

Super Heroes for Jesus

The 3 Boys Who Walked Through A Furnace Unharmmed

Intro

Long, long ago, in a big shiny city, lived a very powerful king.

He was in charge of everything!

A big problem was about to happen.

It wasn't a fight with swords, but a fight about what you believe in.

The king had a giant golden statue and gave a simple rule: bow down to it, or be thrown into a super-hot fire.

For three young men, this was a big test.

They were about to be thrown into a hot, hot furnace, but what the king saw next would be a huge surprise and change everything.

This is the story of three boys who walked through fire, and the special friend who walked with them.

Section 1: The Golden Decree

Our story starts in Babylon, a sparkly city with a very powerful king named Nebuchadnezzar.

The king thought he was the most important person in the world.

He had big castles and tall walls, but he wanted more.

He wanted everyone to worship him.

So, the king built a giant statue of gold.

It was super tall, as tall as a skyscraper!

It was shiny and big and was meant to make everyone listen to the king.

The king sent a message to all his important helpers.

A man shouted the king's new rule for everyone to hear:

"People from everywhere!

When you hear the music play—the horns, the flutes, the harps, and all the instruments—you must bow down and worship the king's gold statue."

And what if you didn't?

The rule was scary.

"Anyone who does not bow down," the man announced, "will be thrown right away into a blazing hot fire."

Now, living in the city were three young friends who had been brought from a faraway land.

Their names were Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego.

They were smart and kind and had important jobs, but they believed in God more than any king.

For them, the king's rule was a big problem.

Bowing to a statue would be breaking their promise to God.

The music was about to start, and they had to make a choice.

In a kingdom where everyone was afraid, three young men were about to be very brave.

Section 2: The Confrontation

The big day came.

Lots and lots of people stood in front of the statue.

Then, the music began!

A beautiful sound of horns and harps filled the air.

That was the signal.

Together, the giant crowd of people fell on their faces, bowing to the shiny gold statue.

But wait.

In the middle of all the bowing people, three figures were still standing up.

Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego stood up tall.

They had made their choice. They would not bow.

It didn't take long for someone to see them.

Some of the king's other workers, who were a little jealous, ran to the king.

"Oh, King!" they said. "You made a rule... but there are three friends you put in charge... Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego.

They are not listening to you!

They will not worship your gods or the gold statue you set up."

The king's happiness turned to anger.

His face got red and twisted.

He ordered his guards to bring the three friends to him.

His voice was shaky with anger, but he gave them one last chance.

"Is it true," he growled, "that you won't worship my statue?"

He told them the choice one more time: bow down when you hear the music, and you will be fine.

"But if you don't," he warned, "you will be thrown right into the hot fire.

And then what god will be able to save you from my power?"

It was right there, in front of the most powerful king in the world, that the three friends said something very brave.

They looked the angry king in the eye and said, "Oh King, we don't need to explain ourselves."

"If we are thrown into the hot fire, the God we love is able to save us... and He **will** save us from you."

Their voices were calm.

But it was their next words that really surprised the king.

"But even if He does not," they said, "we want you to know, King, that we will not worship your gods or the gold statue you set up."

They knew God *could* save them, but they trusted Him no matter what.

The king was angrier than ever.

He screamed at his guards, telling them to make the furnace *seven times hotter* than normal—as hot as it could possibly get!

The fire got so big that flames flew out of the door, and the strong soldiers who got too close were hurt by the fire.

Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego were tied up and thrown right into the middle of the fire.

The king watched, thinking they would be gone in a second.

But what he saw next made him jump up from his chair.

Section 3: The Fourth Man

The king stared.

He couldn't believe his eyes.

He turned to his helpers and whispered, "Didn't we tie up three men and throw them into the fire?"

"Yes, we did, King," they answered.

"Look!"

Nebuchadnezzar shouted, pointing.

"I see four men walking around in the fire!

They aren't tied up, and they are not hurt!

And the fourth one looks like an angel from God!"

Inside the furnace that was supposed to be so dangerous, a miracle was happening.

The ropes that tied up the friends were gone, but the fire didn't touch them at all.

They were walking around in the middle of the flames like they were in a warm, glowing room.

And they weren't alone.

With them was a fourth person, a special helper from God.

It was clear: God was in the fire with them.

The king, who was now feeling scared instead of angry, ran to the opening of the furnace.

"Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, servants of the Most High God, come out!

Come here!" he yelled.

And they did.

The three men walked right out of the fire.

The crowd of helpers all gathered around them, amazed.

They looked them all over.

Not a single hair on their heads was burned.

Their clothes looked perfect.

They didn't even smell like smoke.

The fire that was so hot it hurt the king's own soldiers only did one thing to the three friends: it burned away the ropes that were holding them.

In that moment, the proud King Nebuchadnezzar felt small.

He had asked, "What god can save you from my hand?"

And now he knew the answer. He lifted his voice, not with anger, but to praise God.

"Praise be to the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, who has sent his angel and saved his friends who trusted in him!"

The king who wanted everyone to worship him now made a new law to protect them.

He said that if anyone, anywhere, ever says anything bad about the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, they would be in big trouble.

"Because there is no other god who can save people like this!"

And what about the three friends who walked through fire?

The king gave them even more important jobs in Babylon.

Their scary test became their greatest story.

Conclusion

The story of the fiery furnace is more than just an old miracle.

It's a great story that teaches us what it means to really trust God.

It's about believing that God being with us is stronger than any scary thing we might face.

Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego walked into that fire not knowing if they would walk out, but they knew that God was good and they could trust him, no matter what.

The miracle wasn't just that they were safe, but that their special friend was already in the fire, waiting for them.

It helps us remember that even in our own hard times, when we feel scared or sad, we are never, ever alone.

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Rev. Michael Angel

If you loved this amazing story of bravery, ask your parents to hit the like button and subscribe for more stories from long ago that can help you today.

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Let us know in the comments what you learned from the three brave friends.

Until next time, be strong, even when things get tough.