



Title: Unblocking the wells II - Walking through the fire
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The kingdom is near

Matthew 3:2 (NKJV) ² and saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!"

For those with childlike faith the kingdom is within reach. For those who are full of doubt, the kingdom is out of reach.

You need childlike faith or you cannot access the kingdom of heaven.

Let your kingdom come!

How? How does heaven come to earth? **The kingdom comes: through Faith.**

Yet: **Faith comes through a word.** The kingdom is released through a Word from God.

Real faith: To hear God for yourself and then to act upon that word. **Yet every word will be tested.**

Matthew 5:10 (NLT) ¹⁰ God blesses those who are persecuted for doing right, for **the Kingdom of Heaven** is theirs.

You shall fall down

Daniel 3:4–6 (NKJV) ⁴ Then a herald cried aloud: "To you it is commanded, O peoples, nations, and languages, ⁵ that at the time you hear the sound of the horn, flute, harp, lyre, and psaltery, in symphony with all kinds of music, you shall fall down and worship the gold image that King Nebuchadnezzar has set up; ⁶ and whoever does not fall down and worship shall be cast immediately into **the midst of a burning fiery furnace.**"

The intimidation from earthly kingdoms: **wants to impose its agenda on the people of God.** Many believers buckle under the pressure.

Matthew 9:35 (NKJV) ³⁵ Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and **healing every sickness and every disease** among the people.

Heaven's agenda is preaching the good news of the kingdom! Good news overflowing into healing every sickness and every disease! **Jesus declared the kingdom, then demonstrated the kingdom.**

Who is the god who will deliver you?

Daniel 3:14–15 (NKJV) ¹⁴ Nebuchadnezzar spoke, saying to them, "Is it true, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego, that you do not serve my gods or worship the gold image which I have set up? ¹⁵ Now if you are ready at the time you hear the sound ...and you fall down and worship the image which I have made, good! But if you do not worship, you shall be cast immediately into the midst of a burning fiery furnace. **And who is the god who will deliver you from my hands?"**

- Feel the fury of the king

Testing

James 1:2–4 (NKJV) ² My brethren, **count it all joy** when you fall into various trials, ³ knowing that **the testing of your faith produces patience**. ⁴ But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing.

- Get excited when you go through the fire!
- **"Every word will be tested":** That we might be **deeply anchored in the living God (nothing else)**. The fire of trials burns away the rubbish, the false, selfishness, pride as we hold onto the word. **The word takes us through the fire.**
- **Different ways we respond to testing:** (1) We begin to scheme with a plan B or C (we try shortcuts); (2) we become offended by blaming others for the fire we are going through; (3) we succumb to temptation.

Take your stand - declare the word

Daniel 3:16–18 (NKJV) ¹⁶ *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.** ¹⁸ **But if not**, let it be known to you, O king, that **we do not serve your gods, nor will we worship the gold image which you have set up.**”*

- They served the king of a greater kingdom.

Walking through the fire

****Every challenge in life will either make you bitter or better.**

Daniel 3:23–25 (NKJV) ²³ *And these three men, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego, fell down bound into the midst of the burning fiery furnace. ²⁴ Then King Nebuchadnezzar was astonished; and he rose in haste and spoke, saying to his counselors, “**Did we not cast three men bound into the midst of the fire?**” They answered and said to the king, “True, O king.” ²⁵ “Look!” he answered, “I see four men loose, walking in the midst of the fire; and they are not hurt, and the form of the fourth is like the Son of God.”*

- **Blessed are the pure in heart for they shall see God. They saw God!**

Daniel 3:26–30 (NKJV) ²⁶ Then Nebuchadnezzar went near the mouth of the burning fiery furnace and spoke, saying, “Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego, **servants of the Most High God**, come out, and come *here*.” Then Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego came from the midst of the fire.

- There is no one like our God!

²⁷ *And the satraps, administrators, governors, and the king’s counselors gathered together, and they saw these men on whose bodies the fire had no power; the hair of their head was not singed nor were their garments affected, and the smell of fire was not on them.*

- **They were untouched by the fire.**

²⁸ *Nebuchadnezzar spoke, saying, “Blessed be the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego, who sent His Angel and delivered His servants who trusted in Him, and they have frustrated the king’s word, and yielded their bodies, that they should not serve nor worship any god except their own God!*

Promotion!

²⁹ *Therefore I make a decree that any people, nation, or language which speaks anything amiss against the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego shall be cut in pieces, and their houses shall be made an ash heap; because there is no other God who can deliver like this.” ³⁰ Then the king promoted Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego in the province of Babylon.*

- ****God is glorified and we are promoted!**
- Every significant door in the kingdom is guarded by a purifying fire.