

Courage

Daniel 3:14-18,24-29



Key Concept

God is worthy of our trust and obedience even if the result is death.

**Daniel and his friends remain faithful to God's dietary laws
(Daniel 1)**

**Daniel's interprets the writing on the wall for Belshazzar
(Daniel 5)**

Today's Lesson

**Daniel's friends refuse to worship Nebuchadnezzar's statue
(Daniel 3)**

**Daniel interprets Nebuchadnezzar's second dream
(Daniel 4)**

**Daniel interprets Nebuchadnezzar's first dream
(Daniel 2)**

**Daniel is thrown into the lions den
(Daniel 6)**

Kings & Prophets

Legend

JOSIAH 641-609 BC
Name of king and years of reign

AMOS
Name of prophet and approximate dates of influence

Governor Nehemiah
Leaders of the Jewish people after they returned from the Exile in Babylonia

? Dates Unknown

Daniel Exiled to Babylon 605BC

THE EXILE: Judah fell to King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon. Many of the inhabitants were deported to Babylon. In 539 BC, Babylon fell to the Medes and Persians. In 538 BC, King Cyrus of Persia issued a proclamation allowing the Jewish people to return to Palestine. Some Jews stayed in Babylon, but those who returned went back in several groups over many years. The temple was rebuilt in 516 BC, 70 years after its destruction.

NAHUM

ZEPHANIAH

JEREMIAH

DANIEL

EZEKIEL

HABAKKUK

OBADIAH?

ISAIAH

MANASSEH
697-643 BC

AMON
643-641 BC

JEHOAHAZ (SHALLUM)
609 BC

JEHOIACHIN (JECONIAH)
598-597 BC

Temple Destroyed

JOSIAH
641-609 BC

JEHOIAKIM (ELIAKIM)
609-598 BC

ZEDEKIAH (MATTANIAH)
597-586 BC

HAGGAI

ZECHARIAH

Temple Rebuilt

MALACHI?

JOEL?

Governor Sheshbazzar
536? - ? BC

Governor Zerubbabel
Dates unknown

Governor Ezra
457 - ? BC

Governor Nehemiah
444-432 BC

690 BC

680

670

660

650

640

630

620

610

600

590

580

570

560

550

540

530

520

510

500

490

480

470

460

450

440

430



Black Sea

Turkey

TURKEY

GEORGIA

ARMENIA

AZERBAIJAN

SYRIA

IRAN

IRAQ

CYPRUS

LEBANON

ISRAEL

JORDAN

SAUDI ARABIA

KUWAIT

EGYPT

Iraq

Tigris River

Euphrates River

Syria

Iran

Babylon

Mediterranean Sea

Jerusalem

Israel

Jordan

~ 900 Miles

The Babylonian Empire

606-536 BC

Egypt

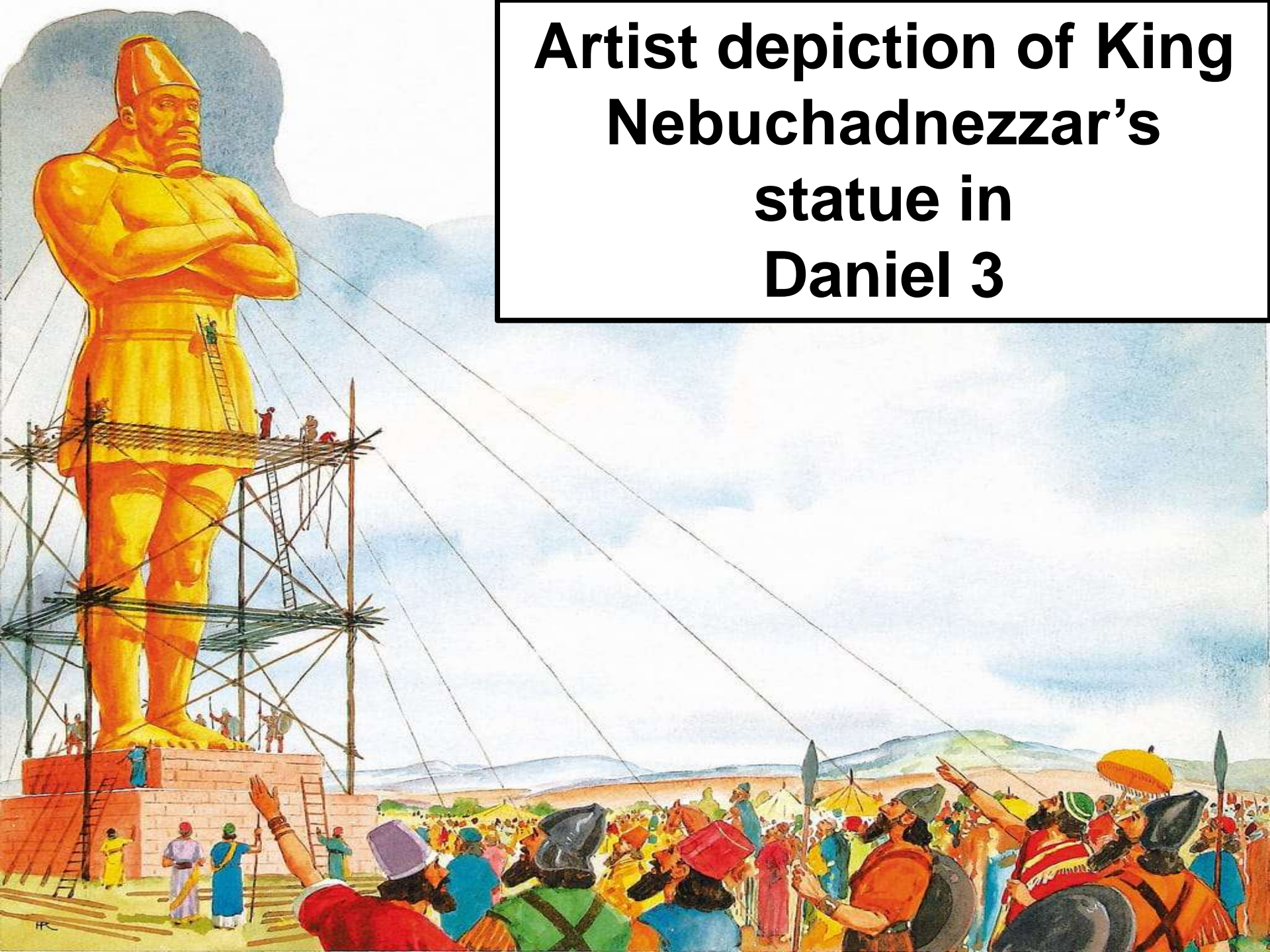
Nile River

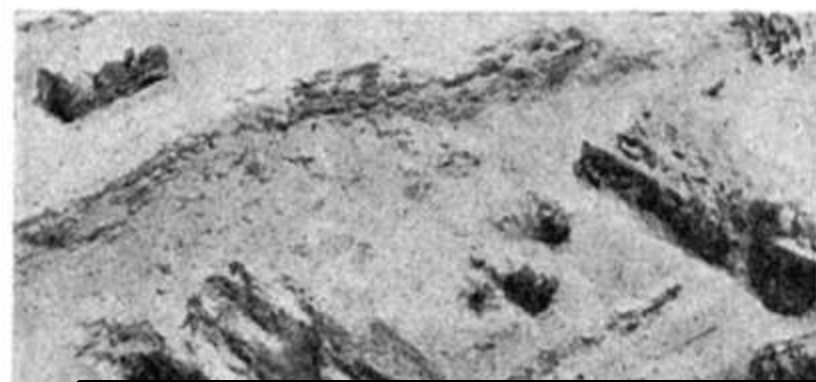
Red Sea

Saudi Arabia

Persian Gulf

Artist depiction of King Nebuchadnezzar's statue in Daniel 3





**Excavations of Babylon circa 1914
found evidence of statue pedestals
consistent with descriptions from the
Book of Daniel**

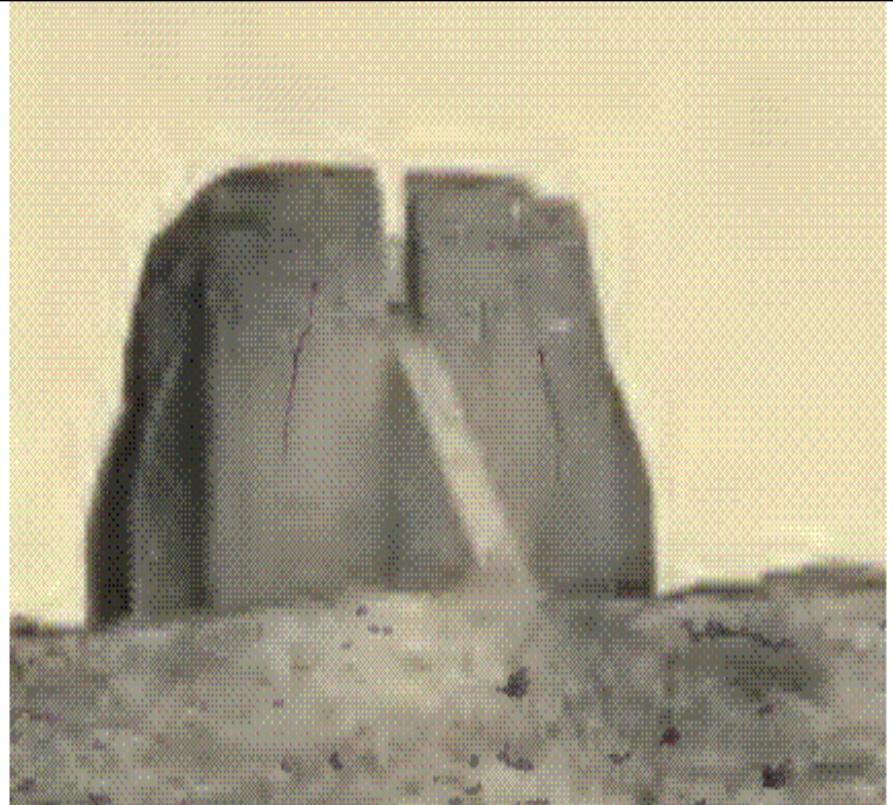
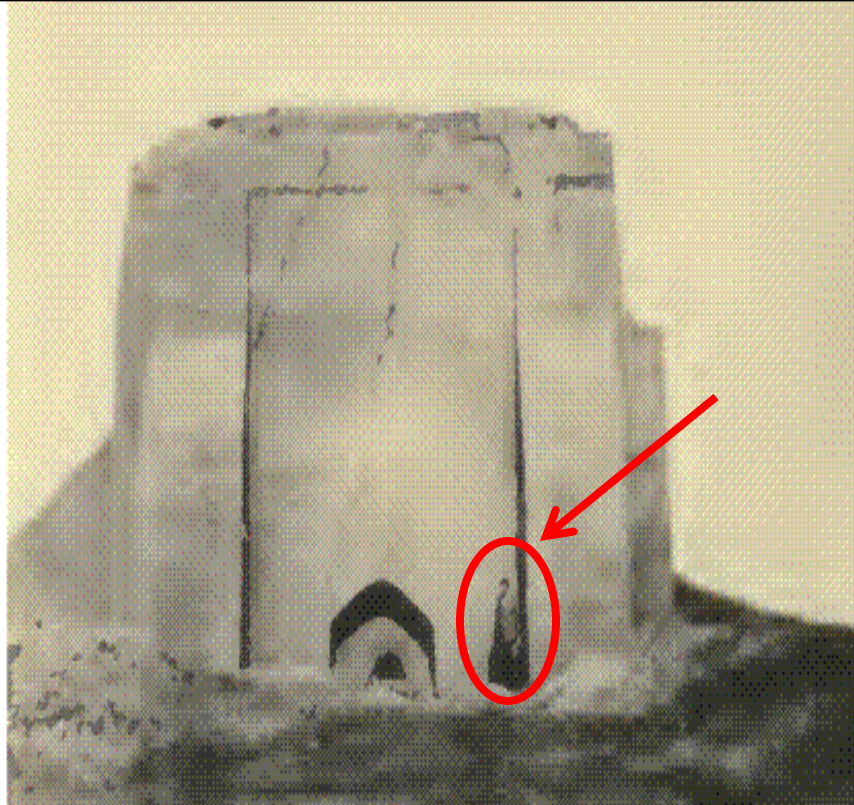


Questions for reflection

Raise your hand if experienced this today

- Concerned you could be arrested or killed if someone observed you traveling here today.
- For anyone that attended the new member class, worried you would be hanged if the gov't discovered your signature on a profession of faith document.
- Locked your door while reading the Bible and or hid your Bible for fear of discovery by gov't
- Lost a friend or family relationship because you follow Jesus

Example of a mud kiln in former Sumeria likely used by King Nebuchadnezzar to punish Daniel's friends



FRONT

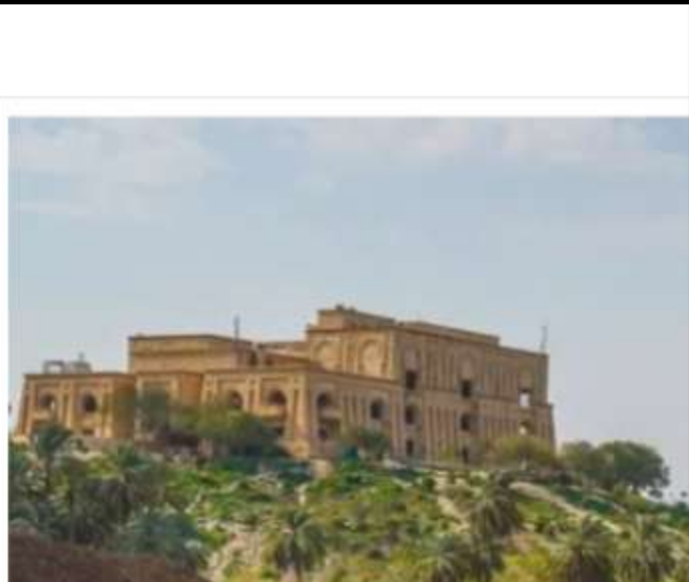
SIDE

CUBE OR SQUARE SHAPE MOST EFFICIENT FOR LARGE KILN OF THIS SIZE

NOTE WALLS SUPPORTED BY SLOPING AND MORE THAN ONE BUTTRESS TYPE

TCL WIKI

Ruins located near Dura Suddam Hussein's palace overlooking ruins of Nebuchadnezzar's palace



Exa
sta
d

ck
al



- What is a possible subject of inspiration for the model of Nebuchadnezzar's statue? **Possibly the Babylonian god Bel**
- What do you think the average temperature of Nebuchadnezzar's furnace would be? **1,650°F**
- Can you guess the estimated temperature a furnace would need to be at to kill someone near the entrance?
Approximately 1,000°F / 537C

•What are the three types of faith described in the Bible?

- 1) Dead faith – without deeds (James 2:17)
- 2) Demonic faith – demons also possess this.
Knowing the facts but not surrendering to Christ.
- 3) Dynamic faith – saving faith, produces good works, obedience, changed life

•The appearance of Jesus in the old testament is called what? **Christophany**

•Name two types of courage? Which one was the lesson about?

Physical Moral ~ Both

•What Bible reference details Jesus in the furnace with Daniel's friends?

(Isaiah 43:2-3) “When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; And through the rivers, they shall not overflow you. When you walk through the fire, you shall not be burned”

(Ex 3:2) “And the Angel of the LORD appeared to him in a flame of fire from the midst of a bush”

(Rev 1:14) “His eyes like a flame of fire;

(Dan 3:25) Nebuchadnezzar said - “and the form of the fourth is like the Son of God.”

•What are some key attributes of how Daniel's friends responded to Nebuchadnezzar that we should use today?

- 1) They showed unwavering faith*
- 2) They boldly proclaimed God's control (over Nebuchadnezzar's authority / worldly things)*
- 3) Trust in God's will. It is not wrong to say "if its God's will" Because you have your own will that may not be aligned with God's will*
- 4) Non-negotiable obedience where God is the priority*
- 5) Public witness and testimony to God's sovereignty*