



# WEDNESDAY EVENING

## AT BETHANY BAPTIST CHURCH

**Title:** The Fiery Furnace

**Passage:** Daniel 3:1-12

**Speaker:** Bro. Keith Preston

**Introduction:** In life, we all face moments when our faith is put to the test—not in comfort, but in the heat of pressure, temptation, and opposition. It's in those fiery moments that what we truly believe is revealed. Will we compromise to avoid the heat, or will we stand firm, even if it costs us? Tonight, we're looking at three young men—Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego—who refused to bow, even when threatened with death. Their courage teaches us that real faith doesn't fold under pressure; it stands strong, is willing to suffer, and is ready to bear the cost—because it trusts in a God who stands with us in the fire.

### I. Be Willing to Stand

*"We all fall short of God's glory, and each and every one of us—each and every day—do things we shouldn't. We need grace. We need mercy. And I believe the Gospel gives that to us." - Jonathan Isaac*

Standing up for what is right is not always easy—especially when you feel pressure.

A. The pressures were real.

Do we care more about the Lord Jesus Christ or the culture around us?



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If the Bible is our final authority, we must stand upon it, no matter the price. We must say that we won't bow to any golden gods—no matter the cost, no matter the pressure.

### II. Be Willing to Suffer (Verses 13-15)

Most of the things we face are bigger than us. They are bigger than one person. But those things are not bigger than our God. There is not a church, not a family, not a nation, not a policy that He can't revive. He is a limitless God!

- A. When you're willing to suffer, your faith will be tempered.  
(Verses 19-27)

Sometimes God allows us to go through the furnace—the struggles and the trials—to see where our faith truly lies.

If you go through the fire and trials with faith — if you accept the suffering — it won't destroy you. It will just reveal the things that are keeping you from being like Christ.

- B. When you're willing to suffer, your faith will be triumphant.

Jesus Himself came down from heaven to draw near to these men in the flames.

If Jesus was willing to go through the fire with these three men, how much more willing is He to stay by our side when we go through trials.

### III. Be Willing to Bear the Cost

*"Lord, I give up all my own plans and purposes, all my own desires and hopes, and accept Thy will for my life. I give myself, my life, my all, utterly to Thee to be Thine forever. Fill me and seal me with Thy Holy Spirit. Use me as Thou wilt, send me where Thou wilt, and work out Thy whole will in my life, at any cost, now and forever." - John Stam*



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Not only were these three men willing to stand and suffer but they were also willing to bear the cost. (Verses 17-18)

**Conclusion:** We learn that in a world that demands you bow, real faith stands. Out of 300,000 people, only 3 stood—and God stood with them. If you want to have faith under fire, you've got to be willing to stand for God's Word, suffer for the name of Christ, and bear the cost without backing down. Because the truth is that God may not always take you out of the fire, but He will never leave you in it alone. So live boldly, don't conform, and trust that the same God who stood with them, stands with you.



**Bethany Baptist Church** • 4402 40th Street • Lubbock, TX 79414  
806.799.2464 • [churchstillworks.org](http://churchstillworks.org) • Dan Preston, Pastor