Series: The Prophecy of Daniel <u>Title</u>: An Image of the End <u>Text</u>: (Daniel 3:1-30)(Revelation 13:1-18)

### 1) <u>INTRODUCTION</u> Faith ON Fire:

#### Faith UNDER Fire: Faith IN FIRE:

- a) It takes courage to stand alone: (Matt 24:4-14)
- b) Familiar Story 3 Hebrew Children: Daniel 3:1-7
- c) Neb-K, Narcissistic, Self-Absorbed, Self-Centered
- d) Book of Daniel is a book of prophecy; Neb-K ruled the known World: (Dan 3:2-4) Antichrist will rule the entire World: (Rev 13:12-15) Men by nature are religious. (Jn 3:19) Men in darkness follow false teachings: (Matt 7:13)

# Last Days: (1 John 2:18)

(1) The Devil doesn't know when the Rapture will take place.(2) The Devil needs to be constantly grooming people

**NebK** made an image of himself & demanded worship **Antichrist** will do the same thing: (Rev 13:13-15)

**NebK** told people they must worship or die: (Dan 3:6) **Antichrist** will Also: (Rev 13:15)

**NebK** used of the number "six" in his worship:(Dan 3:1,5) **Antichrist** will use #6 in his worship: (Rev 13:16-18)

## We ALSO face these same pressures today:

i) <u>Pressure of Emotional Enticement</u>: (Daniel 3:5)

(1) Satan is a master musician: (Ezek 28:13)
(2) Maximum characterization

(2) Music touches the emotions.

(3) Music is a gift from God, but the devil knows how to use the power of music.

(4) Satan has been capturing generations by music.

NebK had the best Pyrotechnic special effects: The Furnace Antichrist will also: (Rev 13:13-14)

## Antichrist's special effects will outshine NEbK's

(Rev 13:15) And he had power to give life unto the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak,

### ii) Pressure of Social Inducement: (Daniel 3:3, 7)

- (a) Everyone was doing this. (Peer Pressure)
- (a) Everyone was expected to fall in line:

<u>NebK had a Herald Leading the Worship</u>: (Dan 3:4) <u>Antichrist will also</u>: (Rev 13:11-14)

Anyone who did not comply, Stood out: (Daniel 3:13) (1 Pet 4:12)

**iii)** <u>Pressure of Government Enforcement</u>: (Daniel 3:6) (Rev 13:7-8)

It will be the same in the day of the Antichrist also: (Rev 13:15b-17) (Rev 20:4)(John 16:2)

iv) <u>Spiritual Defilement</u>: (Daniel 3:14-15) <u>NebK had contempt for God.</u> (Dan 3:15) Antichrist will have contempt for God also: (Rev 13:4-6)

### These 3 men stood alone by the faith that they had.

<u>3 Necessary Requirements for US Today!</u> I. <u>Salvation NOW</u>! (Eph 2:1,12) LOST-Separated from God <u>The Only Hope of Escape is Faith in Jesus Christ</u>. (2 Cor 6:2)

II. <u>Soul Winning NOW!</u> <u>The Only Hope for the Lost is Soul Winning.</u> (Rom 10:13-15)

We are in a War for the Souls of Mankind (Lk 19:10)(Prov 11:30)

a. <u>God decided to use us</u>: (Acts 1:8)
b. <u>Every Christian a Witness</u>: (Mk 16:15)
(Matt 28:19) Go ye therefore, and teach all nations,
(1 Cor 1:17) Christ sent me not to baptize, but to preach

c. <u>God told us how to do it</u>: (Lk 14:21-23)
d. <u>Every Soul Matters</u>: It's all about reaching others: (Phil 2:4)

e. Every Soul a Spiritual battle. <u>They are Blind to their Need</u>: (2 Cor 4:3-6) <u>Many Lost People's Hearts are hardened</u>: (Jn 12:38-40) <u>Many Christian's Hearts have been hardened also</u>:

**III.** <u>Sanctification NOW!</u> (Ps 19:7-13) (Rom 12:2) Our Sanctification Proves the Existence of God (Eph 4:22-24) I am free to choose to Glorify God. (Mat 5:16) "Let your light so shine before men,

<u>**Tell Your Story:**</u> (Gal 6:9) Obey by Faith: (Is 55:10-11)

**Our Faith IN & Through the Fire Confounds the Lost:** (1 Pet 3:15-17) (Matt 5:11-12) (Matt 5:44-45)

The Holy Ghost Empowers Us to Obey: (Acts 1:5) (Acts 2:4, 18, 21)

**Passion for People:** Do we have a burden for the lost? (Mark 9:23, 28-29) Prayer and Fasting.

**Do you believe anyone is outside the reach of God?** (Vs 23) Jesus said unto him, If thou canst believe, all things are possible to him that believeth.

### What if it required more effort than others?

(Vs 29) *This kind can come forth by nothing, but by prayer and fasting.* 

If they bow, they lose their soul: (Rev 14:9-10)

If they refuse, they retain their soul, but lose their head: (Rev 20:4)