## Make Church a Part of Your Life **WEEKLY SERMONETTE**

### "Walking Through the Fire"

By Preacher/Teacher Terry Laughlin, CrossRoads Ministries

to mirror the world.

of himself and then told all the people of his kingdom that they must bow down and worship the idol. In his kingdom, however, were three young men who loved God and were forbidden by His commandment to worship anyone or anything other than the One True God.

In due time, the order was given, "When you hear the sound of the music, you must fall down and worship the image of gold that King Nebuchadnezzar has set up." The disobedience of this order had dire consequences. "Whoever does not fall down and worship will immediately be thrown into a blazing furnace."

The faithful young men could have come up with many good excuses

Being a true follower of and seemingly worthy unless they lived to tell them? the Lord Jesus Christ is not justifications for following easy. It requires that we the king's order. Shouldn't when the music sounded and die to self and die to sin. they honor their earthly all the people fell with their It requires doing what's ruler? Perhaps they could faces to the ground before right when all around us fall to their knees, but not the image, three young men are giving no regard to God REALLY worship this image, yet stood. or giving Him only lip- just LOOK like they were service. Our lives are not complying. Who would furious but gave them one know? Perhaps, then they more chance saying, "...if you rescue us from your hand, The Book of Daniel would live more days to tell do not worship it, you will be O King. But even if He records that King others about the One True thrown immediately into a does not, we want you to Nebuchadnezzer had a God. After all, how would blazing furnace. Then what pride problem. He had a all these unbelievers ever god will be able to rescue you

The three young men, So the stage was set. But, bold in belief and full of faith in God, replied this way, "We do not need to defend ourselves in this matter. If we are thrown into the blazing furnace, King Nebuchadnezzer was the God we serve is able to save us from it, and He will know, O King, that we still will not serve your gods or worship the image of gold you have set up."

Did you catch that? They knew that even if their understanding of the circumstances was faulty, their God was still perfect and worthy of their devotion and the sacrifice of their very lives, if required. They would not compromise truth for anything! They did not try to find "wiggle-room" in God's Word. They gave their lives and futures entirely to the Lord. They trusted fully. They obeyed fully.

You, too, must decide whether or not you will serve the Lord Jesus Christ. Commit your life to Him today. Trust in Him with all your heart and soul! The cost is high, but Jesus is worth it all!

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 $\mathbf{Y}$  ou just won the lottery! Are you lucky? Maybe, maybe not, many winners go on to lose everything. A layoff at work; are you unlucky? Maybe, maybe not, you may end up with a better job. We cannot control our state of being, but we can control our state of mind. Instead of luck, depend on God. Have faith that He is in control no matter what happens. "But we are not of those who shrink back and are destroyed, but of those who believe and are saved." (Hebrews 10:39) Worship this week in God's House. Depend on Him, not on luck.

Weekly	Scripture	Reading	

John	Acts	Acts	Acts	Acts	Acts	Acts
17.1-26	6.1-15	7.1-34	7.35-8.3	8.4-25	8.26-40	9.1-25

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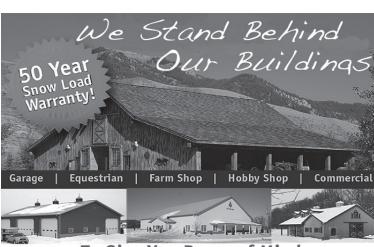
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9	6	5	8	2	1	4	7	3
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