



DEVOTIONAL MESSAGE

Stand fast in God and His Word. ... By Gareth

READ: PHILIPPIANS 4:1

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• Notice Paul's tender heart for these people, whom he calls "my brethren dearly beloved and longed for" "my joy and my crown," and again, "my beloved."

• *Stand fast Stand firm in the faith Stay True NLT*

• *Daniel 3*

• VS 16-18 Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego answered, "Your Majesty, we will not try to defend ourselves. If the God whom we serve is able to save us from the blazing furnace and from your power, then he will But even if he doesn't, Your Majesty may be sure that we will not worship your god, and we will not bow down to the gold statue that you have set up."

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Daniel 3 vs 25



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- In these uncertain days, we need to stand fast in unity with fellow brothers and sisters in Christ. Days are coming when we will have to stand up and be counted.
- In the book of Daniel I wonder what would have happened if Shadrach Meshach and Abednego hadn't stayed true to what they believed or even if one or two of them were going to bow down to human Authority? (which in this case was contrary to God's authority)
- Praise God we don't need to dwell on this question, however we know that the enemy always wants to bring disunity amongst the brethren because he knows that an army divided is an army conquered.
- The enemy (satan) also wants us to live in fear. Fear binds us, the bible teaches us that fear comes in many forms.
- One such example of that, is found in the book of proverbs. "the fear of man brings a snare" *Proverbs 29 v 25*
- These three men were not going to be bound by the fear of man.
- They could have followed the crowd. Another tactic of the enemy is that he will say in the disguise of human flesh sure everyone else is doing it so why aren't you? Even some believers can fall into this trap.
- But we know God has called us to be light in the darkness, so on that basis we need to stand firm on the truth of the Word and not on the advice of man. The advice may even be well meaning but will have consequences.
- We know that God has put Authorities in place. *Romans chapter 13*
- However like it was in Daniel's time and in many generations since the Authorities advice or instructions can be against the Word of God.
- In such cases we need to always focus and obey the Word of God and the truth contained within.
- Authorities can be well meaning but totally in error when it comes to God's principles and His precious Word.
- In such times the voice of the enemy would say that we need to follow the crowd. The enemy would say change your view point get with the times however the Word of calls us to stand fast in the truth which has set us free.
- So beloved may I encourage you this day to stand fast in the Lord and His unchangeable Word.