

The Character and Nature of God.

WHO you KNOW determines WHERE you GO.

Daniel 3:15-18 (NLT) - “I will give you one more chance to bow down and worship the statue I have made when you hear the sound of the musical instruments. But if you refuse, you will be thrown immediately into the blazing furnace. And then what god will be able to rescue you from my power?” ¹⁶Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego replied, “O Nebuchadnezzar, we do not need to defend ourselves before you. ¹⁷If we are thrown into the blazing furnace, the God whom we serve is able to save us. He will rescue us from your power, Your Majesty. ¹⁸But even if he doesn’t, we want to make it clear to you, Your Majesty, that we will never serve your gods or worship the gold statue you have set up.”

1. God’s Power

Daniel 3:16-17 (NLT) - Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego replied, “O Nebuchadnezzar, we do not need to defend ourselves before you. ¹⁷If we are thrown into the blazing furnace, the God whom we serve is able to save us. He will rescue us from your power, Your Majesty.”

1 Corinthians 1:18 (NLT) - The message of the cross is foolish to those who are headed for destruction! But we who are being saved know it is the very power of God.

2. God’s Plan

Daniel 3:18 (NLT) - “But even if he doesn’t, we want to make it clear to you, Your Majesty, that we will never serve your gods or worship the gold statue you have set up.”

Exodus 34:6 (NLT) - The LORD passed in front of Moses, calling out, “Yahweh! The LORD! The God of compassion and mercy! I am slow to anger and filled with unfailing love and faithfulness.”

3. God’s Presence

Daniel 3:25 (NLT) - “Look!” Nebuchadnezzar shouted. “I see four men, unbound, walking around in the fire unharmed! And the fourth looks like a god!”

Isaiah 43:2 (NLT) - “When you go through deep waters, I will be with you. When you go through rivers of difficulty, you will not drown. When you walk through the fire of oppression, you will not be burned up; the flames will not consume you.”

4. God’s Praise

Daniel 3:28 (NLT) - Then Nebuchadnezzar said, “Praise to the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego! He sent his angel to rescue his servants who trusted in him. They defied the king’s command and were willing to die rather than serve or worship any god except their own God.”

Study Guide

1. When you think about God’s character and nature, what comes to mind?
2. Do you have complete trust in God like Daniel and his friends? Why or why not?
3. Which one of the points (God’s power, plan, presence, or praise) is hard for you to live out? Why?
4. God sent Jesus Christ to this earth so we can be made right with Him and live for eternity. Our hope is not in this world but the future to come. How does this change things for you?
5. The first step in KNOWING God is opening up your heart to him. Say this prayer in faith:

Dear God, I recognize that I can’t fix myself or others, but I need you to do the saving. I open up my heart to you and invite Jesus to be my Lord and Saviour. I believe that through Jesus I am made whole and only through Jesus I am born again to new life. I give my life to you. Now and forever. Amen!