



FAITH IN ACTION: TRACING A LEGACY OF LOVE

⁹ The human mind plans the way, but the Lord directs the steps. **Proverbs 16:9**

⁴ Show me Your ways, O Lord; Teach me Your paths. ⁵ Lead me in Your truth and teach me, For You are the God of my salvation; On You I wait all day long. **Psalm 25:4, 5**

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TEXT: DANIEL 3:1-30

TITLE: HOPE IN HOPELESS SITUATIONS

INTRODUCTION

- A. King Nebuchadnezzar made a gold statue 90 feet tall and 9 feet wide _____
 - 1. When the music is played, everyone is to bow to the ground and worship the statue
 - 2. He invited the key, prominent and who's who to attend
 - 3. Whoever does not bow down and worship the statue will be thrown into a blazing furnace
- B. The music is played and everyone bows down to worship the statue except Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah

FORCED INTO A HOPELESS SITUATION FOR DOING RIGHT (vv. 8-15)

- A. Jealously over the Jews _____
- B. Accused of wronging the king _____
- C. Actually, they did right by God _____
- D. Confronted for their commitment _____
- E. Encouraged to compromise _____

HOPE STARTED BEFORE THEY WERE IN THE HOPELESS SITUATION (vv. 16-18)

- A. Sometimes, we get in the hopeless situation and try to find hope – which is difficult _____
- B. Hope in what God will do (v. 17) _____
- C. Hope in who God is (v. 18) _____

WHAT IS THE HOPELESS SITUATION? (VV. 19-23)

- A. The furnace was heated seven times hotter than usual _____
- B. Some of the strongest men from Nebuchadnezzar's army tied them up _____
- C. Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah were thrown into the furnace fully clothed _____
- D. The furnace was so hot, the men who threw them in died _____
- E. They did not have a viable choice _____

HOPE IN A HOPELESS SITUATION IS GOD'S PRESENCE

- A. 4 men and one looks like the Son of God [3 men were thrown in the furnace] _____
- B. They were unbound [They were tied up by some of the strongest soldiers] _____
- C. They were walking around in the furnace [They were thrown in] _____
- D. They were unharmed [The heat of the furnace was seven times hotter] _____
 - 1. The fire had not touched them
 - 2. Not a hair on their head was singed
 - 3. Their clothes were not scorched
 - 4. They did not even smell like smoke