

## PRESENT HELP - 2



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#### **Daniel 3: 1-30**

Generally, these are troubled times for all -individuals, groups & nations - Global Pandemic & Lockdown; Riots in Nigeria, ASUU Strike, US Election, etc.

There is trouble when evil reigns freely and Godly people are receding - **Ps.12: 1.**

2020 is critical and seems to mark the beginning of a birth pain for individual Christian, the church and Israel as a nation.

Like the slavery of Israel in Egypt (**Gen.15: 13-16**), God also foretold the problems believers will face in the End-times - **2Tim.3: 1-5, 12-13; Matt.24: 12.**

However, all we need to overcome the troubles of these times is the presence of the Lord. No trouble will trouble you if the Lord is with you - **Ps.23: 4.**

Unlike the children of Israel who were not sure God was with them in their trouble, the 3 Hebrew sons were sure of the presence of God with them.

National issues are more complex than individual ones, and international issues are much more complex e.g. 400 years of famine & 70 thousand killed for David's indiscretion.

However, God knew what He was doing then. God knows what He is doing with your life now also.

Nature of the Troubles of the End-times - **Ps.34: 19; Jn.16: 33b; 2Tim.3: 12.**

The story of the 3 Hebrew sons in Daniel 3 gives us a clear picture of the nature of the troubles believers in Christ will pass through in this End-time.

1. Gradual return of dictatorship - **Dan.3: 1.**
2. Rise in idolatry and occultism especially in corridors of power - **Dan.3: 2.**
3. Major role of music in spreading idolatry and occultism - **Dan.4-5.**  
Let's be careful the type of music we play and bring into the church (**Jn.4: 24**).
4. Majority error and spread of idolatry to the rest of the society - **Dan.3: 7.**
5. Conspiracy and accusation of the wicked - **Dan.3: 8.**
6. Sycophancy and flattery especially of rulers - **Dan.3: 9.**
7. Monitoring and censorship - **Dan.3: 10-12.**
8. Threat, trial and persecution of the ritheous - **Dan.3: 13-15.**
9. Compromise and falling away of fearful believers - **Matt.24: 12; 2Thess.2: 3; 1Tim.4: 1.**
10. Deliverance of faithful and fearless believers - **Ps.34: 19; Dan.3: 24-25.**

Eventually, like it happened in this story, every knee shall bow and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord - **Phil.2: 9-11.**

### **Why The 3 Hebrews Sons Triumphed?**

1. They knew God personally and intimately e.g. Abraham & Lot; 7 Sons of Sceva (**Acts 19**).
2. They were consecrated and committed - **Dan.1: 8-15.**
3. They were faithful to God and refused to worship the king's golden image - **Dan.3: 12.**
4. They were bold and fearless. See the way they answered the king - **Dan.3: 16-18.**
5. They were not intimidated by number of people or crowd against them - **Exod.23: 2a; Rom.8: 31.**
6. They were prepared to suffer - **Rev.2: 8-10.**
7. The Lord was present with them - **Ps.23: 4; Isa.43: 1-2.**

### **Conclusion:**

God's presence or help does not always mean we will have troubles or go through difficult times but He will be with us in that trouble and even at the point of death - **Heb.11: 36-40.**

Remember Stephen in **Acts 8.**