# Daniel Lesson 3

**David Duncan** · Daniel 3 · Series: **Daniel Bible Study**

## INTRODUCTION

- So we'll get into the lesson for tonight, which is chapter three.
- Truly kind of the lesson of their faith and obedience.
- Where was Daniel? That's a very good question, but I'm gonna try to say it to the end.

## 1 The Gold Image on the Plain of Dura

**Daniel 3:1–7**

- The Septuagint records the 18th year of Nebuchadnezzar's reign.
- Some people have suggested that possibly this is actually a celebration of subduing Palestine.
- It tells us that it was 60 cubits tall by six cubits wide.
- Somebody might say, well, that's awfully big for a statue of that time, but it was perfectly doable in their time.

## 2 The Command to Bow and the Punishment

- Then the command is given to bow down to this image.
- It kind of helps add to how unique these three were by not bowing down to it, because the others probably wouldn't have cared.
- So even there we see, that this was not unusual for that.
- The code of Hammurabi actually had this as a punishment for several things.

## 3 Ways This Could Have Tempted Them

- These are some I've thought of different ways that this could have actually tempted them. Obviously, fear of the punishment.
- Fear of losing position, they had risen up to have some power, to have a position.
- Kind of have the same temptations with our jobs, whether or not to speak up about something, because we may lose our job or lose position.
- You shall not bow yourself down to them nor serve them. And if they had bowed down, even thinking that well, I'm just kind of going through the motions, wouldn't they have been at that point giving in?

## 4 Our God Is Able to Deliver, But If Not

**Daniel 3:8–18; Job 13:15**

- There are certain Jews whom you have set over the affairs of the province of Babylon, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, these, O king, have not paid due regard to you.
- 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.

- 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.
- They believed that he could, but even if he didn't, that wasn't going to change anything for them.

## 5 Four Men Walking in the Fiery Furnace

**Daniel 3:19–27; Daniel 3:29**

- I see four men loose, walking in the midst of the fire, and they are not hurt.
- The point is there's somebody else in there that obviously they didn't put in there.
- Hair of their head was not singed, nor were their garments affected, and the smell of fire was not in them.
- Nebuchadnezzar, there's no other God who can deliver like this. And the three were promoted.

## 6 Where Was Daniel?

- Daniel was in Babylon attending to matters of state.
- I think the most likely scenario is that he wasn't there.
- Some people might say it was an evidence of an earlier authorship.

MY NOTES