

Impact 3:16

No Need To Explain

(Da 3:16)

INTRODUCTION

1. Good Morning,
 - a. Greeting...
2. Series of lessons titled “Impact 3:16.”
 - a. We have looked at a number of lessons from different books of the Bible but each stemming from chapter three verse sixteen.
 - b. Today we continue with this idea in looking at Daniel 3:16.
 - i. **Da 3:15-17** “Now if you are ready when you hear the sound of the horn, pipe, lyre, trigon, harp, bagpipe, and every kind of music, to fall down and worship the image that I have made, well and good. But if you do not worship, you shall immediately be cast into a burning fiery furnace. And who is the god who will deliver you out of my hands?” 16 Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego answered and said to the king, “O Nebuchadnezzar, we have no need to answer you in this matter. 17 If this be so, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and he will deliver us out of your hand, O king.”¹
3. Background on the text.
 - a. The Southern Kingdom (Judah) is under Babylonian captivity.
 - i. They fell because of their unwillingness to obey their LORD God.
 - b. Judah was taken captive in three waves from Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon.
 - i. Daniel and his friends Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego were taken in the first wave.
 - c. Nebuchadnezzar, in chapter three, has built a statue that is to be worshipped every time “every kind of music” was played.
 - i. This was supposed to be a unifying of the kingdom.
 1. All those captives that had been placed in high ranking positions could “unify” under one religion so-to-speak.
 - d. Nebuchadnezzar is informed that three men are not bowing to the image made by him.
 - i. Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego were the three men brought before the king.
 - e. The king questions them and offers them the chance to make things right.
 - i. See verse 15
 - f. This brings us to our text today.
 - i. See verse 16-17
4. These men knew there was no point in “defending their reasons” here because Nebuchadnezzar already knew what they would say because it had never been hidden from him.
 - a. It had been understood in chapter one & two clearly been stated in their actions.
5. The Scriptures speak of times when there is “no need to answer.”
 - a. Let us look at some of these.

¹ All Scriptures are taken from the ESV unless otherwise noted. If other translations are used this is not necessarily an endorsement of the translation.

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I. Let Your Life Speak For Itself

- A. Shadrach, Meshach, & Abednego led a life that was “self-explanatory”
 - 1. They did not worship any gods but the God.
 - 2. They did not defile themselves with anything unholy.
 - i. It should not have been a shock to the king as their life was a living testimony to their beliefs and ideas.
- B. We too are to live a life that is “self-explanatory”
 - 1. We are to do this through always obeying the Law of Christ.
 - i. **I Ti 6:14** “to keep the commandment unstained and free from reproach until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ”
 - ii. **Ti 2:7-8** “Show yourself in all respects to be a model of good works, and in your teaching show integrity, dignity, 8 and sound speech that cannot be condemned, so that an opponent may be put to shame, having nothing evil to say about us.”
 - iii. **I Pt 2:12** “Keep your conduct among the Gentiles honorable, so that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day of visitation.”
 - 2. Our life of obedience speaks loudest through our services of others.
 - i. **Jn 13:3-5** “Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going back to God, 4 rose from supper. He laid aside his outer garments, and taking a towel, tied it around his waist. 5 Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples’ feet and to wipe them with the towel that was wrapped around him.”
 - ii. **Mt 25:34-40** “Then the King will say to those on his right, ‘Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. 35 For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, 36 I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me.’ 37 Then the righteous will answer him, saying, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? 38 And when did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? 39 And when did we see you sick or in prison and visit you?’ 40 And the King will answer them, ‘Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.’”
 - iii. **I Pt 3:1-2** “Likewise, wives, be subject to your own husbands, so that even if some do not obey the word, they may be won without a word by the conduct of their wives, 2 when they see your respectful and pure conduct.”

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II. Let Your Speech Stay The Same

- A. Shadrach, Meshach, & Abednego never wavered in their speech
 - 1. They consistently made it clear who their God was and what their intentions were without waver or any sort of backtracking.
- B. We too must never waver and constantly speak the oracles of God
 - 1. I do not want it implied that I am saying “we cannot ever be wrong” in our conclusions of a text.
 - i. We can know the truth but we can sometimes make mistakes in our studies and thus need correction in such areas.
 - ii. What I am saying loudly and boldly is that as we “know and understand” the Scriptures we are to be bold and consistent in proclaiming them.
 - 2. We must consistently speak and never waver on God’s Plan of Salvation.
 - i. Far too many people have been wishy-washy in this area.
 - a. Like those who once said baptism is necessary now say it isn’t.
 - b. Like those who once said repentance of all sin is needed but now it is selective.
 - ii. The Word of God is clear on the expectation God has to become a child of God.
 - a. Hear/Study God’s Word
 - i. **Ro 10:17** “So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.” (NKJV)
 - b. Have Faith in Jesus
 - i. **He 11:6** “And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him.”
 - c. Repent
 - i. **Ac 17:30** “The times of ignorance God overlooked, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent”
 - d. Confess Jesus
 - i. **Mt 10:32** “Therefore whoever confesses Me before men, him I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven.” (NKJV)
 - e. Be baptized for the Forgiveness of Sins
 - i. **Mk 16:16** “Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned.”
 - ii. **Ac 22:16** “And now why do you wait? Rise and be baptized and wash away your sins, calling on his name.”

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3. We must consistently speak and never waver on anything that is a heaven and hell issue.
 - i. Far too many Christians today want to simply bury their heads in the sand when it comes to issues that will keep them or others out of heaven.
 - a. This is done usually because they are personally doing these.
 - b. This is done usually because someone they love is doing these things.
 - ii. Some things that people “waver” on.
 - a. Remarriage
 1. The Bible is simple and clear on the subject, but emotions are used to “override” the Bible.
 - i. **Mt 19:9** “And I say unto you, Whosoever shall put away his wife, except for fornication, and shall marry another, committeth adultery: and he that marrieth her when she is put away committeth adultery.” (ASV)
 - b. Worship
 1. How many in the Lord’s church vigorously defend the Bible against mechanical instruments and then turn right around and listen to the same thing on the radio they fought against in their car.
 - i. **Ep 5:19** “addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with your heart”
 - c. Attendance
 1. How many invite visitors to attend services with them saying how important it is to come here “sound preaching, singing, etc and then do not even come themselves often enough to be considered “members” hardly.
 - i. **He 10:25** “not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.”
 - d. Immorality
 1. How many cry out against the immorality of the land in things such as abortion or homosexuality but turn right around and wear clothing that is neither modest nor appropriate.
 - i. **I Ti 2:9-10** “likewise also that women should adorn themselves in respectable apparel, with modesty and self-control, not with braided hair and gold or pearls or costly attire, 10 but with what is proper for women who profess godliness—with good works.”

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CONCLUSION

1. Edgar A. Guest once wrote, "I'd rather see a sermon than hear one any day; I'd rather one should walk with men than merely tell the way" (<http://goo.gl/W74PG>)
 - a. Let us make sure the "sermon" everyone sees us doing is that of righteousness and holiness.
2. Question: Is your life such that people look to you and glorify God because of your example?
3. Invitation
 - a. For those that are Christians but are not living for Christ repent by confessing your sins to God that He may forgive you and dedicate your life/time back to Him.
 - i. **I Jn 1:7, 9** "But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin...9 If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."
 - b. For those that are not Christians or for those that think they are Christians and want to know for sure notice what is required to become a child of God or Christian according to God and God only.
 - i. Hear/Study **Rom 10:17; II Tim 2:15**
 - ii. Have Faith In Jesus **Jn 3:16; 8:24**
 - iii. Repent/Turn To God **Ac 17:30; Lk 24:47**
 - iv. Confess Jesus As Lord **Mt 10:32; Rom 10:9**
 - v. Immersed For The Forgiveness of Sins **Ac 2:38; 22:16; I Pt 3:21**
 - vi. Live A Faithful Life **I Jn 1:7; Eph 5:8**