

***Introduction:***

- A. We must keep in mind that Daniel and his friends were still less than \_\_\_years old.
- B. These events took place during the period of \_\_\_\_\_ of Judah in Babylon.
- C. Daniel and his friends were called to be God’s representatives, witnesses to the \_\_\_\_\_ to the unbelievers surrounding them.
- D. Like them, we must learn how to be faithful and true to our God in the face of \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ pressure to do otherwise.

***I. The Story***

- A. King Nebuchadnezzar made an image of gold \_\_\_ ft. tall and \_\_\_ ft. wide.
- B. The king held a large dedication service where he would demand a public demonstration of \_\_\_\_\_.
- C. If anyone would not bow down to the statue would be thrown in the \_\_\_\_\_.
- D. Everyone bowed down except for the three, young \_\_\_\_\_.
- E. Some Babylonian \_\_\_\_\_ men went to the king to “\_\_\_\_\_” out the 3 Jews.
- F. The king was furious, but remembered how brilliant these 3 young men were, so he gave them a \_\_\_\_\_.
- G. But our heroes didn’t need a second chance to do what they knew was \_\_\_\_\_.
- H. The king made the furnace \_\_\_\_\_ times hotter and had them thrown in.
- I. Instead of 3 men being burned up by the fire, the king saw \_\_\_\_\_ men walking around in the fire, unbound and unharmed.
- J. They were ordered to come out of the fire and it was discovered that not a \_\_\_\_\_ was singed, the \_\_\_\_\_ were not burned, they didn’t smell like \_\_\_\_\_.
- K. This caused the king to \_\_\_\_\_ the God of Shadrach, Meshach & Abednego.

***II. The Application - What lessons can we learn?***

- A. First, we learn that God is \_\_\_\_\_, whether the result of our obedience is triumph or tragedy. (Rom. 8:28; Job 1:21; 2:10; 13:15)
- B. Second, we learn that \_\_\_\_\_ is \_\_\_\_\_, whether it seems fair or not. (Jn. 15:20; 16:33; 2 Tim. 3:12)

***Conclusion:***

- A. Like many who have gone before us, including Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, we may have to take a \_\_\_\_\_ for our \_\_\_\_\_, and perhaps face persecution and death because of it.
- B. About \_\_\_\_\_ million, or 65% of all Christian martyrs in the history of the church, actually died in the twentieth century.
- C. We should be in \_\_\_\_\_ daily for our Christian brothers and sisters who are paying the ultimate sacrifice for their faith
- D. Jesus said, “Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.” (Matt. 5:10-12)
- E. Do we \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus’ words and are we \_\_\_\_\_ to stand in the face of the fiery furnace?

Answer Key: Intro.A. 22. B. exile. C. truth. D. cultural, political. I.A. 90, 9. I.B. adoration. I.C. furnace. I.D. Jews. I.E. wise, rat. I.F. second, chance. I.G. right. I.H. 7. I.I. 4. I.J. hair, clothes, smoke. I.K. praise. II.A. sovereign. II.B. suffering, necessary. Concl.A. stand, faith. B. 45. C. prayer. E. believe, ready.