

Next Time the Fire

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I. Introduction.

A. Text: Daniel 3.

B. Nebuchadnezzar was one of the greatest kings ever known.

1. He took captive Israelites to Babylon.

2. He trained four young men from among these.

3. They decided to put God first in their lives no matter what the cost.

4. Nebuchadnezzar built a statue and demanded that all men would bow down to him - even the Jewish boys.

II. Many have coerced worship of false religions and the Bible teaches that men will be forced to bow down and worship the beast marked by 666. (Revelation)

A. At the end of the age demon power will increase.

B. The Devil will be re-enacting the scene of Jesus' temptation during this time.

C. Satan is called the god of the age.

D. He offered Jesus an easier way than going to the cross for our sins.

E. The end of the Devil's ways is hell - he does not tell you this when he dangles immorality in front of us.

III. Jesus taught that you cannot serve two masters.

A. There is a resurgence in demonic activity and people want to know the future.

B. The Devil lifts up pride, success, fun and other things as gods.

C. People bow to their gods today and their end is the fire.

D. God's law is higher than any other law and it has to do with the worship of God.

E. It is important for you to take a public stand for Jesus Christ.

IV. When you put Christ first in your life you are going to have to suffer ridicule.

A. All the pressure will be against you.

B. The young Jews refused to bow to Nebuchadnezzar's idol.

C. The young Jews were thrown in a fiery furnace. Jesus showed up to keep them safe in the furnace.

V. The only thing you lose in God's furnace is the bonds of sin.

A. We have been set free from the guilt of sin by the cross of Jesus Christ.

B. What you have to do to receive Christ.

1. You have to repent of your sins and turn from your way of living.
2. You have to surrender your life and come to Him by faith.
3. He forgives you and goes with you.

Application questions

1. What is the one case in which a person should not obey the law of the government? Explain.

2. What is Satan at work doing in the world today? Why is it that he is so effective?

3. Why is it important to take a stand for Christ? How does one do this?
