

## 4 – THE GOLDEN IMAGE (DANIEL 3:1-30)

### I. The Great Image of Gold (3:1-7)

#### A. The image created (3:1)

- Nebuchadnezzar made a large image of gold and set it up in the plain of Dura.
- The image was 90 feet high and 9 feet wide (30 meters high and 3 meters wide).

#### B. The dedication of the image (3:2-7)

##### 1. The king's invitation (3:2)

- The king gathered all officials of the empire for the dedication of the image.

##### 2. The gathering of the officials (3:3)

- The officials gather before the image that the king had set up.

##### 3. The call to worship (3:4-6)

- A herald called the people to worship the image at the sound of music.
- Those who do not worship the image will be cast into a fiery furnace.

##### 4. The worship of the image (3:7)

- All people and nations worshiped the image that the king had set up.

### II. The Accusation against Daniel's Friends (3:8-12)

#### A. The accusers (3:8)

- Certain Chaldeans came forward and accused certain Jews.
- The Chaldeans were court advisors.

#### B. The reminder of the edict (3:9-11)

- They reminded the king concerning the penalty for not worshipping the image.

#### C. The accusation (3:12)

- They accused Shadrach, Meshach and Abed-Nego of not worshipping the image.

### III. Strength in the Face of Judgment (3:13-18)

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## A. Order to appear (3:13)

- The king orders them to appear before him.

## B. The king's questioning (3:14-15)

- The king asks them if the accusation is true.
- The king offers them another opportunity to worship the image or face judgment.

## C. The answer to the king (3:16-18)

- They tell the king that there is no need to offer an explanation for their actions.
- They express that God is able to deliver them from the judgment of the furnace.
- They will not worship the image, even if God chooses not to deliver them.

## IV. The Deliverance (3:19-30)

### A. The fiery furnace (3:19-23)

- The king commands the furnace to be fired at a greater temperature.
- He commanded certain soldiers to cast the Jews into the fire.
- The soldiers were killed by the heat of the fire.

### B. The fourth man (3:24-25)

- The king sees the three Jews walking in the midst of the fire unharmed.
- The king also sees a fourth man like unto the Son of God.

### C. Daniel's friends (3:26-27)

- The king calls the Jews to come out of the furnace.
- The officials saw that the fire did not affect the Jews at all.

### D. The king's decree (3:28-30)

- The king proclaims that God had protected his servants.
- The king proclaimed that any who accused these Jews will be put to death.
- The king promoted the three Jews in the Babylonian Empire.