

# DANIEL

HIS ENTIRE  
PROPHECY

## CHAPTER THREE



*The*  
**FBI CLASS**

### Daniel 3

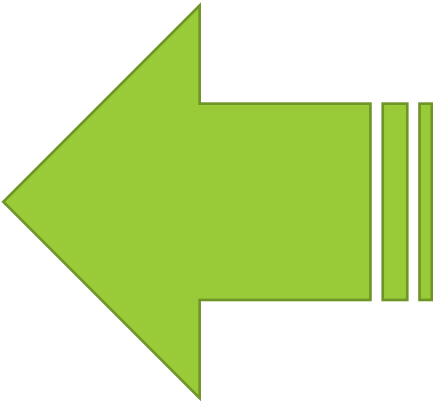
**1** Nebuchadnezzar the king made an image of gold, whose height was threescore cubits, and the breadth thereof six cubits: he set it up in the plain of Dura, in the province of Babylon.

**“Nebuchadnezzar the king  
made an image of gold...”**

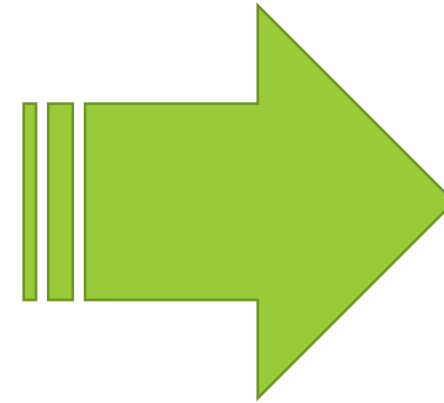
**What did the image look like?**



Probably  
not like  
this.



Probably  
more  
like this.

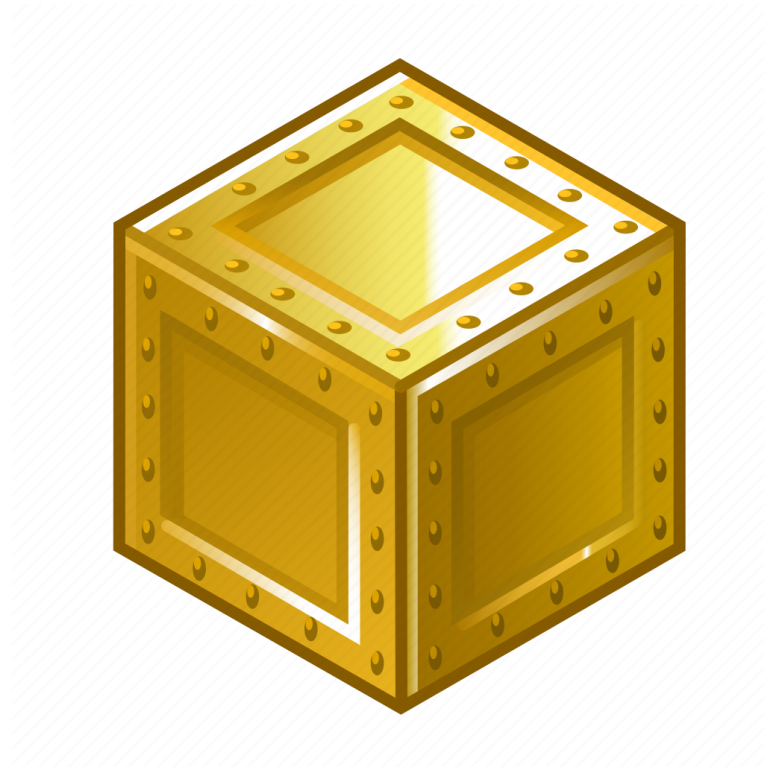


GOLD



But now we have a  
problem with the  
dimensions:

SIXTY CUBITS HIGH  
SIX CUBITS WIDE



G  
O  
L  
D



But now we have a  
problem with the  
dimensions:

SIXTY CUBITS HIGH  
SIX CUBITS WIDE



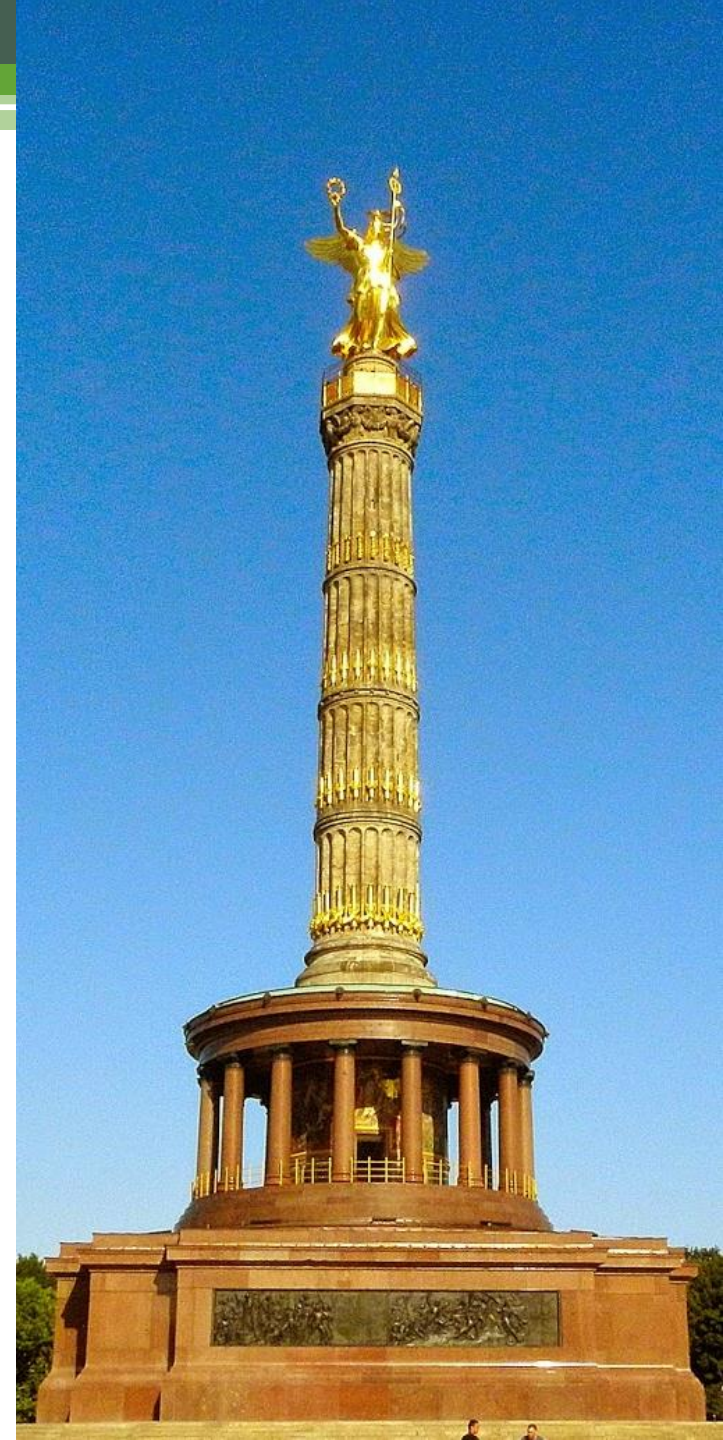
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# DANIEL

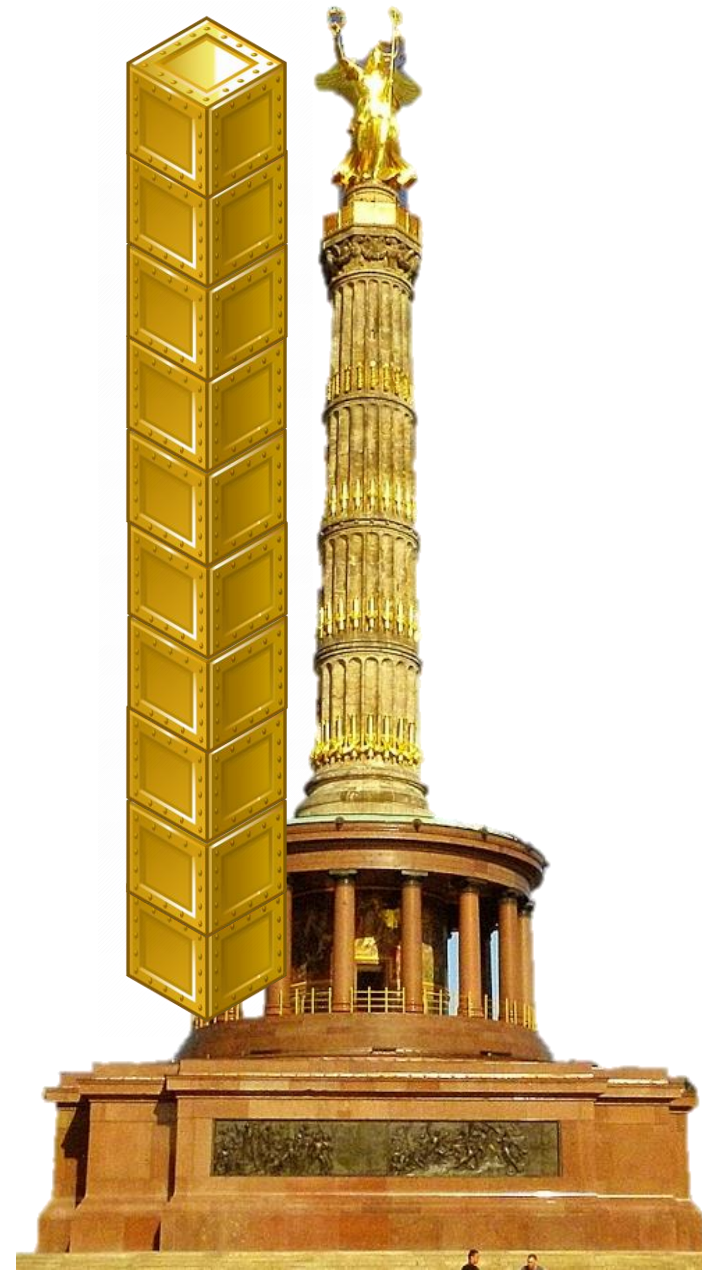
Here's an image  
that exists today:

“The Golden Statue  
of Berlin”



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that exists today:

“The Golden Statue  
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### SPECULATION

**Most likely, it was designed to look like Nebuchadnezzar.**

**“Thou art this head of gold.”**

**God gave Nebuchadnezzar  
the vision in Chapter 2 of the image  
with him as the “head of gold.”**

**Obviously, it went to his head!**

It was probably not made of solid gold.

1 cubic foot of gold weighs 1,206 pounds.

$90 * 6 * 6 = 3240$  cubic feet.

3,907,440 pounds of gold?

In Exodus 38:30, we have the  
“bronze altar” of the tabernacle.

It was wooden, overlaid with bronze.

Exodus 27:2 “...and thou shalt overlay it with  
brass.”



**Dura was probably an area known today as “Tolul Dura”, about twelve miles from the site of ancient Babylon in Iraq.**

**2 Then Nebuchadnezzar the king sent to gather together the princes, the governors, and the captains, the judges, the treasurers, the counsellors, the sheriffs, and all the rulers of the provinces, to come to the dedication of the image which Nebuchadnezzar the king had set up.**

**3 Then the princes, the governors, and captains, the judges, the treasurers, the counsellors, the sheriffs, and all the rulers of the provinces, were gathered together unto the dedication of the image that Nebuchadnezzar the king had set up; and they stood before the image that Nebuchadnezzar had set up.**

Not everyone in Babylon was forced to go out to the plain of Dura for the big ceremony.

All the important government officials were there.

“Princes” is usually translated “satrap” today.

It is a Persian word that means “protector of the realm.”

4 Then an herald cried aloud, To you it is  
commanded, O people, nations, and languages,  
5 That at what time ye hear the sound of the cornet,  
flute, harp, sackbut, psaltery, dulcimer, and all kinds  
of musick, ye fall down and worship the golden  
image that Nebuchadnezzar the king hath set up:  
6 And whoso falleth not down and worshippeth  
shall the same hour be cast into the midst of a  
burning fiery furnace.

Cornet, flute, harp, sackbut, psaltery, dulcimer. . .

We're not really sure what all these instruments were from that time in history.

And the important part –

**IF YOU DON'T FALL DOWN AND WORSHIP THE  
IMAGE, YOU'RE GOING TO BE DROPPED INTO  
A BURNING, FIERY FURNACE.**

Music is playing.

Emotions are high.

Everyone wants to be “on the team!”

Except for three Jewish young men.

8 Wherefore at that time certain Chaldeans came near, and accused the Jews.

9 They spake and said to the king Nebuchadnezzar, O king, live for ever.

10 Thou, O king, hast made a decree, that every man that shall hear the sound of the cornet, flute, harp, sackbut, psaltery, and dulcimer, and all kinds of musick, shall fall down and worship the golden image:

11 And whoso falleth not down and worshippeth, that he should be cast into the midst of a burning fiery furnace.

12 There are certain Jews whom thou hast set over the affairs of the province of Babylon, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego; these men, O king, have not regarded thee: they serve not thy gods, nor worship the golden image which thou hast set up.

**The accusers were “the Chaldeans.”**

**These were the men whom Daniel had kept  
from death in Chapter 2.**

**This is the fruit of envy and jealousy.**

### Galatians 5:14-15

**14 For all the law is fulfilled in one word, even in this; Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.**

**15 But if ye bite and devour one another, take heed that ye be not consumed one of another.**

Envy has many companions  
(Romans 1:29 – 32)

unrighteousness, fornication, wickedness,  
covetousness, maliciousness, **full of envy**,  
murder, debate, deceit, malignity, whisperers,

### **Envy has many companions (Romans 1:29 – 32)**

**backbiters, haters of God, spiteful, proud,  
boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient  
to parents, without understanding, covenant  
breakers, without natural affection, implacable,  
unmerciful:**

13 Then Nebuchadnezzar in his rage and fury commanded to bring Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. Then they brought these men before the king.

14 Nebuchadnezzar spake and said unto them, Is it true, O Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, do not ye serve my gods, nor worship the golden image which I have set up?

**15 Now if ye be ready that at what time ye hear the sound of the cornet, flute, harp, sackbut, psaltery, and dulcimer, and all kinds of musick, ye fall down and worship the image which I have made; well: but if ye worship not, ye shall be cast the same hour into the midst of a burning fiery furnace; and who is that God that shall deliver you out of my hands?**

Nebuchadnezzar is in a fit of rage.

“...and who is that God that  
shall deliver you out of my hands?”

### ANSWER:

He knew who that God was,  
but maybe he never thought about  
God as a Deliverer!

How many people are converted  
the first time they hear the Gospel?

**ANSWER:**

**How many people are converted  
the first time they hear the Gospel?**

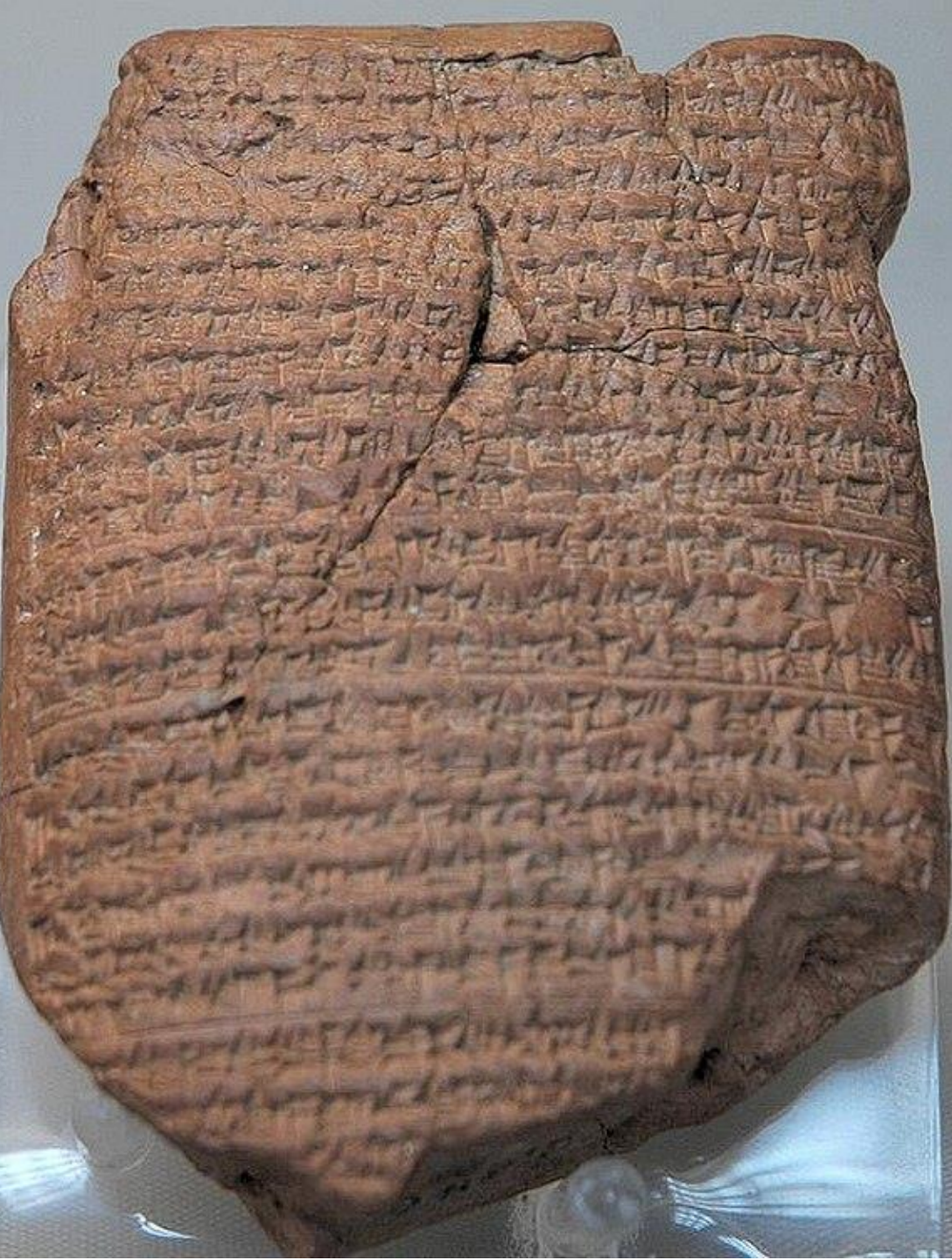
**WHY WAS DANIEL NOT THERE WITH THE REST?**

**FOR THAT, WE HAVE TO LOOK TO SECULAR HISTORY.**

**“THE BABYLONIAN CHRONICLES”**

### WIKIPEDIA

The Babylonian Chronicles are a series of tablets recording major events in Babylonian history. They are thus one of the first steps in the development of ancient historiography. The Babylonian Chronicles were written in Babylonian cuneiform, from the reign of Nabonassar up to the Parthian Period, by Babylonian astronomers ("Chaldaeans").



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### HERE'S WHAT WE LEARN:

**December 595 BC to January 594 BC  
shows a coup d'état attempt  
against Nebuchadnezzar.**

**It failed.**

### HERE'S WHAT WE LEARN:

It is likely that Nebuchadnezzar summoned all his provincial rulers and vassal kings back to Babylon for a loyalty oath.

Those who had proved themselves loyal at the royal court in Babylon would have been exempt from the ceremony.

### HERE'S WHAT WE LEARN:

Daniel did not have to appear at the gathering. He was with Nebuchadnezzar “at the king’s court.”

Daniel’s three friends were summoned with the other officials because they had been serving as administrators in the “province of Babylon.”

**16** Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, answered and said to the king, O Nebuchadnezzar, we are not careful to answer thee in this matter.

**17** If it be so, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and he will deliver us out of thine hand, O king.

**THERE'S A WONDERFUL LESSON  
FOR US IN THE RESPONSE FROM  
SHADRACH, MESHACH AND ABEDNEGO.**

**THESE WERE BRAVE YOUNG MEN,  
CONFIDENT AND CONSTANT IN THEIR  
DEVOTION TO GOD.**

**“O Nebuchadnezzar, we are not careful to answer thee in this matter.” KJV**

**"O Nebuchadnezzar, we have no need to answer you in this matter." NKJV**

“O Nebuchadnezzar, we  
are not  
careful to answer thee in  
this matter.” KJV

"O Nebuchadnezzar, we  
have  
no need to answer you in  
this matter." NKJV

**“This is not a  
discussion  
item.”**

Some of the choicest words in all the Bible

**“If it be so,**

Some of the choicest words in all the Bible

**“If it be so**, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and **he will deliver us** out of thine hand, O king.”

Some of the choicest words in all the Bible

**“But if not,**

Some of the choicest words in all the Bible

**“But if not, be it known unto thee, O king, that we will not serve thy gods, nor worship the golden image which thou hast set up.”**

**19 Then was Nebuchadnezzar full of fury, and the form of his visage was changed against Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego: therefore he spake, and commanded that they should heat the furnace one seven times more than it was wont to be heated.**

18 But if not, be it known unto thee, O king, that we will not serve thy gods, nor worship the golden image which thou hast set up.

19 Then was Nebuchadnezzar full of fury, and the form of his visage was changed against Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego: therefore he spake, and commanded that they should heat the furnace one seven times more than it was wont to be heated.

**20 And he commanded the most mighty men that were in his army to bind Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, and to cast them into the burning fiery furnace.**

**21 Then these men were bound in their coats, their hosen, and their hats, and their other garments, and were cast into the midst of the burning fiery furnace.**

22 Therefore because the king's commandment was urgent, and the furnace exceeding hot, the flame of the fire slew those men that took up Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego.

23 And these three men, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, fell down bound into the midst of the burning fiery furnace.

So back to our question:

“What’s that furnace doing out there in the plain,  
next to the image?”





The reason the guards died from approaching the furnace was probably due to a phenomenon firefighters call **BACKDRAFT**.



**BACKDRAFT** occurs when a fire has been starved for oxygen. Then, someone opens a door or window and oxygen is re-introduced into the environment.

The result is an explosive **BACKDRAFT**.  
Watch the demo. . .





24 Then Nebuchadnezzar the king was astonished, and rose up in haste, and spake, and said unto his counsellors, Did not we cast three men bound into the midst of the fire? They answered and said unto the king, True, O king.

25 He answered and said, Lo, I see four men loose, walking in the midst of the fire, and they have no hurt; and the form of the fourth is like the Son of God.

**JESUS IS WITH US  
THROUGH EVERY  
TRIAL.**





26 Then Nebuchadnezzar came near to the mouth of the burning fiery furnace, and spake, and said, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, ye servants of the most high God, come forth, and come hither. Then Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, came forth of the midst of the fire.

27 And the princes, governors, and captains, and the king's counsellors, being gathered together, saw these men, upon whose bodies the fire had no power, nor was an hair of their head singed, neither were their coats changed, nor the smell of fire had passed on them.

And the princes, governors,  
and captains, and the king's counsellors,  
being gathered together, saw these men. . .

**LIKE THE MORE THAN FIVE HUNDRED  
WITNESSES OF JESUS' RESURRECTION!**



PAUL SAYS TO KING AGRIPPA,

“For the king knoweth of these things, before whom  
also I speak freely: for I am persuaded that none of  
these things are hidden from him;  
**for this thing was not done in a corner.”**

Acts 26:26

**WHO ARE THESE GUYS?**

**SERVANTS OF THE MOST HIGH GOD.**

**When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee: when thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned; neither shall the flame kindle upon thee. Isaiah 43:2**

**28 Then Nebuchadnezzar spake, and said, Blessed be the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, who hath sent his angel, and delivered his servants that trusted in him, and have changed the king's word, and yielded their bodies, that they might not serve nor worship any god, except their own God.**

28 Then Nebuch  
be the God of  
who hath sent  
that trusted in  
word, and yiel  
serve nor wors

**HUGE THINGS ARE  
HAPPENING HERE.**

# THE KING'S WORD HAS BEEN CHANGED.

28 Then Nebuchadnezzar  
be the God of  
who hath seen  
that trusted  
word, and ye  
serve nor w

**THE WORLD SEES  
WHAT IT MEANS FOR  
BELIEVERS TO  
PRESENT THEIR  
BODIES.**

I beseech you therefore, brethren,  
by the mercies of God,  
**that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice,**  
holy, acceptable unto God,  
which is your reasonable service.

Romans 12:1

**29 Therefore I make a decree, That every people, nation, and language, which speak any thing amiss against the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, shall be cut in pieces, and their houses shall be made a dunghill: because there is no other God that can deliver after this sort.**

**30 Then the king promoted Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, in the province of Babylon.**

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**AN UNHAPPY  
CHALDEAN**



**30 Then the king promoted Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, in the province of Babylon.**

