

DIARIES OF A SECRET SINNER

“Going With The Flow”

² **Do not conform to the pattern of this world**, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will. **Romans 12:2 (NIV)**

NO COMPROMISE = “I have a conviction to hold onto a principle I value so dearly, that no amount of money, danger, pleasure, or peer pressure will cause me to violate it!”

⁶ *Anyone who refuses to obey **will immediately be thrown into a blazing furnace.*** ⁷ *So at the sound of the musical instruments, all the people, whatever their race or nation or language, bowed to the ground and worshiped the gold statue that King Nebuchadnezzar had set up.*

Daniel 3:6-7 (NLT)

⁸ *But some of the astrologers went to the king and informed on the Jews...* ¹² *But there are some Jews—Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego—whom you have put in charge of the province of Babylon. They pay no attention to you, Your Majesty. **They refuse to serve your gods and do not worship the gold statue you have set up.***

Daniel 3:8; 12 (NLT)

THEY DIDN'T BOW

¹ *And God spoke all these words:* ² *“I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery.”* ³ **“You shall have no other gods before me.”** ⁴ *“You shall not make for yourself an idol in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below.”* ⁵ **“You shall not bow down to them or worship them...”**
Exodus 20:1-5 (NIV)

¹³ *Then Nebuchadnezzar flew into a rage and ordered that Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego be brought before him. When they were brought in,* ¹⁴ *Nebuchadnezzar said to*

them, "Is it true, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, that you refuse to serve my gods or to worship the gold statue I have set up?"¹⁵ I will give you one more chance to bow down and worship the statue I have made when you hear the sound of the musical instruments. But if you refuse, you will be thrown immediately into the blazing furnace. **And then what god will be able to rescue you from my power?" Daniel 3:13-15 (NLT)**

¹⁶ Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego replied, "O Nebuchadnezzar, **we do not need to defend ourselves before you.**"¹⁷ If we are thrown into the blazing furnace, the God whom we serve is able to save us. He will rescue us from your power, Your Majesty.¹⁸ But even if he doesn't, **we want to make it clear to you, Your Majesty, that we will never serve your gods or worship the gold statue you have set up."** Daniel 3:16-18 (NLT)

THEY DIDN'T BREAK

²⁴ But suddenly, Nebuchadnezzar jumped up in amazement and exclaimed to his advisers, "Didn't we tie up three men and throw them into the furnace?" "Yes, Your Majesty, we certainly did," they replied.²⁵ "Look!" Nebuchadnezzar shouted. **"I see four men, unbound, walking around in the fire unharmed! And the fourth looks like a god!"** Daniel 3:24-25 (NLT)

THEY DIDN'T BURN

²⁶ Then Nebuchadnezzar came as close as he could to the door of the flaming furnace and shouted: "Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, servants of the Most High God, come out! Come here!" So, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego stepped out of the fire. **Daniel 3:26 (NLT)**

²⁷ Then the high officers, officials, governors, and advisers crowded around them and saw that the fire had not touched them. **Not a hair on their heads was singed, and their clothing was not scorched. They didn't even smell of smoke!** Daniel 3:27 (NLT)

²⁸ Then Nebuchadnezzar said, "Praise to the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego! He sent his angel to rescue his servants who trusted in him. They defied the king's command and were willing to die rather than serve or worship any god except their own God. ²⁹ Therefore, I make this decree: If any people, whatever their race or nation or language, speak a word against the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, they will be torn limb from limb, and their houses will be turned into heaps of rubble. **There is no other god who can rescue like this!**" ³⁰ Then the king promoted Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego to even higher positions in the province of Babylon.

Daniel 3:28-30 (NLT)