

Notes: November 14, 2020

Start: 10 AM

Order of service:

1. Meet and Greet
2. Introduction (if new people)
3. Ma Tovv
4. Open in Prayer for service
5. Liturgy – Sh'ma +
6. Announcements
7. Jeri - Drash
8. Praise and Worship Songs
9. Message
10. Aaronic Blessing
11. Kiddish
12. Oneg

Children's Blessing:

Transliteration: *Ye'simcha Elohim ke-Ephraim ve hee-Menashe*

English: *May God make you like Ephraim and Menashe*

Transliteration: *Ye'simech Elohim ke-Sarah, Rivka, Rachel ve-Leah.*

English: *May God make you like Sarah, Rebecca, Rachel and Leah.*

Introduction: You Are Not Alone

Last Shabbat in Remembering Kristallnacht I had shared with you the moments regarding three young men who would not conform to the ways of a kingdom.

They were called out...

Dan 3:8 But then some Kasdim approached and began denouncing the Jews.

Dan 3:9 They said to N'vukhadnetzar the king, "May the king live forever!

Dan 3:10 Your majesty, you have ordered that everyone who hears sound of the horn, pipe, harp, zither, lute, bagpipe and the rest of the musical instruments is to fall down and worship the gold statue;

Dan 3:11 and that whoever does not fall down and worship is to be thrown into a blazing hot furnace.

Dan 3:12 There are some Jews whom you have put in charge of the affairs of the province of Bavel, Shadrakh, Meishakh and `Aved-N'go; and these men, your majesty, have paid no attention to you. They do not serve your gods, and they do not worship the gold statue you set up."

They were expected to conform to the orders of the king...

Dan 3:13 In a raging fury N'vukhadnetzar ordered that Shadrakh, Meishakh and `Aved-N'go be brought. When the men had been brought before the king,

Dan 3:14 N'vukhadnetzar said to them, "Shadrakh! Meishakh! `Aved-N'go! Is it true that you neither serve my gods nor worship the gold statue I set up?

Dan 3:15 All right, then. If you are prepared, when you hear the sound of the horn, pipe, harp, zither, lute, bagpipe and the rest of the musical instruments, to fall down and worship the gold statue, very well. But if you won't worship, you will immediately be thrown into a blazing hot furnace—and what god will save you from my power then?"

They were also threatened with consequences should they not conform.

They were singled out and ultimately stood alone. They were to be made an example because we know there were many other Jewish people in Bavel who did not conform. Yet, these three young men held strong to their faith as they responded to the king...

Dan 3:16 Shadrakh, Meishakh and `Aved-N'go answered the king, "Your question doesn't require an answer from us.

Dan 3:17 Your majesty, if our God, whom we serve, is able to save us, he will save us from the blazing hot furnace and from your power.

Dan 3:18 But even if he doesn't, we want you to know, your majesty, that we will neither serve your gods nor worship the gold statue which you have set up."

Regardless of what the king does there is no way these young men will conform to the king's order. Even if the king were not to conform to his own orders there would be no consequences, yet it is the use of authority by the ones in power that cause us to question the very edicts they enact.

We have seen countless contradictions in one's action verses one's instruction.

Though we may not be facing the smoldering embers of a furnace, we are being expected to conform to unilateral orders regarding mask wearing, restrictions on gatherings whereby some states are now dictating what you can and cannot do in your own home. In California, regarding Thanksgiving, you can have no more than 10 people or three households gather together, you must do it outside and you can not sing or talk loudly and for no longer than two hours.

You are to worship at the feet...

Yet, the adage of " what is for thee and is not for me" rang enormous bells when the Governor of California was witnessed attending a party that violated his own rules.

<https://www.westernjournal.com/california-gov-gavin-newsom-caught-attending-party-seems-violate-covid-restrictions/>

We know that Adonai is true to His Word...

Num 23:19 "God is not a human who lies or a mortal who changes his mind. When he says something, he will do it; when he makes a promise, he will fulfill it.

He means what He says and He says what He means

He is a doer of His own Word.

There is no hypocrisy.

Under no circumstances would Shadrakh, Meishakh and `Aved-N'go follow the order to worship the statue the king had ordered them to worship and thus go against the Word of Adonai.

Now, I want to emphasize the difference in the example I have shared and what we are enduring today. The distinction should be understood as performing idolatry in bowing down to other gods, a major transgression of Adonai's Word...

Exo 20:3 ׀ "You are to have no other gods before me.

Exo 20:4 You are not to make for yourselves a carved image or any kind of representation of anything in heaven above, on the earth beneath or in the water below the shoreline.

Exo 20:5 You are not to bow down to them or serve them; for I, Adonai your God, am a jealous God, punishing the children for the sins of the parents to the third and fourth generation of those who hate me,

Exo 20:6 but displaying grace to the thousandth generation of those who love me and obey my mitzvot.

So this isn't a message conveying civil disobedience but, in this case calling out the hypocrisy of those who govern. Yet this isn't even the primary focus of my sermon but merely context relating to a situation whereby it may appear that we are alone, when we are truly not alone.

We are not alone!!!

Thus Shadrakh! Meishakh! `Aved-N'go would endure the punishment for not conforming to the king while honoring THE KING.

Dan 3:19 N'vukhadnetzar became so utterly enraged that his face was distorted with anger against Shadrakh, Meishakh and `Aved-N'go. He ordered the furnace made seven times hotter than usual.

Dan 3:20 Then he ordered some of the strongest men in his army to tie up Shadrakh, Meishakh and `Aved-N'go and throw them into the blazing hot furnace.

Dan 3:21 So these men were tied up in their cloaks, tunics, robes and other clothes, and thrown into the blazing hot furnace.

Dan 3:22 The king's order was so urgent and the furnace so overheated that the men carrying Shadrakh, Meishakh and `Aved-N'go were burned to death by the flames.

Dan 3:23 These three men, Shadrakh, Meishakh and `Aved-N'go, fell, bound, into the blazing hot furnace.

When it appears that all was done, the final decision is made and thus executed, while quoting an old cliché "It is darkest before the dawn" then the sun peaks up on the horizon, light overpowers the darkness...

Dan 3:24 Suddenly N'vukhadnetzar sprang to his feet. Alarmed, he asked his advisers, "Didn't we throw three men, bound, into the flames?" They answered the king, "Yes, of course, your majesty."

Dan 3:25 But he exclaimed, "Look! I see four men, not tied up, walking around there in the flames, unhurt; and the fourth looks like one of the gods!"

Three men went in, bound, yet four men are seen walking around in the middle of a flaming furnace unharmed, untouched by the fiery flames. In the midst of the inferno what should have consumed the flesh of these three men was likely not even considered to be a sauna, but a day in the presence of their KING.

Shalom in the midst of chaos.

Dan 3:26 N'vukhadnetzar approached the opening of the blazing hot furnace and said, "Shadrakh! Meishakh! `Aved-N'go! You servants of El `Elyon! Come out, and come here!" Shadrakh, Meishakh and `Aved-N'go emerged from the flames.

Dan 3:27 The viceroys, prefects, governors and royal advisers who were there saw that the fire had had no power on the bodies of these men—not even their hair was singed, their clothes looked the same, and they didn't smell of fire.

The power and authority of the king - N'vukhadnetzar was no match for the power and authority of THE KING - El `Elyon to where there was a transformation that would occur...

Dan 3:28 N'vukhadnetzar said, "Blessed be the God of Shadrakh, Meishakh and `Aved-N'go! He sent his angel to deliver his servants who trusted in him. They defied the royal order to the point of being willing to give up their bodies, in order not to serve or worship any god but their own God.

Dan 3:29 Therefore I herewith decree that anyone, no matter from which people, nation or language, who says anything to insult the God of Shadrakh, Meishakh and `Aved-N'go is to be torn limb from limb, and his house is to be reduced to rubble; because there is no other god who can save like this."

Who you are and how you act against those who do not embrace what you embrace can be the means by which a transformation can occur. Remember you are witnesses of THE KING and one of his titles, one of His names is His Name is El Elyon, God Most High, Yet we also know Him as Yeshua – God of Salvation.

So our KING was seen in the midst of a fiery furnace with three men who would not conform to idolatry. They honored Him and He protected them. They now knew that their God would save them.

Dan 3:17 Your majesty, if our God, whom we serve, is able to save us, he will save us from the blazing hot furnace and from your power.

It is no longer "if", a condition based on the sovereignty of Adonai but a question of when, for those who honor Him and thus call upon His name.

Joe 3:5 At that time, whoever calls on the name of Adonai will be saved. For in Mount Tziyon and Yerushalayim there will be those who escape, as Adonai has promised; among the survivors will be those whom Adonai has called.

A promise Adonai conveyed to the Prophet Yoel upon his return but was experienced firsthand by Shadrakh, Meishakh and `Aved-N'go when they recognized their GOD and KING over and above the king of the land.

Just as Yeshua would stand on behalf of Stephen...

Act 7:54 On hearing these things, they were cut to their hearts and ground their teeth at him.

Act 7:55 But he, full of the Ruach HaKodesh, looked up to heaven and saw God's Sh'khinah, with Yeshua standing at the right hand of God.

Act 7:56 "Look!" he exclaimed, "I see heaven opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!"

Act 7:57 At this, they began yelling at the top of their voices, so that they wouldn't have to hear him; and with one accord, they rushed at him,

Act 7:58 threw him outside the city and began stoning him. And the witnesses laid down their coats at the feet of a young man named Sha'ul.

So too, THE KING would stand with Shadrakh, Meishakh and `Aved-N'go in the midst of a fiery furnace.

The KING has not left us alone, nor are we illequipped against the power of darkness and thus the darkness that is further consuming this world.

Joh 14:15 "If you love me, you will keep my commands;

Joh 14:16 and I will ask the Father, and he will give you another comforting Counselor like me, the Spirit of Truth, to be with you forever.

Just as Shadrakh! Meishakh! `Aved-N'go honored Adonai, THE KING, in keeping the commandment not to worship other gods and thus were not alone, so to Yeshua is conveying the same message. Honor my Word and you will not be alone. The Ruach ha Kodesh will fend off the fiery flames of the furnace to where you will experience no harm. You may be protected from the harm of this world, although you may not because there will be martyrs, yet no harm will come to your place in the world to come...the KINGDOM so long as you remain united with Him.

But in this world you are not alone. Yeshua has provided us with a presence, a power which is not available to the world but to those united with Him...

Joh 14:17 The world cannot receive him, because it neither sees nor knows him. You know him, because he is staying with you and will be united with you.

Joh 14:18 I will not leave you orphans—I am coming to you.

To remain united in Him means to trust His Words to us. I spent the entire summer talking about faith and trust. If you need to review, do so, these sermons are all on line and all recorded...eleven messages pertaining to faith to further strengthen your faith in these challenging times. Consider this a twelfth message in that we have witnessed the conviction and obedience of Shadrakh! Meishakh! `Aved-N'go. What they experienced in THE KING being with them, we too will witness...

Joh 14:20 When that day comes, you will know that I am united with my Father, and you with me, and I with you.

Joh 14:21 Whoever has my commands and keeps them is the one who loves me, and the one who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and reveal myself to him."

Shadrakh! Meishakh! `Aved-N'go did not know of Yeshua as we know Him, but they knew His as El Elyon, God Most High and thus the very Words of Adonai are the very Words of Yeshua for Yeshua is not conveying anything different...

Joh 14:23 Yeshua answered him, "If someone loves me, he will keep my word; and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him.

Shadrakh! Meishakh! `Aved-N'go loved their God and honored Him by not bowing down.

Joh 14:24 Someone who doesn't love me doesn't keep my words—and the word you are hearing is not my own but that of the Father who sent me.

Joh 14:25 "I have told you these things while I am still with you.

Joh 14:26 But the Counselor, the Ruach HaKodesh, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything; that is, he will remind you of everything I have said to you.

Joh 14:27 "What I am leaving with you is shalom—I am giving you my shalom. I don't give the way the world gives. Don't let yourselves be upset or frightened.

What I am leaving you with is shalom.

My question to you, in having received the promise of Yeshua, Ruach ha Kodesh, do you have shalom?

Are you living in shalom?

Are you empowered by the Ruach Ha Kodesh?

Next Shabbat I will explore what living a life of shalom powered by the Ruach Ha Kodesh is all about.