## **♦**SERMON NOTES **♦**

Sunday, August 18, 2013

## "AND THEN THERE WERE FOUR"

(Daniel 3:19-27)

Last Sunday we talked about the examples of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. They lived out faith in God and absolute devotion to Him, even if it cost them their lives. Today's message finds them stepping toward execution in a fiery furnace. We sometimes ask, "Where is God?" when such times come. The answer is, "He is with you."

"Our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the furnace of blazing fire; and He will deliver us out of your hand, O king. But even if He does not, let it be known to you, O king, that we are not going to serve your gods or worship the golden image that you have set up" (Daniel 3:17-18, NASB)

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"Because of the surpassing greatness of the revelations, for this reason, to keep me from exalting myself, there was given me a thorn in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to torment me—to keep me from exalting myself! Concerning this I implored the Lord three times that it might leave me. And He has said to me, 'My grace is sufficient for you, for power is perfected in weakness.' Most gladly, therefore, I will rather boast about my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me. Therefore I am well content with weaknesses, with insults, with distresses, with persecutions, with difficulties, for Christ's sake; for when I am weak, then I am strong" (2 Corinthians 12:7-10, NASB).