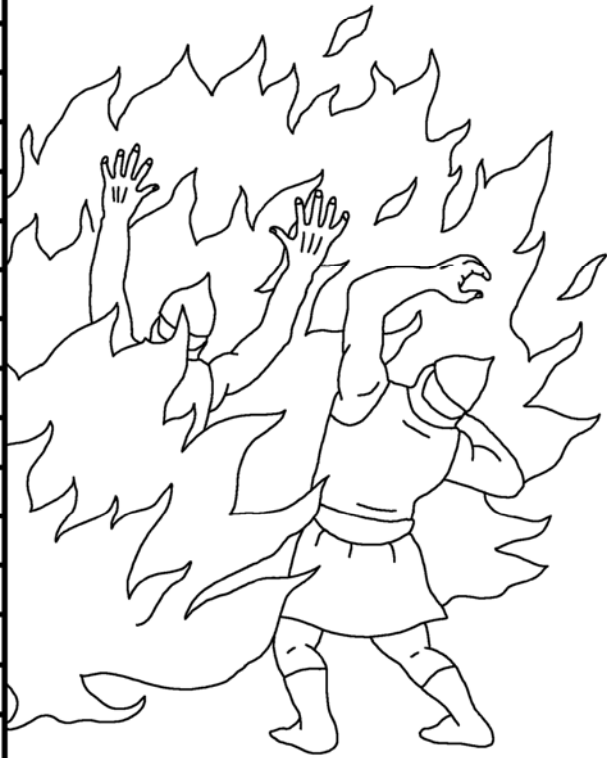


Bible for Children

presents



THE MEN WHO WOULD NOT BEND



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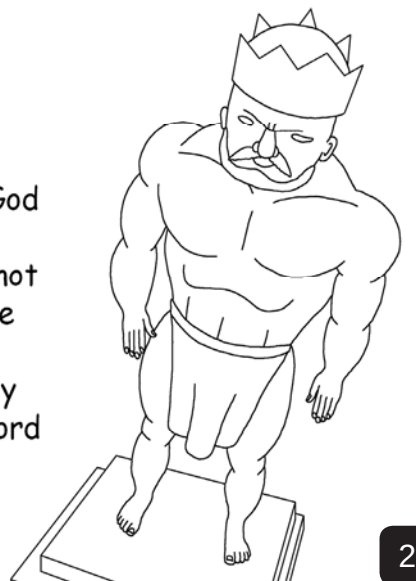
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1

King Nebuchadnezzar built a huge golden statue. It was gold, from head to foot. Maybe the king had forgotten the dream God sent to tell him his golden kingdom would not last forever. Maybe he thought if he built a statue made completely of gold, then God's Word in his dream would not come true.



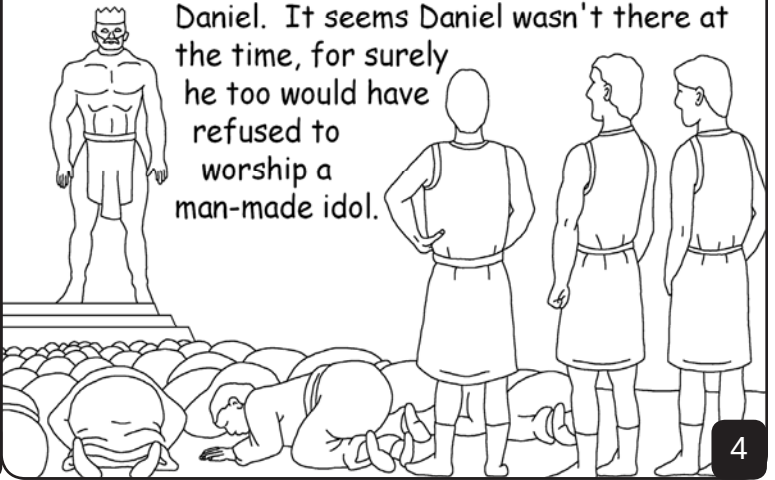
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One of the king's servants read the order to all the people: " ... you shall fall down and worship the golden statue ... And whoever does not fall down and worship will be thrown into the middle of a burning fiery furnace."



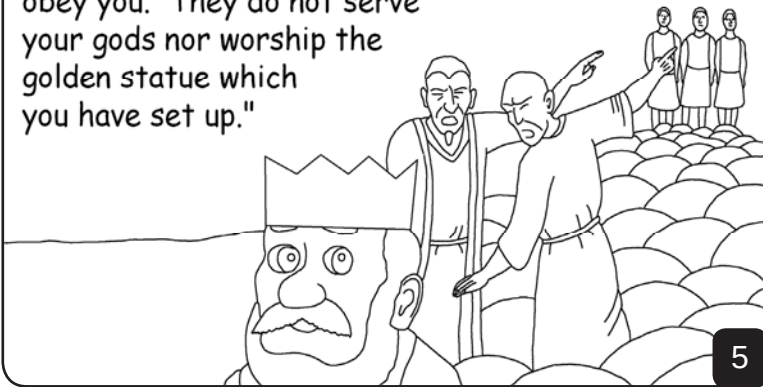
3

Everybody did what the king ordered - except for three men. These men were Hebrews. They were Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, friends of Daniel. It seems Daniel wasn't there at the time, for surely he too would have refused to worship a man-made idol.



4

The king's wise men were friends because the king loved them. There are three men who refused to worship the golden statue which you have set up. These men, O king, do not obey you. They do not serve your gods nor worship the golden statue which you have set up."



5

King Nebuchadnezzar was filled with rage. He warned them, "If you do not worship, you will be thrown into the middle of a burning fiery furnace. And which god will deliver you out of my hand?"



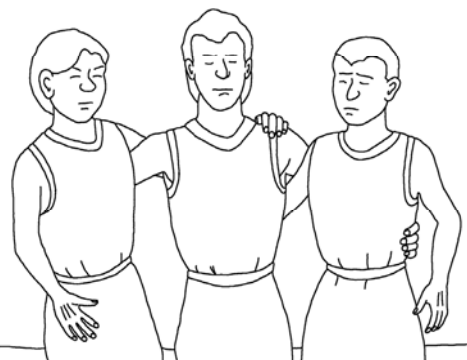
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The king was making a big challenge the living God. He knew it was against God's will. They stood strong because they trusted God, they were not afraid of the king.



7

These three brave men had faith. They said, "Our God whom we serve will deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and he will not let it be known to you, O king, that we will not serve your gods nor worship the golden statue which you have set up."



8

King Nebuchadnezzar was furious! He commanded that they should heat the furnace seven times more than it was usually heated. Still the men would not kneel.



9

The king commanded mighty men in his army to tie up Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, and to throw them into the burning fiery

furnace.



10

The furnace was so hot that the men who threw Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego into the fire were killed by the heat.



11

The king watched from a distance the three men being thrown into the blazing furnace. But



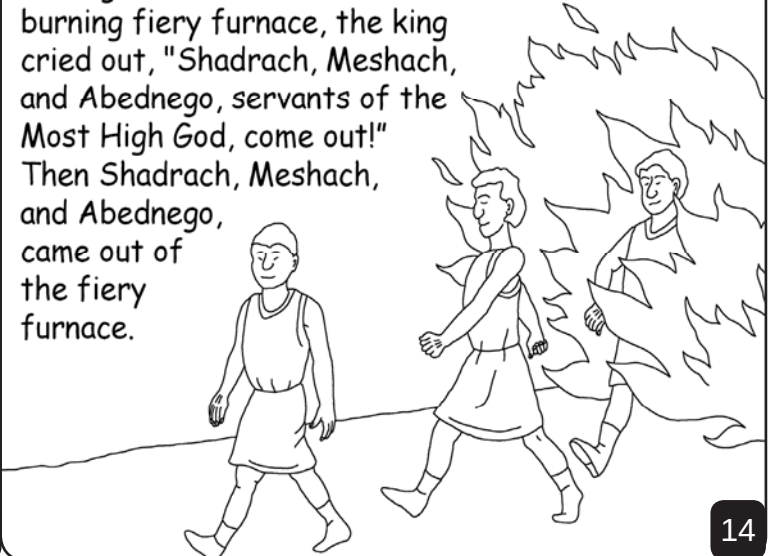
12

King Nebuchadnezzar was amazed! "Did we not throw three men bound into the middle of the fire?" he asked his helpers. "Yes," they replied. He said, "Look! I see four men loose, walking in the middle of the fire, and they are not hurt. And the fourth one is like the Son of God!"



13

Moving close to the door of the burning fiery furnace, the king cried out, "Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, servants of the Most High God, come out!" Then Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, came out of the fiery furnace.



14

Everybody gathered around the Hebrews. They had seen the power to burn them. Their clothes were not burned. There was not even the smell of fire on them.



15

When he realized what he had done, Nebuchadnezzar did some things. He prayed, and said, "Blessed be the name of the Lord, who has sent His angel and has delivered His servants who trusted in Him."

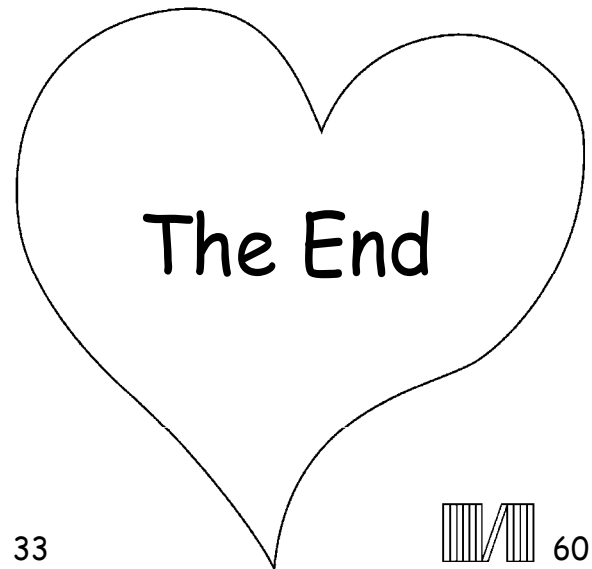


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The Men Who Would Not Bend
A story from God's Word, the Bible,
is found in
Daniel 3

"The entrance of Your Words gives light."
Psalm 119:130

17



33



60

18

This Bible story tells us about our wonderful God who made us and who wants us to know Him.

God knows we have done bad things, which He calls sin.

The punishment for sin is death, but God loves us so much He sent His Son, Jesus, to die on a Cross and be punished for our sins. Then Jesus came back to life and went home to Heaven! If you believe in Jesus and ask Him to forgive your sins, He will do it! He will come and live in you now, and you will live with Him forever.

If you want to turn from your sins, say this to God:

Dear God, I believe that Jesus died for me and now lives again. Please come into my life and forgive my sins, so that I can have new life now, and one day go to be with You forever. Help me to live for You as Your child. Amen.

Read the Bible and talk with God every day! John 3:16

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