

Daniel 3

Study Guide

Read Daniel chapter 3 in its entirety, and then reread it answering the following questions.

Remember to incorporate the 3 C's & 5 W's

(Content Context Cross-reference)

Who, What, Where, When, Why)

Additionally, as you read, note where God's influence is evident.

Read verses 1-7:

What does King Nebuchadnezzar build and how large is it? Does it make structural sense? Who does he summon for the dedication of the statue? Do you think there a particular reason why he does that? Why does he make everyone bow to the statue and not him? Does he have a political or religious agenda?

Read verses 3-18:

What is the real issue? Why is King Nebuchadnezzar so upset with Shadrach, Meshach and Abendego? Is he confused by their reaction to his command? Pay careful attention to what he is saying.

Who are the accusers and what is their intention? King Nebuchadnezzar is informed by several accusers of Shadrach, Meshach and Abendego. The word informed could be better translated as "eat the pieces of flesh torn off from someone's body" i.e. to slander. Do the accusers have a reason personally or professionally to get even with Shadrach, Meshach & Abendego?

The Reaction: Which statements do Shadrach, Meshach & Abendego say that stand out when they faithfully defy the king's order? What are they willing to risk? How does Nebuchadnezzar respond, and what does he say after they are thrown into the furnace? How is God's character revealed in this part of the story?

Read verses 19-30:

What is this overall portrayal Daniel is trying to share of God's character in this whole story?

Food For Thought

1. Where has God protected and delivered you from evil, or an unfortunate situation?
2. Are there any other stories in the Bible where God people are protected while they are located in a different land?
3. By faithfully committing to follow God, where has God blessed you in your life?
4. Have you ever been challenged because of your faith, and how did you respond?
5. What new takeaway or reminder have you taken from Daniel 3?