



## [Daniel 3:16-19](#)

(16) Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego replied to the king, "O Nebuchadnezzar, we do not need to defend ourselves before you in this matter. (17) 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. (18) 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." (19) Then Nebuchadnezzar was furious with Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, and his attitude toward them changed. He ordered the furnace heated seven times hotter than usual

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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 [1 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

**To learn more, see:**

The Berean: Daily Verse and Commentary for Daniel 3:16-19 (<http://www.theberean.org>)

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