

Daniel 3:25

"Look!" he answered, "I see four men loose, walking in the midst of the fire; and they are not hurt, and the form of the fourth is like the Son of God."

We all know the story of these three men, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah (Also known as Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego), who were bound and thrown into the midst of the burning fiery furnace. Why, because they wouldn't bow down to a false idol. If you are unfamiliar with it or need a refresher, you can read it in the book of Daniel, chapter 3.

Today's devotional is not about them, but actually Who was with them in the fiery furnace, and that someone was Jesus. But if you think about it, as you read the story, you will find that they did not see Jesus until they were in the fiery furnace.

Some of you reading this today are in the middle of a fiery trial, or about to be going into one, or maybe you just have gotten out of one. And we all know as Christians that even though those fiery trials are not fun, they do draw us closer to the Lord, so much so that we may even miss them, not because we are crazy and like the pain, but rather because we like the closeness with the Lord that we have while we are going through them.

Maybe some of you have been slowly backing up and falling away from the Lord, so the Lord may be allowing this fiery trial to bring you back to Him.

For others, maybe you haven't been falling back, but you need simply to draw closer to the Lord and stronger in your walk with Him. You may be wondering why this is happening to you, or why is it going to happen, or why did it happen, I will not try to answer, but I will say what the bible says, which is to. ***"Rejoice in the Lord always. Again I will say, rejoice!"*** **Philippians 4:4**

Why rejoice? Because of Who is walking with you through this fiery trial and because you are spending more time with Him.

One other thing, not only will we draw closer to the Lord and stronger in our walk with the Lord, but others will see Jesus at work in our lives as well. Just like king Nebuchadnezzar saw Jesus with Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah.

† **Daniel 3:25** *"Look!" he answered, "I see four men loose, walking in the midst of the fire; and they are not hurt, and the form of the fourth is like the Son of God."*

† **John 17:20-21** *I do not pray for these alone, but also for those who will believe in Me through their word; that they all may be one, as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You; that they also may be one in Us, that the world may believe that You sent Me.*