

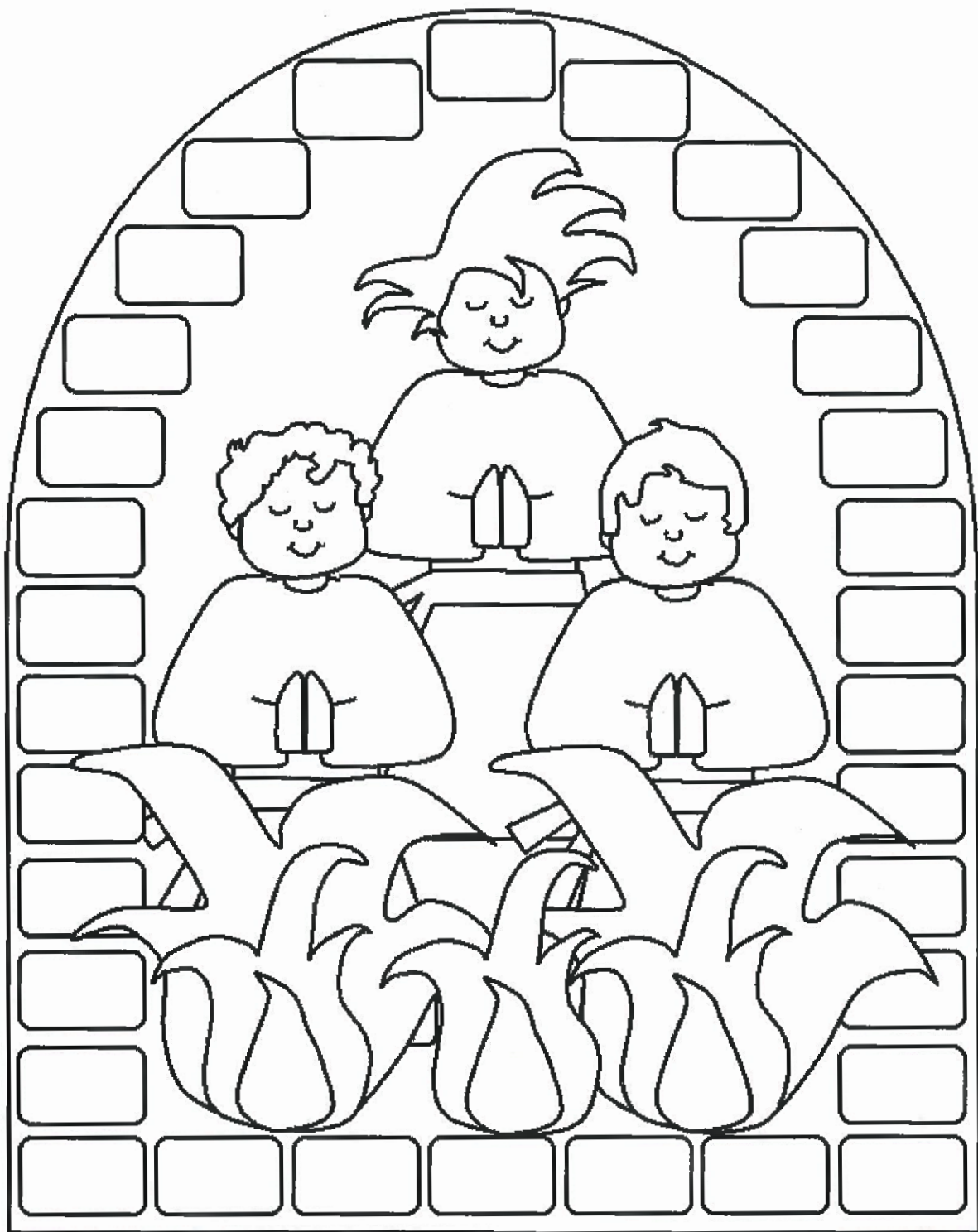
Daniel's Three Friends and the Fiery Furnace

Scriptures: Daniel 3

Key Verse: Dan 3:16-17 Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego answered and said to the king, "O Nebuchadnezzar, we have no need to answer you in this matter. (17) If that is the case, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and He will deliver us from your hand, O king.

Key Points:

1. King Nebuchadnezzar erects a great image for all the rulers of Babylon to worship.
2. At the sound of music, all those present would fall down and worship the image.
3. Chaldeans reported to Nebuchadnezzar that Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego refused to bow down to the image.
4. Nebuchadnezzar confronts Daniel's three friends; they confirm their refusal to worship the image.
5. For their refusal, Nebuchadnezzar binds Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego, heats a furnace seven times hotter than normal, and casts them in for destruction.
6. Even though the ones who cast the three men into the furnace lost their life, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego lived through the ordeal.
7. While they were in the fiery furnace, a fourth person -- described as one like the Son of God -- was walking in the midst of the flames.
8. Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego are removed from the furnace without any indication that they were in the furnace; consequently, Nebuchadnezzar praises God.



And he commanded the most mighty men that were in his army to bind Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego, and to cast them into the burning fiery furnace.

Daniel 3:20



king



Shadrach



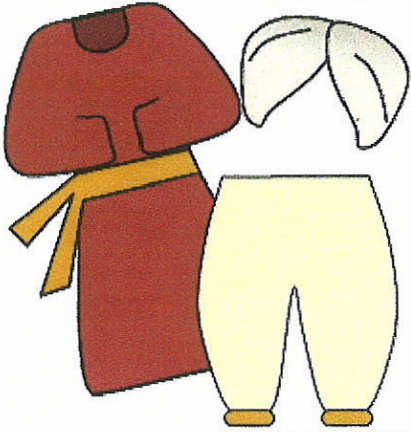
Meshach



Abednego



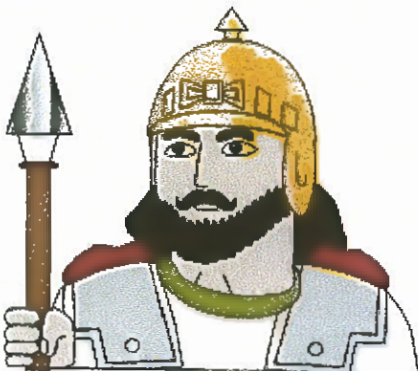
music



clothes

3

three



soldier



gold



fire



angel



statue

The Three Faithful Men

This is a story about a King and three brave men, all with really strange names. The king's name is Nebuchadnezzar and the three men were known as Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. They lived in a place called Babylon and the three men worked for the king and had important jobs for the province of Babylon.

One day the king decided to build a huge image made of gold that stood 90 feet high. To understand how tall this is, imagine 15 men all standing one on top of the other to make a tall tower. It sure was big!

King Nebuchadnezzar then made an announcement. "People of all languages, when you hear the music, you must bow down and worship the statue because I have said so. Whoever does not obey and worship the statue will immediately be thrown into a fiery furnace."

The problem with this is God does not want us to worship anything or anyone other than Him. After all, he is God, He made us, and He loves us so much. He came to earth and died for us and cares about every little thing in our lives.

Why would we want to pray or worship something that isn't real, something that can't answer our prayers or help us? To worship a big pile of gold like the one that king Nebuchadnezzar set up is silly. The gold can't hear, see, or care about anything or anyone.

So the next time the music played everyone stopped what they were doing and they bowed down to worship this idol. Everyone that is, except for Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. Some of the king's workers (that were jealous that Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego had such good jobs) saw that they would not bow down to the image so they immediately ran to tell the king.

When king Nebuchadnezzar heard the news he was very angry. He immediately ordered that Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego be brought to him to explain their actions.

The men were brought before the king and Nebuchadnezzar said to them, "Is it true, Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, that you will not bow down and worship the image of gold that I have made? Just in case there was a mistake I will give you another chance. When the music plays again you will be ready and bow down to the image, and if you don't this time you will be thrown into a fiery furnace. Then what god will be able to save you?"

Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego looked at each other and replied to the king, "O Nebuchadnezzar, we did not make a mistake nor will we apologize for not bowing down. If we are thrown into the furnace, the God we worship will save us, and he will rescue us. But even if he doesn't, we want you to know, that we will not serve your gods or worship the image of gold you have set up."

That made Nebuchadnezzar even more mad. Right away he ordered the furnace to be heated way hotter than it usually was and commanded some of the strongest soldiers to take Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego to throw them in the fire.

The soldiers took the three men just as they were straight to the furnace. The men were wearing all their clothes including robes, their shirts and pants underneath that, and turbans on their heads. These things would catch fire very easily in the fire.

As the soldiers were pushing the men into the furnace the flames of the fire killed the soldiers, because the fire was so hot and Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego fell into the hot, hot furnace.

Then king Nebuchadnezzar jumped to his feet in amazement and asked his advisors, "Weren't there only three men thrown into the fire?" They replied, "O, yes king." He said, "Look! I see four men walking around in the fire, untied and unhurt, and the fourth looks like some kind of angel!"

Nebuchadnezzar then came as close as he could to the furnace and shouted in the doorway, "Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, follower of the Most High God, come out! Come here!"

So the three men walked out of the furnace without any burns, no hairs on their head burned, all their clothes perfectly fine, and no smell of fire on them at all.

At that moment Nebuchadnezzar knew that they worshipped a real God not some fake statue. God had sent an angel to protect them from harm, and even more importantly he realized that they truly believed and trusted in God. They were willing to die rather than serve or worship any god except their own God.

So from that day on the king made an announcement that all the people, people of all languages could not say anything bad about Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego's God or they would be badly punished.

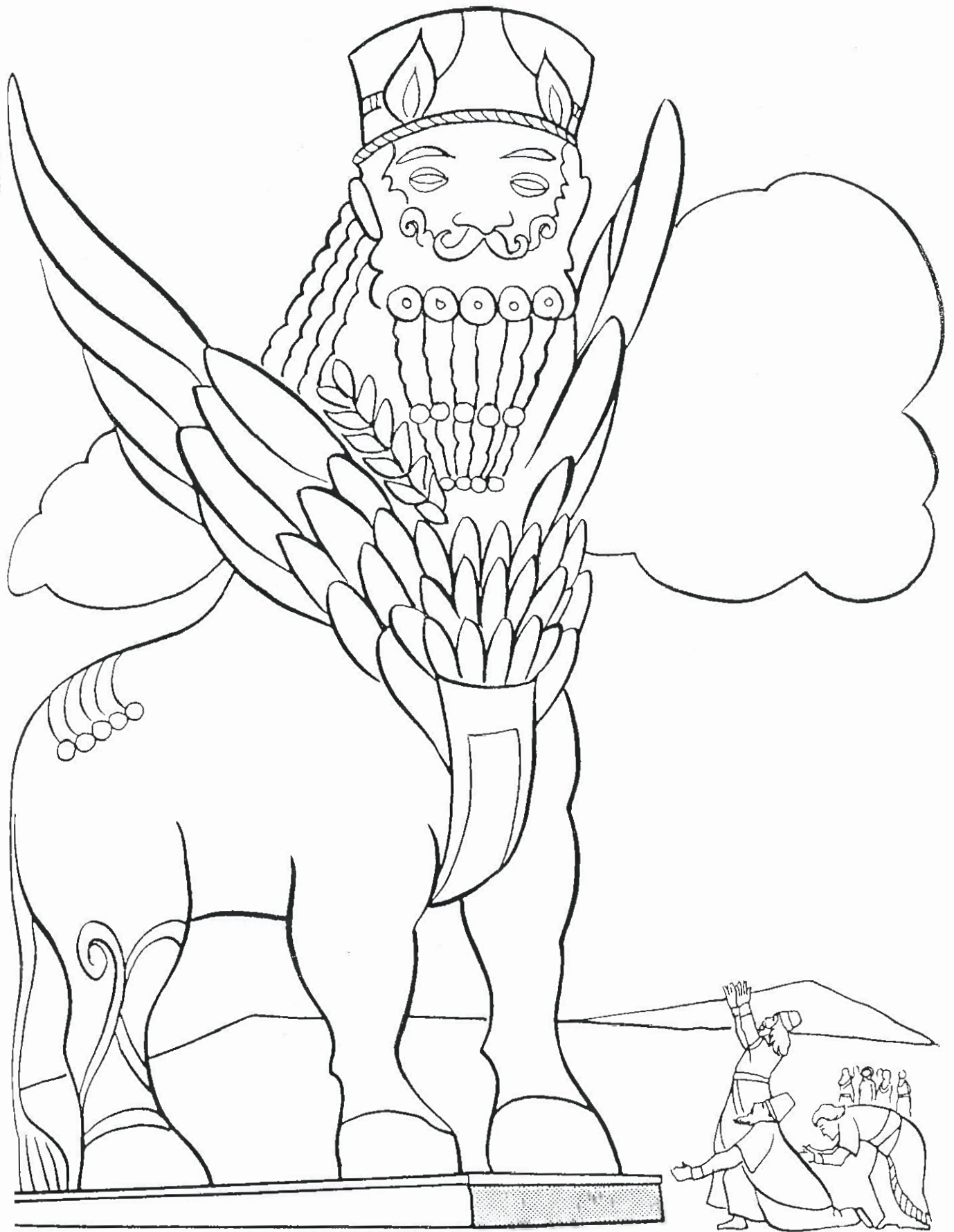
The king then gave the three men even better jobs than they already had for the province of Babylon.

157. THE FIERY FURNACE (DANIEL 3:1-30)



"Then Nebuchadnezzar the king was astonished, and rose up in haste, *and* spake, and said unto his counsellors, Did not we cast three men bound into the midst of the fire? They answered and said unto the king, True, O king. He answered and said, Lo, I see four men loose, walking in the midst of the fire, and they have no hurt; and the form of the fourth is like the Son of God."

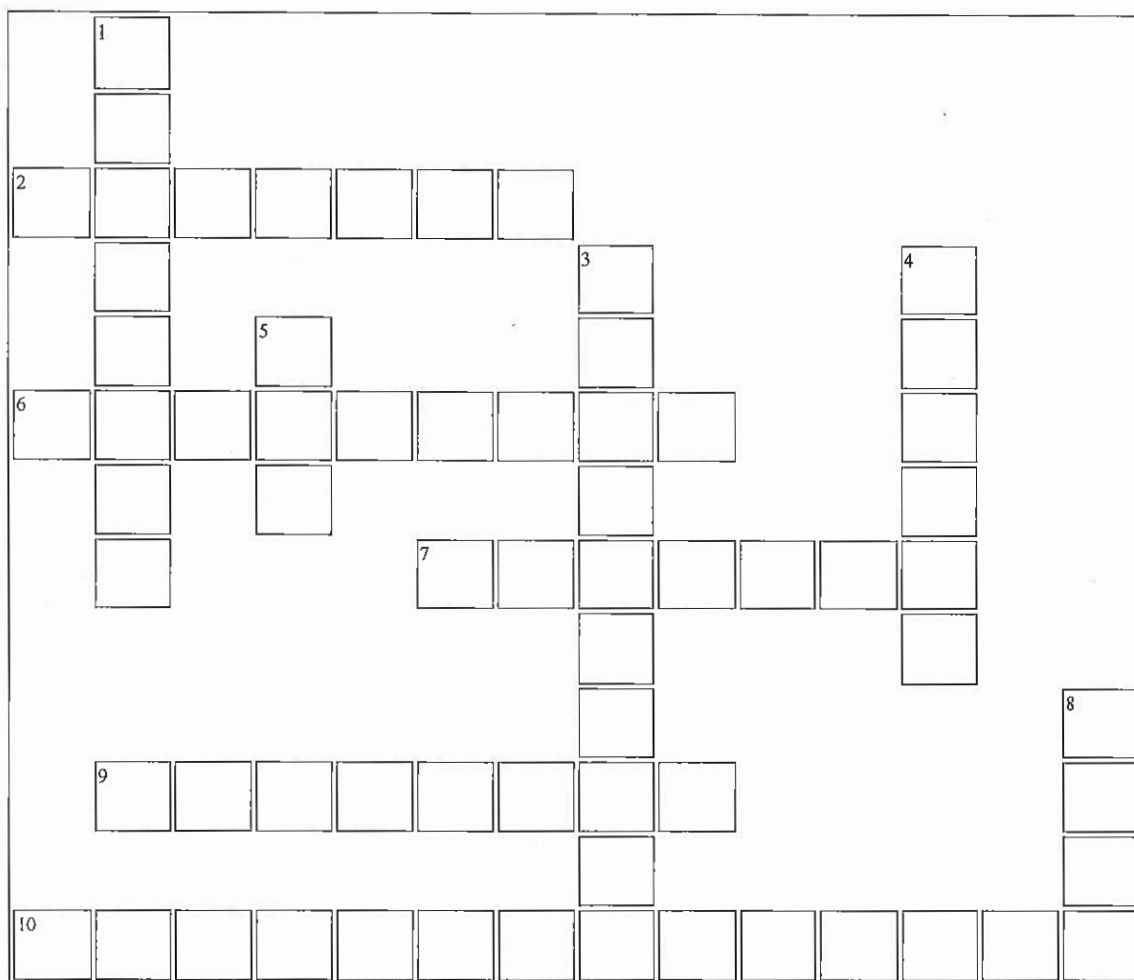
DANIEL 3:24-25



Daniel would not worship their idol, which was a golden image of King Nebuchadnezzar.

The Fiery Furnace

Read the Bible story at <http://gardenofpraise.com/bibl19s.htm>



Across

2. the land to which the captives were taken
6. The boys had been ____ by the fire.
7. the punishment for disobedience
9. The three boys were Shadrach, Meshach, and ____.
10. the king who made a gold idol

Down

1. One in the fire looked like a ____ being.
3. The young men worshiped ____.
4. The fire ____ the men who threw them in.
5. ____ had delivered them from the flames.
8. the number of men the king saw in the flames

WORD BANK: NEBUCHADNEZZAR, FURNACE, BABYLON, ABEDNEGO, KILLED,

THE TRUE GOD, HEAVENLY, UNTOUCHED, GOD, FOUR

FRIENDS IN THE FIRE

Daniel 3

EXERCISE 1

FILL IN THE MISSING WORDS TO COMPLETE THIS BIBLE STORY.

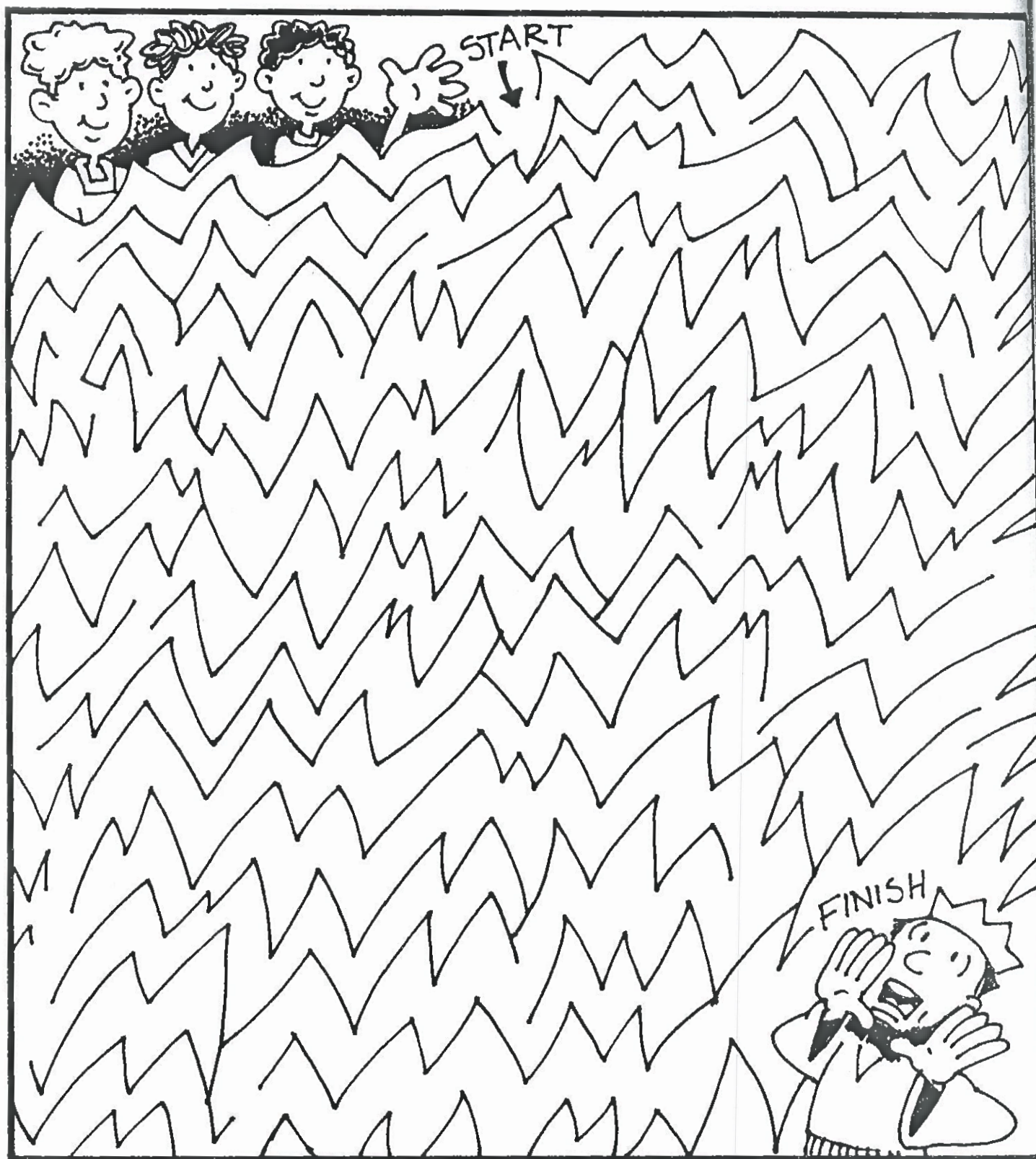
King Nebuchadnezzar made a huge statue of _____.
He commanded all the people to _____ down and _____ the
statue. Anyone who did not obey the king's command would be
thrown into a fiery _____. Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego
_____ _____ obey the command. They were taken to stand
before the king. The king said, "No _____ can save you from
the fiery furnace."

Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego were tied up and thrown
into the fire. _____ saved them from the flames. Not
even one _____ on their heads was burned. King Nebuchad-
nezzar said, "Blessed be the _____ of Shadrach, Meshach and
Abednego!"



They were thrown into a fiery furnace, but did not burn.
God's angel was with them and protected them.

Help Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego find their way out of the fire.
Draw a path from the furnace flames to King Nebuchadnezzar.



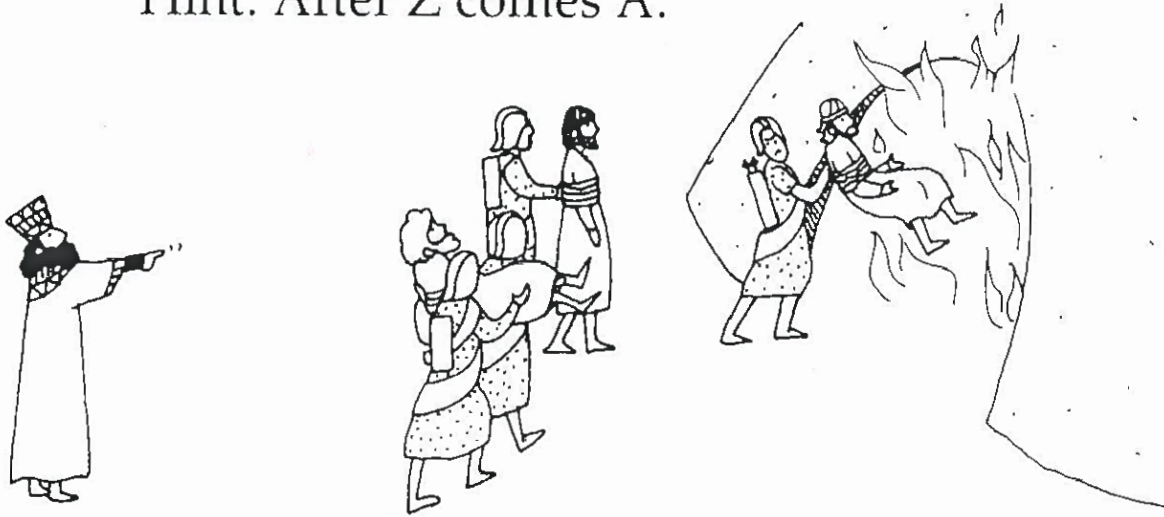
King Nebuchadnezzar said, "Shadrach, Meshach, and
Abednego, servants of the Most High God, come out! Come
here!"

Daniel 3:26

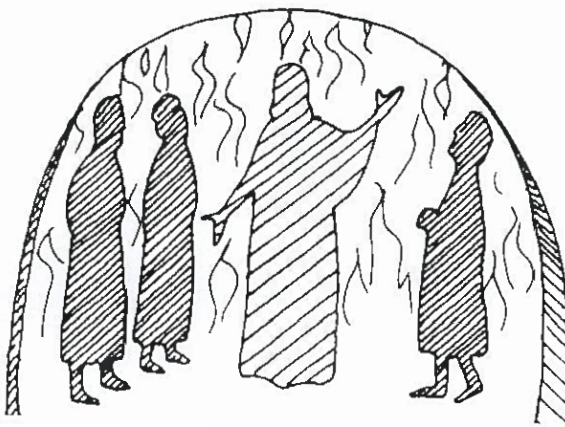
Rescued!

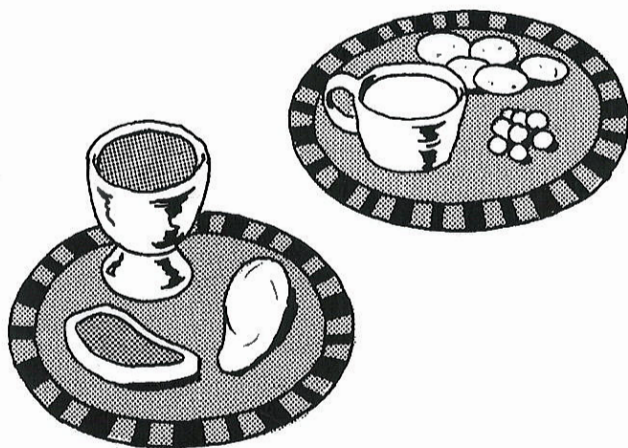


What did the king say when God rescued Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego from the fiery furnace? Above each letter, write the letter that comes after it in the alphabet. Hint: After Z comes A.



M N	N S G D Q	F N C	B Z M
R Z U D	H M	S G H R	V Z X !





Directions:

Cut two plates from construction paper and two from tagboard, all 5 inches in diameter. Glue a paper plate to each tagboard plate. Decorate plates with felt-tip pens or paints. Model food out of bread-dough clay or any self-hardening clay. When food is thoroughly dry, color with the pens or paints. Glue to plates. Cut the cups down to 1½ inches tall. Cover cups with the foil. Twist or fold a scrap to make the handle. Staple or glue in place. Make stem and base of goblet with the extra foil by twisting and flattening into shape. Stuff each container with a bit of plastic from a dry-cleaning bag. (Watch this around children!) Tint the "wine" with a red felt-tip pen. Glue cup and goblet to plates.

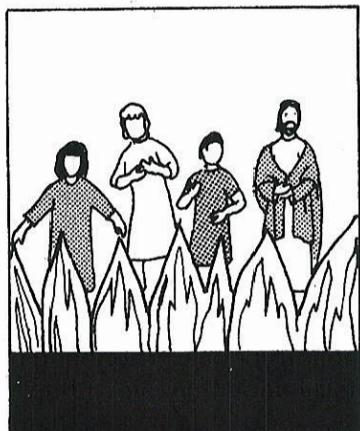
(*See recipe on page 5 for bread dough.)

In the Fiery Furnace

Daniel 3

Materials needed:

Tagboard
Construction paper—black, red, orange



Glue

Crayons, felt-tip pens, or tempera paints

Directions:

Cut the four figures from tagboard, using the patterns on pages 27 and 28. Color the figures. Cut free-form flames from red construction paper. Cut these about 9½ inches wide and 4 inches high at peaks. Make three folds in flames, then add yellow color. Place glue on bottom and sides of flames and glue to orange sheet, about 1½ inches from bottom. Allow flames to "pleat" where they were folded to give them a slight 3-D effect. Cut a piece of black paper, 9 inches by 2½ inches. Put glue on bottom and sides of this and place at bottom, over flames. Figures can now be slipped behind flames and removed easily.

Esther Paper Doll

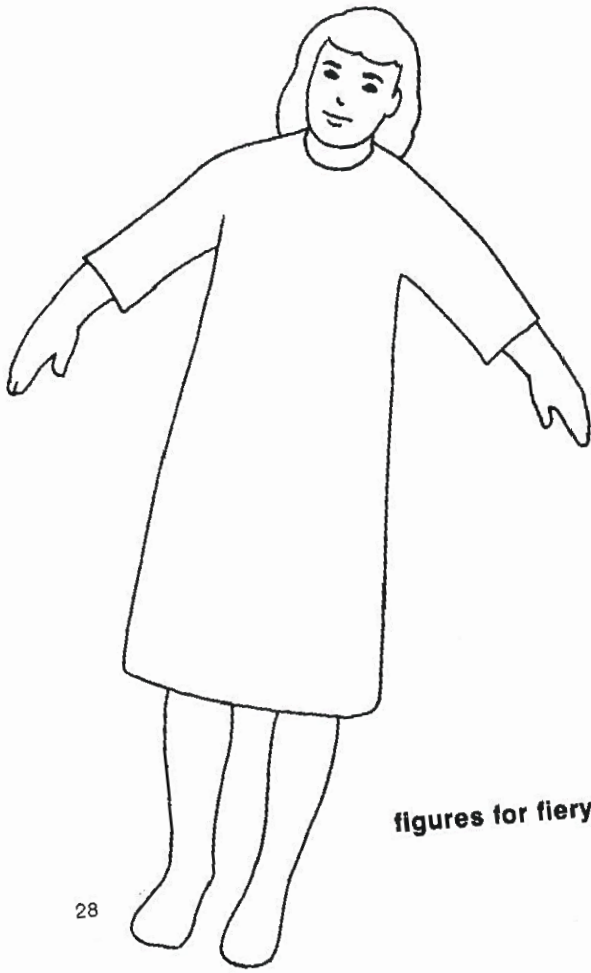


Materials needed:

Tagboard
Construction paper—various colors
Glue
Gold glitter
Cotton ball
Felt-tip pens or tempera paints
Fancy wrapping paper (optional)

Directions:

Cut paper doll out of tagboard, using pattern on page 30. Color with the pens or paints. Cut robe and crown from construction paper. Glue tabs of crown together. Add glue to crown and dip into glitter (or sprinkle on glitter). Unroll cotton ball and use it to trim robe. Make dresses using fancy wrapping paper or use construction paper and decorate with glitter, etc. Add Post-It Note tape to backs of all garments.



figures for fiery furnace

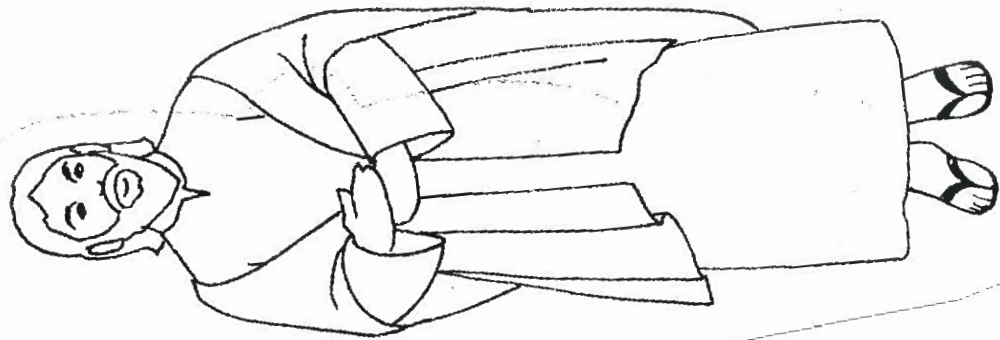
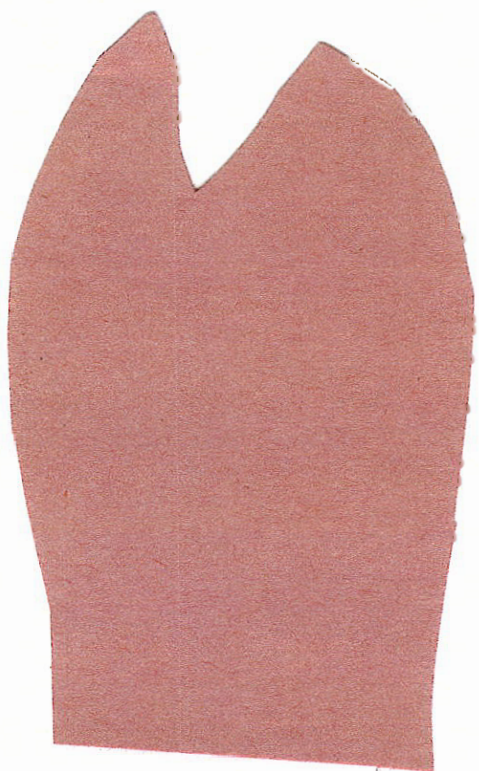
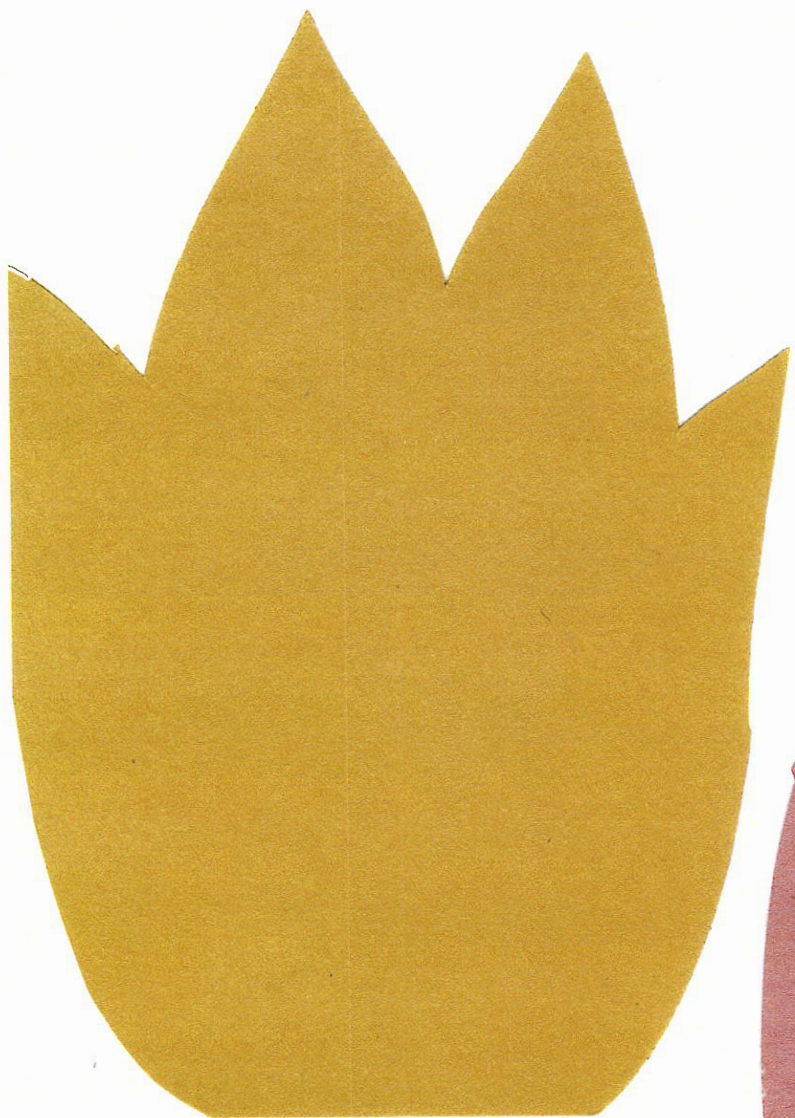


figure for fiery furnace



DANIEL 3

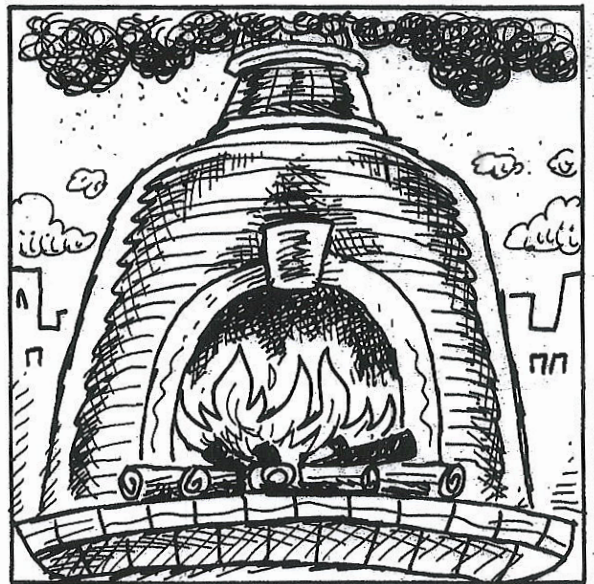
CEARUFN ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

TRHWON ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

REEVS ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

ESIARP ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

ZINGBAL ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐



WHAT KING NEBUCHADNEZZAR GAVE
THE 3 ISRAELITES:

A ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ BY ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

Three Brave Friends

To find out what Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego told the king,
color in the empty spaces.

