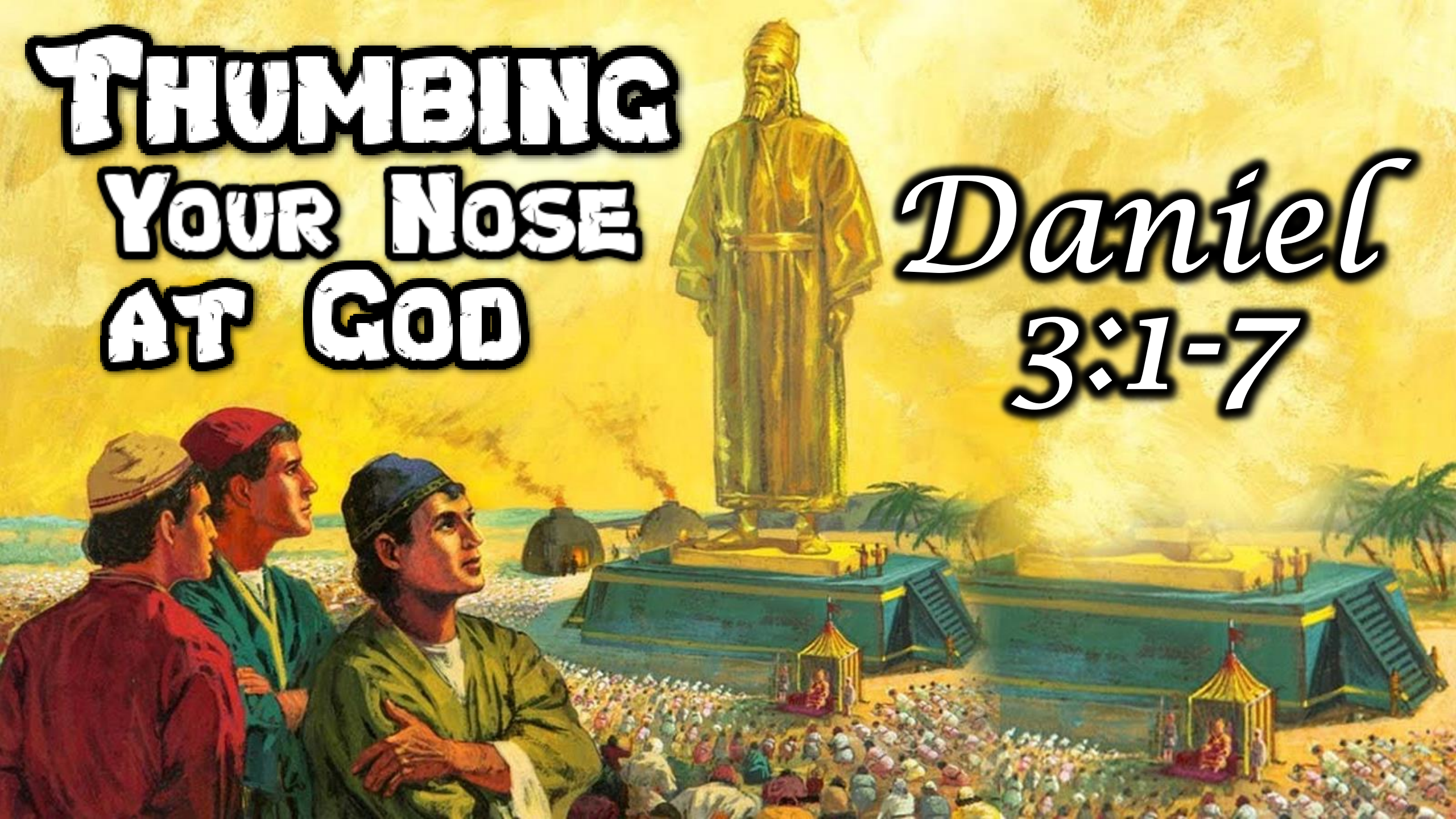


**THUMBING  
YOUR NOSE  
AT GOD**

*Daniel*  
**3:1-7**



# KING NEBUCHADNEZZAR

In the dream he was presented with a statue made of 6 materials.

The head was made of gold and in Daniel's interpretation the gold head stood for Babylon

## BABYLON FOREVER!

He commands everybody to worship it.

If you decide not to, he will destroy you



# **WARNING**

**Be careful when  
“the world” begins to  
promote God, there is  
always a catch**



# **WARNING**

**At that time if anyone says to you, 'Look, here is the Messiah!' or, 'There he is!' do not believe it. For false messiahs and false prophets will appear and perform great signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the elect. See, I have told you ahead of time.**

**Matthew 24:23-24**

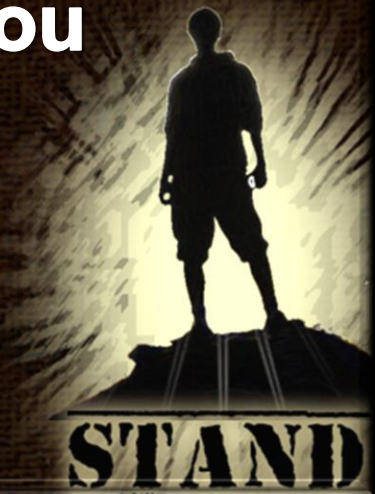




# STAND FIRM

Furious with rage, Nebuchadnezzar summoned Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego. So, these men were brought before the king, and Nebuchadnezzar said to them, “Is it true, Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, that you do not serve my gods or worship the image of gold I have set up? Now when you hear the sound of the horn, flute, zither, lyre, harp, pipe and all kinds of music, if you are ready to fall down and worship the image I made, very good. But if you do not worship it, you will be thrown immediately into a blazing furnace. Then what god will be able to rescue you from my hand?”

Daniel 3:13-15



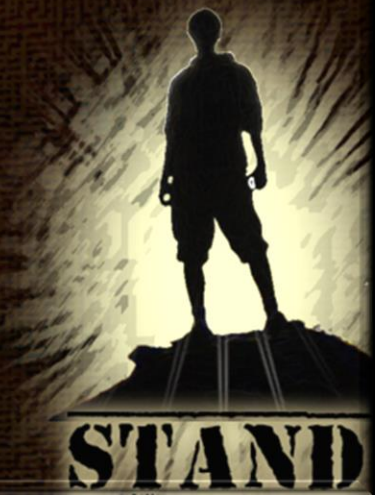
# ONE FINAL CHANCE

Remember the king said **immediately**

However, when there stood Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego the king knew, game on because he had already encountered their God

**Then what god will be able to rescue you from my hand?**

Gentleman we are no longer talking food and dreams, we are talking life or death



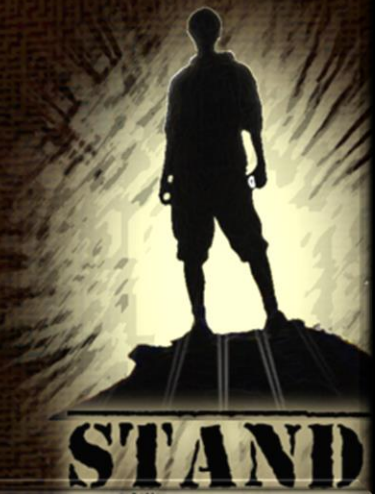
# WHAT GOD?

Remember the king said **immediately**

Your God may be **big enough** to keep you healthy away from my table

Your God may be **wise enough** to solve my dreams

Do you honestly believe your God can **protect you** from my fire?





# JUSTIFYING VS. STANDING



# LOOKING FOR LOOPHOLES

They could have executed the Naaman clause

They also could have parsed scripture and got out on a technicality

# I'M TOO IMPORTANT!



# INTO THE FRYING PAN

Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego replied to him, “King Nebuchadnezzar, we do not need to defend ourselves before you in this matter. If we are thrown into the blazing furnace, the God we serve is able to deliver us from it, and he will deliver us from Your Majesty’s hand. But even if he does not, we want you to know, Your Majesty, that **we will not serve your gods or worship the image of gold you have set up.**”

Daniel 3:16-18



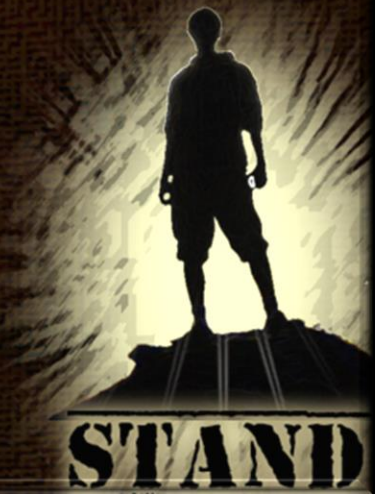
# **IMPORTANT**

**They took a stand, but they did not grandstand**

**They let the king know they serve a higher authority than him**

**They viewed themselves not as important people but humble servants**

**King Nebuchadnezzar wanted to know what god will save you, their answer My God**



# A FIRM FOUNDATION

They believed God could: They said **“he is able”**

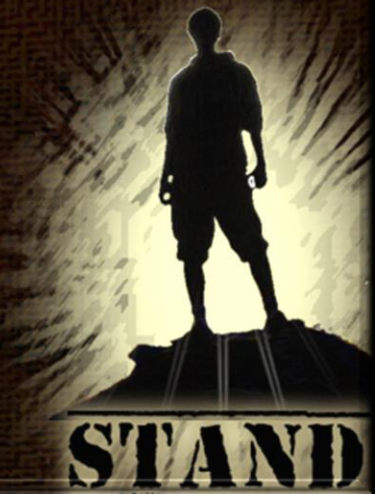
They did not know if or claim God would

They had no assurance from God that nothing bad will happen if you take a stand.

They had no idea how on earth God would come to their rescue

Perhaps their “rescue” would be after their physical death

# DELIVERED



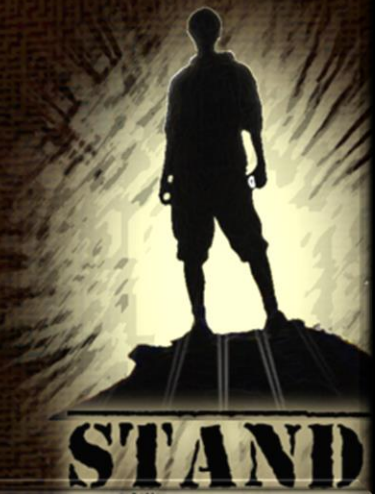
# A FIRM FOUNDATION

**We are OK if he doesn't**

**“But even if he does not, we want you to know, Your Majesty, that we will not serve your gods or worship the image of gold you have set up.”**

**Are we brave enough to make that statement?**

**Are we brave enough to live that statement?**



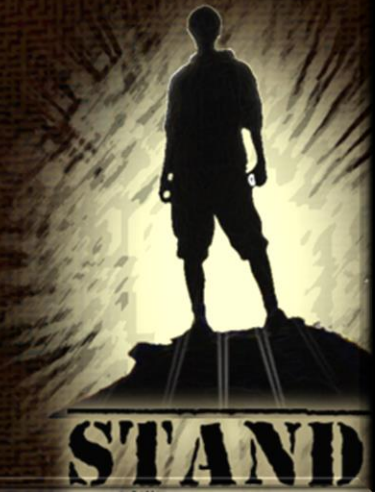
# A FIRM FOUNDATION

**They did not disrespect the king**

“But even if he does not, we want you to know, **Your Majesty**, that we will not serve your gods or worship the image of gold you have set up.”

**Determination did not result in degrading defiance**

**They did not give him more power than he deserves**

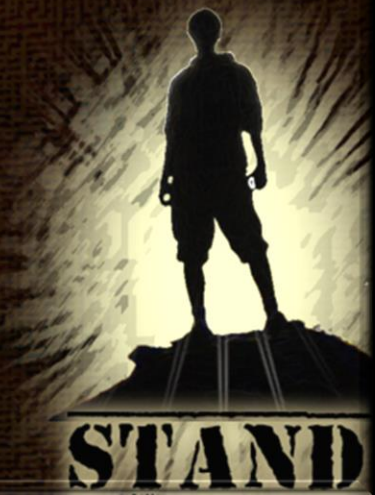


# **A FIRM FOUNDATION**

**Dead or alive makes no difference we stick with God**

I eagerly expect and hope that I will in no way be ashamed, but will have sufficient courage so that now as always Christ will be exalted in my body, whether by life or by death. For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain.

**Philippians 1:20-21**



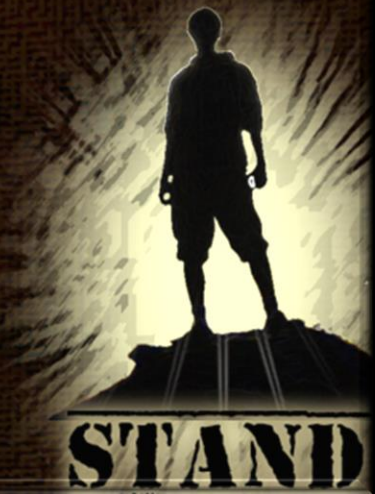


# **A FIRM FOUNDATION**

## **Another Lesson for the World and for us**

**Then Nebuchadnezzar said, "Praise be to the God of Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, who has sent his angel and rescued his servants! They trusted in him and defied the king's command and were willing to give up their lives rather than serve or worship any god except their own God. Therefore, I decree that the people of any nation or language who say anything against the God of Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego be cut into pieces and their houses be turned into piles of rubble, for no other god can save in this way."**

**Daniel 3:28-29**



# **WHOSE STANDING NOW?**

**The king wanted them to worship now he is forced to praise**

**Their stand was going to mean God's name would be known throughout the land**

**They stood firm**

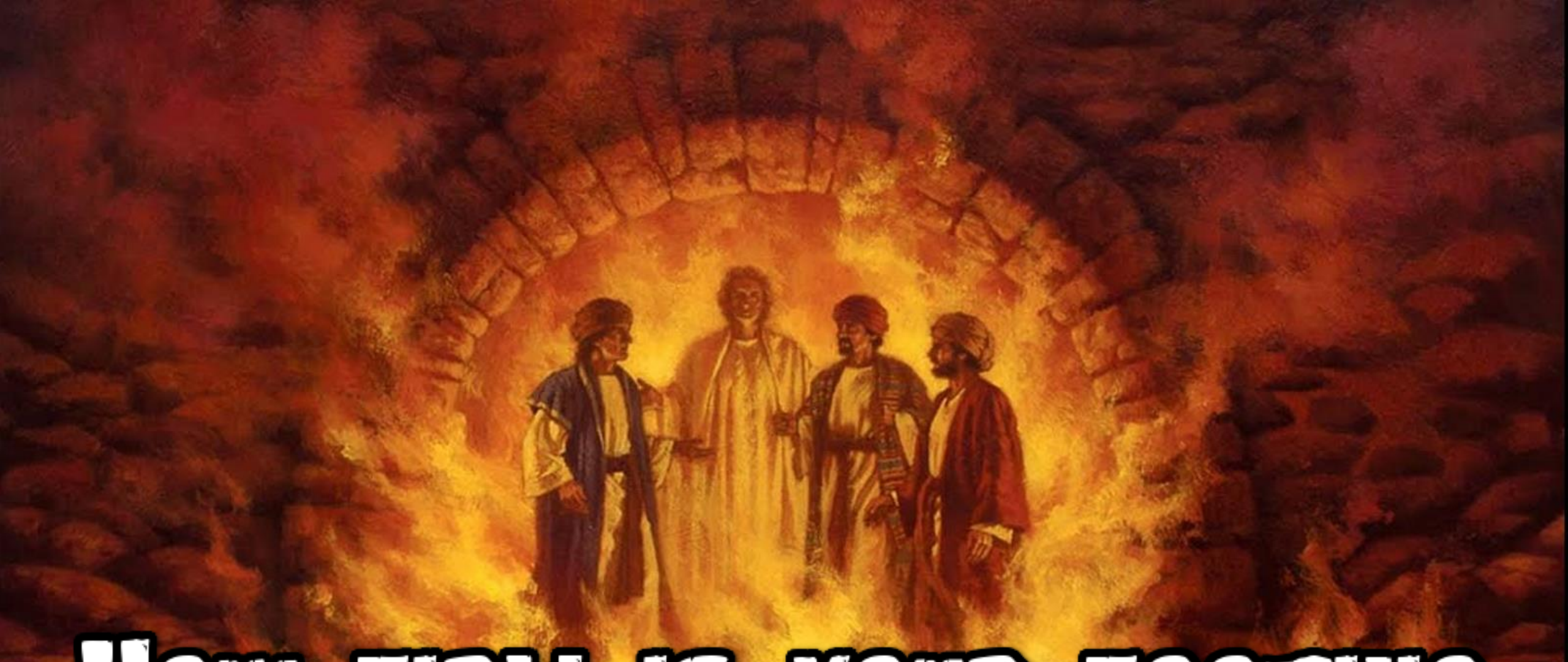
**Firm: in a resolute and determined manner.**



# MY GOD!

My God is not a God  
to be trifled with





**HOW FIRM IS YOUR FOOTING  
WHEN YOU STAND FIRM ON YOUR FAITH?**