



THE GOSPEL

ACCORDING TO A STATUE

"The Gospel according to This World"

STAYING COOL WHEN THE HEAT IS ON DANIEL 3:1-7

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All Scriptures are printed verbatim with translations noted. • When Pastor Joe's commentary is added, God's Word will be printed in regular faced text with commentary in the smaller faced text. • Biblical words, underlined with dots, are explained in the brackets. Pastor Joe's email is Joe@southreno.com. This passage can be found in the Pew Bible, in the Old Testament on pages 630.

"Dare to be a Daniel, Dare to stand alone;
Dare to have a purpose firm, Dare to make it known."

-Phillip Paul Bliss, *Dare to be a Daniel*, (Circa 1873).

STUDY SECTION

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO THIS WORLD

AS REPRESENTED BY THE STATUE OF KING NEBUCHADNEZZAR

1. Glorify _____.

Daniel 3:1–3, NASB95 -¹ *Nebuchadnezzar the king made an image of gold, the height of which was sixty cubits [over 90 feet tall] and its width six cubits [approximately 9 feet]; he set it up on the plain of Dura [lit., a walled-in place, of which there are many in ancient Babylon (present day Iraq)] in the province of Babylon.* ² *Then Nebuchadnezzar the king sent word to assemble the [IMPORTANT: Every level of authority in that government was represented] satraps [generals—highest officers of the military], the prefects [assistants to the satraps—military commander] and the governors [who ruled over smaller districts], the counselors [experts advisors], the treasurers [served as treasurers do today], the judges [experts in the judging the law],*

the magistrates [from which we get our concept of a sheriff—assigned to keep the law] and all the rulers [cf., law enforcers or deputies of that day] of the provinces to come to the dedication of the image that Nebuchadnezzar the king had set up. ³ *Then...all the rulers of the provinces were assembled for the dedication of the image that Nebuchadnezzar the king had set up; and they stood before the image that Nebuchadnezzar had set up.*

Daniel 2:31–32, NASB95 -³¹ *"You, O king, were looking [in your dream] and behold, there was a single great statue; that statue, which was large and of extraordinary splendor, was standing in front of you, and its appearance was awesome.* ³² *"The head of that statue was made of fine gold...³⁸ You [King Nebuchadnezzar] are the head of gold.*

2. Deify _____.

Daniel 3:4,7 NASB95 -⁴ *Then the herald [we get our word "preacher" from this phrase—one who represents the king in all matters—especially 'eternal' ones] loudly proclaimed: "To you the command is given, O peoples, nations and men of every language...⁷ Therefore at that time...all the people...fell down and worshiped the golden image [the Greek copy of the OT, the LXX translates it "the statue of a man"] that Nebuchadnezzar the king had set up.*

3. Falsify _____.

Daniel 3:5–6, NASB95 -⁵ *that at the moment you hear the sound of the horn, flute, lyre, trigon, psaltery, bagpipe and all kinds of music, you are to fall down and worship the golden image that Nebuchadnezzar the king has set up.* ⁶ *"But whoever does not fall down and worship shall immediately be cast into the midst of a furnace of blazing fire."*

LIFE APPLICATION SECTION

'WHICH GOSPEL WILL YOU FOLLOW?'

HUMANISM OR CHRISTIANITY?

If it is disagreeable in your sight to serve the LORD, choose for yourselves today whom you will serve: whether the gods which your fathers served which were beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD."

- Joshua 24:15, NASB95

May we only Glorify God • May we only Deify God • May we only Worship God.

Answers: 1. Self, 2. Man, 3. Worship.