



# Ten.Com

Number 1:  
Exodus  
20: 1 - 3

*And God spoke all these words:*

***"I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery. You shall have no other gods before me."***



## no other gods

**Who is God?**

**Should we accept other religions as equally valid?**

**How far should we be prepared to go to keep this command?**

**Let's look at a story of three lads who were challenged to worship someone other than the one true God:**

"This is what you are commanded to do, O peoples, nations and men of every language:

.... you must fall down and worship the image of gold that King Nebuchadnezzar has set up. Whoever does not fall down and worship will immediately be thrown into a blazing furnace."

.....

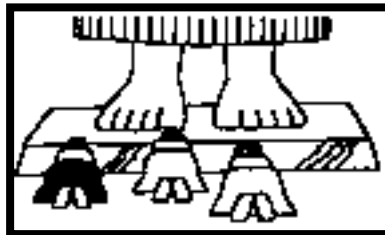
Nebuchadnezzar summoned Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego. So these men were brought before the king, and Nebuchadnezzar said to them,

"Is it true, Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, that you do not serve my gods or worship the image of gold I have set up?....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?"

Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego replied to the king,

"....If we are thrown into the blazing furnace, the God we serve is able to save us from it, and he will rescue us from your hand, O king. But even if he does not, we want you to know, O king, that we will not serve your gods or worship the image of gold you have set up."



Then Nebuchadnezzar was furious with Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, and his attitude towards them changed. He ordered the furnace to be heated seven times hotter than usual and commanded some of the strongest soldiers in his army to tie up Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego and throw them into the blazing furnace.

So these men, wearing their robes, trousers, turbans and other clothes, were bound and thrown into the blazing furnace. The king's command was so urgent and the furnace so hot that the flames of the fire killed the soldiers who took up Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, and these three

men, firmly tied, fell into the blazing furnace.

Then King Nebuchadnezzar leaped to his feet in amazement and asked his advisers,

"Weren't there three men that we tied up and threw into the fire?"

They replied, "Certainly, O king."

He said, "Look! I see four men walking around in the fire, unbound and unharmed, and the fourth looks like a son of the gods.".....

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

So Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego came out of the fire, and the satraps, prefects, governors and royal advisers crowded around them. They saw that the fire had not harmed their bodies, nor was a hair of their heads singed; their robes were not scorched, and there was no smell of fire on them. 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."

Then the king promoted Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego in the province of Babylon.

### **Daniel chapter 3 (extracts)**

**Would you have obeyed God's commandment, even if it meant dying?**

**Do you obey this commandment? Is God the most important thing in your life?**

**What about:**

- **money** and "I must have..."
- **ambition** "I want to be/do..."
- **sex** "God doesn't mind if I just...."
- **reputation** "I don't want my friends to think I'm sad"
- **etc!**

**What things/which people are important in your life? If God said "give them up" or "leave them" would you? If not they are more important to you than God, and you are breaking His first commandment!**

**Shadrach Meshach and Abednego risked their lives to serve God, and because of it He rewarded them and made them princes in the kingdom.**

**It's the same for us! We are promised that we will be princes in the Kingdom of heaven for ever if we keep His commandment. Jesus said:**

"I tell you the truth," Jesus replied, "no one who has left home or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields for me and the gospel will fail to receive a hundred times as much in this present age (homes, brothers, sisters, mothers, children and fields--and with them, persecutions) and in the age to come, eternal life. But many who are first will be last, and the last first."

**(Mark 10:29-31)**

