

HIGHEST LOYALTY ONLY FOR THE MOST HIGH

PROLOGUE | Hebrew Introduction – Placing Daniel in Babylon (1:1-2:4)

PART 1 | Aramaic Main Body – Announcements to the Nations (2:5-7:28)

- A. Vision of kingdoms (ch 2 – image with four valuable metals, ultimately crushed)
 - B. Civil Disobedience (ch 3 – God delivers from the fiery furnace)
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A. How did Nebuchadnezzar demand loyalty? (3:1-7)

1. The image was meant to _____ (v1)
 - *Who made it?*
 - *What was it made of?*
 - *Where was it?*
 - *How big?*
2. The gathering of all native-born and conquered officials included _____ from every sector of the government (v2-3)
3. The agenda: you will _____ (v4-7)
 - *Who must comply?*
 - *What must you do?*
 - *When must you do this?*
 - *Why is the penalty for rebellion?*
 - *Who complied?*

** What might you be compelled to bow to?*

B. What happened when three men refused to comply? (3:8-25)

1. An _____ is brought by those who are loyal to the king (v8-12)
2. The interrogation of the king is met with a simple, yet _____ answer (v13-18)
 - a. The _____ battle between Nebuchadnezzar and the Most High God is centered around the question: “And who is the god who will deliver you from my hands?” (v15)
 - b. Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego _____ that the God whom they serve is able to deliver. (v16-17)

- c. "But if not..." revealed their uncertainty about the future alongside their unwavering loyalty to the God in whom they are _____.

**How might you claim the "but if not" mentality?*

3. The legal _____ is ordered for those loyal to God (v19-23)

4. The God who is able to deliver _____ on their behalf (v24-25)

- *How many were cast into the furnace?*
- *Were they tied up?*
- *How many were seen walking loose in the furnace?*
- *Who was the fourth?*

C. How did Nebuchadnezzar respond? (3:26-30)

1. He refers to these three men as _____ of the Most High God (v26)

2. He is astounded by the _____ of the Most High God (v27-28)

3. He makes a _____ prohibiting speech against the Most High God (v29)

1. He _____ Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego (v30)

**What kind of God do we have?*