



Daily Verse and Comment

Daniel 3:16-19

(16) Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego answered and said to the king, "O Nebuchadnezzar, we *have* no need to answer a word to you on 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 out of your hand, O king. (18) But if not, let it be known to you, O king, that we will not serve your gods nor worship the golden image which you have set up." (19) Then Nebuchadnezzar was filled with wrath, and the expression of his face was changed against Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego. He spoke and commanded that they should heat the furnace seven times more than it was usually heated.

A Faithful Version

They could see the rage in Nebuchadnezzar's face, but they also saw [God](#). Where did their powerful conviction come? This kind of conviction does not arise "on command," at the spur of the moment. It is the product of the demonstration of God in the lives of these three young men before this time, before their lives were on the line. Their [faith](#) had grown and matured over a period of time.

God is always the same. What God says through Paul in [I Corinthians 10:13](#) applied to them just as it applies to us. God knew what they could endure. They also knew that He would provide a "way of escape." Because of this, they told the king, despite his threats, "Even if God does not choose to protect us, we still are not going to bow down to your image."

Have we ever considered why more "mighty deliverances" do not occur to us? It is because *we spend so little time fellowshiping with God that we do not see Him as an immediate and vitally important part of our lives*. As a result, the physical "evidence" we see around us overwhelms us.

— John W. Ritenbaugh

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