

Thoughts on the Sunday School lesson by  
Pastor Artee Williams  
Sunday, January 14, 2018  
Subject: **A Bold Faith**- Daniel 3: 19-23, 26-28

## **I. Key Background Scriptures**

Exodus 20: 4-5 Matthew 6:10 Matthew 10:28  
Acts 5:29 Romans 12:1-2 I Peter 5: 5-7

## **II. Introduction**

This lesson is about the sovereignty of God and His power to provide complete deliverance to those who have complete faith in Him.

While the character and faith of the young Hebrew men is still on display, it is God's power to deliver that is the key doctrine in the lesson.

The furnaces of life may become exceedingly hot for believers but God can provide complete deliverance.

God is still able to step into the midst of your furnace and deliver you from the flames that are designed to consume you.

God the great Deliverer still speaks to believers today and says: "Stand still and see the salvation of the Lord."- Exodus 13:13.

Complete deliverance is available because believers serve the Sovereign God.

## **III. Key Issues in the lesson**

1. Idolatry
2. Submission to human authority
3. Suffering
4. Deliverance
5. Preservation of the Jews and worship of God
6. Nebuchadnezzar's change of heart

## **IV. Key verses from the scripture text**

1. Daniel 3:15- Nebuchadnezzar's question- who can deliver out of my hand?
2. Daniel 3:17-18- the young Hebrew men state their faith, confidence and hope in the great Deliverer.
3. Daniel 3:27b-the fire had no power over the young men, they were not burned.

4. Daniel 3:29b- Nebuchadnezzar's change of heart, he came to realize that there is no other God that can deliver like Jehovah God, he was amazed, he came to understand that God is all powerful.

## **V. Key doctrine-Deliverance**

1. Nebuchadnezzar wanted to establish supreme rule by setting up one religion, one golden image to worship and one king to obey, his desire was to keep the Jews and all other people under bondage.

2. Nebuchadnezzar made a human decree for all people including the Jews to worship his golden image or face the fiery furnace.

3. The Young Hebrew men refused to bow because they were committed to serving God and had faith that God would deliver them.

4. These young men teach that faith is knowing that God is able to deliver and that God will deliver.

5. Their faith revealed their commitment , they refused to disobey god's commandment concerning the worship of idol gods-Exodus 20: 4-5.

6. There will be occasions when in order to obey God, we disobey human authority. In such cases we obey God rather than man- Acts 5:29.

7. The young Hebrew men showed disrespect for the King's authority, would not serve the King's gods and would not worship his golden image.

8. Daniel and his companions feared God more than the king.

9. Nebuchadnezzar did not understand the power of God and questioned whether God could deliver out of his hands

10. The fire had no power over the bodies of the young men.

11. God provided complete deliverance:

- God removed what had the young men bound.

-There were no burns on clothing, hair or even the smell of smoke on the young men.

- God stepped into the midst of the fire, God interceded.

- God the Intercessor had more power than that which had the young men bound.

12. The Jews were able in a foreign country under captivity to worship God . The Jews experienced the freedom of worship in an idolatrous country.

Who made this happen- No body but God.

13. Deliverance can be described as that which no body can do but God.

## **VI. Compelling challenge**

When you are in the Furnace of life- bound and not able to gain freedom, remember the words of the Great Deliverer: "The Lord shall fight for you, and ye shall hold your peace"- Exodus 14:14.

Complete deliverance is available because believers serve the Sovereign God.

What has you bound today?

Are you trusting God for complete deliverance?

God is still saying to us "Stand still and see the salvation of the Lord"- Exodus 13:13.

God's complete deliverance can make a difference in your life, He can do what no body can do.

Are you willing to be the difference that makes a difference?