

INTRODUCTION

- * Over the past three weeks we have been seeing the impact that one individual can make when they are fully submitted to the Sovereign Will of God in their lives. Specifically, we have been witnessing the Impact of Daniel's God through Daniel's Life in the lives of pagan servants and their earthly king - Nebuchadnezzar.
- * Last week, as we considered Nebuchadnezzar's dream, we saw that God was revealing Himself to Nebuchadnezzar through this dream and the use of Daniel.
- * This was PHASE ONE in God's Operation Nebuchadnezzar! Nebuchadnezzar realized that the God of Daniel was greater than His gods. But, Nebuchadnezzar still had a long way to go. He still was dealing with the greatest of the rivals to YHWH - self. In Isaiah 14:3-23 we see a prophetic portion of Scripture regarding the King of Babylon being equated to Lucifer. In this passage, we see how self-pride is at the very core of our sinful desire to usurp the reign and authority of God.
- * Today, we witness PHASE TWO of Operation Nebuchadnezzar. It is critical to note the importance of the servants of God properly traversing the trials and tribulations of life, as a living witness of our faith in this One, True God.

INSTRUCTION

I. THEIR D _____ (v. 1-7)

A. Nebuchadnezzar's Image (v. 1)

1. IT'S INSPIRATION
2. IT'S DIMENSIONS

B. Nebuchadnezzar's Decree (v. 2-7)

1. THE E _____ OF THE DECREE
2. THE E _____ OF THE DECREE
3. THE E _____ OF THE DECREE (v. 6)

II. THEIR D _____ (v. 8-18)

A. They Chose to D _____ (v. 8-14)

B. They Chose to T _____ (v. 15-18; cf. Matt 16:24-26; Rom 12:1; 14:8; Phil 1:20)

III. THEIR D _____ (v. 19-30)

A. The N _____ of Their Deliverance (v. 19-27)

1. THEY WERE C _____ INTO THE FURNACE (v. 19-23)
2. THEY WERE J _____ BY "ONE LIKE THE SON OF GOD" (v. 24-25)
3. THEY WERE P _____ FROM THE FIRE (v. 26-27; cf. 1 Corinthians 10:13; Isaiah 52:10-12; Matthew 13:36-43)

B. The R _____ of Their Deliverance (v. 28-30)

1. NEBUCHADNEZZAR'S P _____
2. NEBUCHADNEZZAR'S P _____ (v. 30)

INTROSPECTION

- * HAVE YOU TRUSTED IN THE SON OF GOD TO DELIVER YOU FROM THE FLAMES OF HELL?
- * ARE YOU TRUSTING GOD TO DELIVER YOU THROUGH THE FIRES OF ADVERSITY?
- * HOW EASY IS IT FOR YOU TO COMPROMISE YOUR FAITH IN GOD IN LIGHT OF THE FEAR OF MAN?
- * IS THERE A NEED TO CHANGE THE WAY YOU THINK ... AND, THEREFORE, THE WAY YOU ACT?

INTERACTION ... Thoughts & Questions to ponder for later discussion

- * Considering the massive number of Christian martyrs throughout the millennia, and the plight of the modern persecuted church throughout the world, how do we respond to the challenge regarding "the impotence" or "fickleness" of our God? (If God was all-powerful why would He allow this to happen to His followers? If God is all-powerful, why does He deliver some from trials and leave others to suffer?)