in the lion's den (Daniel 6:16, 22)? Does God always protect the lives of His children? Why or why not?

3D. How could you use these stories from Daniel to encourage someone facing similar challenges today?