

## KNOWING THE GOD WHO DELIVERS

Scripture:

Daniel 3:15b

**Daniel 3:15 NKJV** "Now if you are ready at the time you hear the sound of the horn, flute, harp, lyre, <and> psaltery, in symphony with all kinds of music, and you fall down and worship the image which I have made, <good>! But if you do not worship, you shall be ast immediately into the midst of a burning fiery furnace. And who <is> the god who will deliver you from my hands?"

**Daniel 11:32 NKJV** "Those who do wickedly against the covenant he shall corrupt with flattery; but the people who know their God shall be strong, and carry out <great exploits>.

### Introduction

This king was given to arrogant boasting. He was the most powerful man in the known world. To him, what he said went. Therefore, confidence in God was ill advised, illogical, even unreasonable. The God these men professed had even failed to deliver Jerusalem from his hand. His proposition was intimidating. But they knew who their God was.

#### I. They knew God's character

**Exodus 34:6-7 NKJV** And the LORD passed before him and proclaimed, "The LORD, the LORD God, merciful (NIV: compassionate) and gracious, longsuffering (NIV: slow to anger), and abounding in goodness and truth (NIV: love and faithfulness), {7} "keeping mercy (NIV: maintaining love) for thousands, forgiving iniquity (NIV: wickedness) and transgression (NIV: rebellion) and sin, by no means clearing <the guilty>, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children and the children's children to the third and the fourth generation."

- A. Merciful - Compassionate
- B. Gracious
- C. Longsuffering - Slow to anger
- D. Abounding in:
  - 1. Goodness - Love
  - 2. Truth - Faithfulness
- E. Keeping mercy (maintaining love) for thousands
- F. Forgiving:
  - 1. Iniquity - Wickedness
  - 2. Transgression - Rebellion
  - 3. Sin
- G. Does not leave the guilty unpunished

#### II. They knew their God was personally attentive to His creation

**Matthew 10:29-30 NKJV** "Are not two sparrows sold for a copper coin? And not one of them falls to the ground apart from your Father's will. {30} "But the very hairs of your head are all numbered.

**Hebrews 4:13 NKJV** And there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things <are> naked and open to the eyes of Him to whom we <must give> account.

- A. His attention to details about us
  - 1. He notices the fall of every sparrow
  - 2. He inventories the hairs of our heads

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- B. He cared about them
  - 1. They knew how God consistently delivered Israel
  - 2. They knew how God proved Himself when they refused to eat the kings dainties
  
- III. They knew God to be sufficiently powerful to intervene in any situation
  - Jeremiah 32:27 NKJV "Behold, I <am> the LORD, the God of all flesh. Is there anything too hard for Me?"
  - Luke 1:37 NKJV "For with God nothing will be impossible."
  - A. They knew about the Exodus
  - B. They knew about Elijah and Elisha
  - C. They knew how God delivered Hezekiah from Sennacharib and his 185,000 men
  
- IV. They knew God to be consistent in His ways and care for His people
  - James 1:17 NKJV Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning.
  - Malachi 3:6 NKJV "For I <am> the LORD, I do not change; Therefore you are not consumed, O sons of Jacob.
  - Numbers 23:19 NKJV "God <is> not a man, that He should lie, Nor a son of man, that He should repent. Has He said, and will He not do? Or has He spoken, and will He not make it good?"
  - A. His nature is unchanging
  - B. His care is perpetual
  - C. His love is unceasing

#### Conclusion

Daniel 3:28-29 NKJV Nebuchadnezzar spoke, saying, "Blessed be the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego, who sent His Angel and delivered His servants who trusted in Him, and they have frustrated the king's word, and yielded their bodies, that they should not serve nor worship any god except their own God! [29] "Therefore I make a decree that any people, nation, or language which speaks anything amiss against the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego shall be cut in pieces, and their houses shall be made an ash heap; because there is no other God who can deliver like this." (NIV)  
"*...for no other god can save in this way.*"