

The Great Image in the Dream of Nebuchadnezzar

Object: To understand that in the days of old the loyalty of God's people were tested and it will be the same today where our loyalty will be tested as well

1. Who is the prince of this world?

John 14:30 Hereafter I will not talk much with you: for the prince of this world cometh, and hath nothing in me.

2. The prince of this world offered and demanded what from Jesus?

Matthew 4:8-9 4:8 Again, the devil taketh him up into an exceeding high mountain, and sheweth him all the kingdoms of the world, and the glory of them; And saith unto him, All these things will I give thee, if thou wilt fall down and worship me.

Satan controls the kingdom of this earth and he demanded worship

3. Back to the dream of Nebuchadnezzar

Daniel 2:31 Thou, O king, sawest, and behold a great image. This great image, whose brightness [was] excellent, stood before thee; and the form thereof [was] terrible.

4. Who were God's people in Babylon during the reign of Nebuchadnezzar?

Daniel 2:49 Then Daniel requested of the king, and he set Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, over the affairs of the province of Babylon: but Daniel [sat] in the gate of the king.

5. What did the king build after his dream?

Daniel 3:1 Nebuchadnezzar the king made an image of gold, whose height [was] threescore cubits, [and] the breadth thereof six cubits: he set it up in the plain of Dura, in the province of Babylon.

6. What were the people suppose to do to the image that Nebuchadnezzar built?

Daniel 3:5 [That] at what time ye hear the sound of the cornet, flute, harp, sackbut, psaltery, dulcimer, and all kinds of music, ye fall down and worship the golden image that Nebuchadnezzar the king hath set up:

7. What happened to those who will not worship the image?

Daniel 3:6 And whoso falleth not down and worshippeth shall the same hour be cast into the midst of a burning fiery furnace.

8. Did Daniel's 3 friends worship the image?

Daniel 3:18 But if not, be it known unto thee, O king, that we will not serve thy gods, nor worship the golden image which thou hast set up.

9. Why did they refuse to worship the golden image?

Exodus 20:3-5 Thou shalt have no other gods before me. Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness [of any thing] that [is] in heaven above, or that [is] in the earth beneath, or that [is] in the water under the earth: Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the LORD thy God [am] a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth [generation] of them that hate me;

God's people know the commandment not to bow down and worship nor serve other gods

10. When Daniel's three friends refused to worship, what did the king do to them?

Daniel 3:19-23 Then was Nebuchadnezzar full of fury, and the form of his visage was changed against Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego: [therefore] he spake, and commanded that they should heat the furnace one seven times more than it was wont to be heated. And he commanded the most mighty men that [were] in his army to bind Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, [and] to cast [them] into the burning fiery furnace. Then these men were bound in their coats, their hose, and their hats, and their [other] garments, and were cast into the midst of the burning fiery furnace. Therefore because the king's commandment was urgent, and the furnace exceeding hot, the flame of the fire slew those men that took up Shadrach,

Meshach, and Abednego. And these three men, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, fell down bound into the midst of the burning fiery furnace.

11. What did the king notice in the midst of the fire?

Daniel 3:24-25 Then Nebuchadnezzar the king was astonished, and rose up in haste, [and] spake, and said unto his counsellors, Did not we cast three men bound into the midst of the fire? They answered and said unto the king, True, O king. He answered and said, Lo, I see four men loose, walking in the midst of the fire, and they have no hurt; and the form of the fourth is like the Son of God.

12. What was his next move?

3:26 Then Nebuchadnezzar came near to the mouth of the burning fiery furnace, [and] spake, and said, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, ye servants of the most high God, come forth, and come [hither]. Then Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, came forth of the midst of the fire.

13. Were Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego hurt?

Daniel 3:27 And the princes, governors, and captains, and the king's counsellors, being gathered together, saw these men, upon whose bodies the fire had no power, nor was an hair of their head singed, neither were their coats changed, nor the smell of fire had passed on them.

The loyalty of God's people in the last days will be tested. Our little golden image of today is here. Are we going to worship God on His Sabbath day? Or worship man in his counterfeit day of worship on Sunday? Today, we still have freedom and nobody can force us yet to worship another day but soon, our great golden image is coming where everyone will have to finally decide. On this, men will be FORCED to worship the counterfeit day. We will study deeper about this topic called the Mark of the Beast.