

**LET
GOD
ARISE!**

*The Battle Belongs to the Lord
Prayer Guide #7
Rev. Dr. Don L. Davis*



Daniel and the Three Hebrew Boys
Daniel 3

Dare to Be a Daniel

Philip P. Bliss

Standing by a purpose true,
Heeding God's command,
Honor them, the faithful few!
All hail to Daniel's band!

Dare to be a Daniel,
Dare to stand alone!
Dare to have a purpose firm!
Dare to make it known.

Many mighty men are lost
Daring not to stand,
Who for God had been a host
By joining Daniel's band.

Many giants, great and tall,
Stalking through the land,
Headlong to the earth would fall,
If met by Daniel's band.

Hold the Gospel banner high!
On to vict'ry grand!
Satan and his hosts defy,
And shout for Daniel's band.

© 1873. Written for his Sunday School Class at First Congregational Church, Chicago, Illinois.



Rev. Dr. Don L. Davis,
*(Ph.D., U of Iowa) is the
Director of World
Impact's Urban Ministry
Institute. He also serves
as World Impact's Vice
President of Leadership
Development.*

© 2008. The Urban Ministry
Institute. All Rights Reserved.

For more prayer resources or
information on Let God Arise,
please visit www.tumi.org

TUMI is a Ministry of
World Impact, Inc.

Refusal to kowtow to evil is the heart of godly courage

Dan. 3.16-18 - 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 this be so, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and he will deliver us out of your hand, O king. [18] But if not, be it known to you, O king, that we will not serve your gods or worship the golden image that you have set up.”

We need not fear people when we have made God our strength and shield

Job 13.15 - Though he slay me, I will hope in him; yet I will argue my ways to his face.

Prov. 28.1 - The wicked flee when no one pursues, but the righteous are bold as a lion.

Isa. 51.12-13 - I, I am he who comforts you; who are you that you are afraid of man who dies, of the son of man who is made like grass, [13] and have forgotten the Lord, your Maker, who stretched out the heavens and laid the foundations of the earth, and you fear continually all the day because of the wrath of the oppressor, when he sets himself to destroy? And where is the wrath of the oppressor?

Matt. 10.28 - And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell.

Let the Lord be your fear and dread, and stand strong against the intimidation of the evil one

Isa. 8.12-13 - Do not call conspiracy all that this people calls conspiracy, and do not fear what they fear, nor be in dread. [13] But the Lord of hosts, him you shall regard as holy. Let him be your fear, and let him be your dread.



Unless otherwise noted, all Scriptures are taken from the English Standard Version (ESV)

© 2008. The Urban Ministry Institute. All Rights Reserved.

For more prayer resources or information on Let God Arise, please visit www.tumi.org

TUMI is a Ministry of World Impact, Inc.

Isa. 51.7 - Listen to me, you who know righteousness, the people in whose heart is my law; fear not the reproach of man, nor be dismayed at their revilings.

Matt. 10.26 - So have no fear of them, for nothing is covered that will not be revealed, or hidden that will not be known. Luke 12.4-5 - I tell you, my friends, do not fear those who kill the body, and after that have nothing more that they can do. [5] But I will warn you whom to fear: fear him who, after he has killed, has authority to cast into hell. Yes, I tell you, fear him!

Acts 20.23-24 - except that the Holy Spirit testifies to me in every city that imprisonment and afflictions await me. [24] But I do not account my life of any value nor as precious to myself, if only I may finish my course and the ministry that I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the gospel of the grace of God.

Acts 21.13 - Then Paul answered, "What are you doing, weeping and breaking my heart? For I am ready not only to be imprisoned but even to die in Jerusalem for the name of the Lord Jesus."

Rom. 8.35-39 - Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? [36] As it is written, "For your sake we are being killed all the day long; we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered." [37] No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. [38] For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, [39] nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2 Tim. 4.6-8 - For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure has come. [7] I have fought the good fight, I have



© 2008. The Urban Ministry Institute. All Rights Reserved.

For more prayer resources or information on Let God Arise, please visit www.tumi.org

TUMI is a Ministry of World Impact, Inc.

finished the race, I have kept the faith. [8] Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that Day, and not only to me but also to all who have loved his appearing.

Heb. 11.35 - Women received back their dead by resurrection. Some were tortured, refusing to accept release, so that they might rise again to a better life.

1 Pet. 3.14 - But even if you should suffer for righteousness' sake, you will be blessed. Have no fear of them, nor be troubled.

Rev. 2.10 - Do not fear what you are about to suffer. Behold, the devil is about to throw some of you into prison, that you may be tested, and for ten days you will have tribulation. Be faithful unto death, and I will give you the crown of life. The enemy roams about seeking whom he may devour, and we must resist him.

1 Pet. 5.8-10 - Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. [9] Resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same kinds of suffering are being experienced by your brotherhood throughout the world. [10] And after you have suffered a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you.

Eph. 4.27 - and give no opportunity to the devil.

2 Cor. 2.10-11 - Anyone whom you forgive, I also forgive. What I have forgiven, if I have forgiven anything, has been for your sake in the presence of Christ, [11] so that we would not be outwitted by Satan; for we are not ignorant of his designs.



© 2008. The Urban Ministry Institute. All Rights Reserved.

For more prayer resources or information on Let God Arise, please visit www.tumi.org

TUMI is a Ministry of World Impact, Inc.

Eph. 6.11 - Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil.

James 4.7 - Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

1 John 3.8-10 - Whoever makes a practice of sinning is of the devil, for the devil has been sinning from the beginning. The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the works of the devil. [9] No one born of God makes a practice of sinning, for God's seed abides in him, and he cannot keep on sinning because he has been born of God. [10] By this it is evident who are the children of God, and who are the children of the devil: whoever does not practice righteousness is not of God, nor is the one who does not love his brother.

The godly must decide whether they will serve the Lord or idols

Deut. 30.15-20 - See, I have set before you today life and good, death and evil. [16] If you obey the commandments of the Lord your God that I command you today, by loving the Lord your God, by walking in his ways, and by keeping his commandments and his statutes and his rules, then you shall live and multiply, and the Lord your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to take possession of it. [17] But if your heart turns away, and you will not hear, but are drawn away to worship other gods and serve them, [18] I declare to you today, that you shall surely perish. You shall not live long in the land that you are going over the Jordan to enter and possess. [19] I call heaven and earth to witness against you today, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and curse. Therefore choose life, that you and your offspring may live, [20] loving the Lord your God, obeying his voice and holding fast to him, for he is your life and length of days, that you may dwell in the land that the Lord swore to your fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give them.



© 2008. The Urban Ministry Institute. All Rights Reserved.

For more prayer resources or information on Let God Arise, please visit www.tumi.org

TUMI is a Ministry of World Impact, Inc.

Let us choose never to turn our backs on the Lord, but serve him alone always

Josh. 24.15-18 - “And if it is evil in your eyes to serve the Lord, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your fathers served in the region beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.” [16] Then the people answered, “Far be it from us that we should forsake the Lord to serve other gods, [17] for it is the Lord our God who brought us and our fathers up from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and who did those great signs in our sight and preserved us in all the way that we went, and among all the peoples through whom we passed. [18] And the Lord drove out before us all the peoples, the Amorites who lived in the land. Therefore we also will serve the Lord, for he is our God.”

Ps. 119.30 - I have chosen the way of faithfulness; I set your rules before me.

Ps. 119.111 - Your testimonies are my heritage forever, for they are the joy of my heart.

Ps. 119.173 - Let your hand be ready to help me, for I have chosen your precepts.

If you choose the way of Christ, you will be persecuted

2 Tim. 3.12 - Indeed, all who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted.

Ps. 37.12-15 - The wicked plots against the righteous and gnashes his teeth at him, [13] but the Lord laughs at the wicked, for he sees that his day is coming. [14] The wicked draw the sword and bend their bows to bring down the poor and needy, to slay those whose way is upright; [15] their sword shall enter their own heart, and their bows shall be broken.



© 2008. The Urban Ministry Institute. All Rights Reserved.

For more prayer resources or information on Let God Arise, please visit www.tumi.org

TUMI is a Ministry of World Impact, Inc.

Matt. 5.10-12 - Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. [11] "Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. [12] Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

Matt. 10:22-25 - and you will be hated by all for my name's sake. But the one who endures to the end will be saved. [23] When they persecute you in one town, flee to the next, for truly, I say to you, you will not have gone through all the towns of Israel before the Son of Man comes. [24] A disciple is not above his teacher, nor a servant above his master. [25] It is enough for the disciple to be like his teacher, and the servant like his master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those of his household.

Luke 14.26-27 - If anyone comes to me and does not hate his own father and mother and wife and children and brothers and sisters, yes, and even his own life, he cannot be my disciple. [27] Whoever does not bear his own cross and come after me cannot be my disciple.

John 15.19-21 - "If you were of the world, the world would love you as its own; but because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you. [20] Remember the word that I said to you: 'A servant is not greater than his master.' If they persecuted me, they will also persecute you. If they kept my word, they will also keep yours. [21] But all these things they will do to you on account of my name, because they do not know him who sent me."

John 16.33 - I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world.



© 2008. The Urban Ministry Institute. All Rights Reserved.

For more prayer resources or information on Let God Arise, please visit www.tumi.org

TUMI is a Ministry of World Impact, Inc.

Acts 14.22 - Strengthening the souls of the disciples, encouraging them to continue in the faith, and saying that through many tribulations we must enter the kingdom of God.

1 Thess. 3.3-4 - That no one be moved by these afflictions. For you yourselves know that we are destined for this. [4] For when we were with you, we kept telling you beforehand that we were to suffer affliction, just as it has come to pass, and just as you know.

1 Pet. 2.20-21 - For what credit is it if, when you sin and are beaten for it, you endure? But if when you do good and suffer for it you endure, this is a gracious thing in the sight of God. [21] For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you might follow in his steps.

1 Pet. 4.12-16 - Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery trial when it comes upon you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. [13] But rejoice insofar as you share Christ's sufferings, that you may also rejoice and be glad when his glory is revealed. [14] If you are insulted for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you. [15] But let none of you suffer as a murderer or a thief or an evildoer or as a meddler. [16] Yet if anyone suffers as a Christian, let him not be ashamed, but let him glorify God in that name. When facing the lying intimidation of the enemy, stand your ground!

Eph. 6.10-13 - Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. [11] Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. [12] For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. [13] Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand firm.



© 2008. The Urban Ministry Institute. All Rights Reserved.

For more prayer resources or information on Let God Arise, please visit www.tumi.org

TUMI is a Ministry of World Impact, Inc.

Luke 21.36 - But stay awake at all times, praying that you may have strength to escape all these things that are going to take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.

Col. 4.12 - Epaphras, who is one of you, a servant of Christ Jesus, greets you, always struggling on your behalf in his prayers, that you may stand mature and fully assured in all the will of God.

Never shrink back from the enemy—never

Isa. 49.6 - he says: “It is too light a thing that you should be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to bring back the preserved of Israel; I will make you as a light for the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth.”

In Christ, the Lord has bared his holy arm to the nations

Heb. 10.35-39 - Therefore do not throw away your confidence, which has a great reward. [36] For you have need of endurance, so that when you have done the will of God you may receive what is promised. [37] For, “Yet a little while, and the coming one will come and will not delay; [38] but my righteous one shall live by faith, and if he shrinks back, my soul has no pleasure in him.” [39] But we are not of those who shrink back and are destroyed, but of those who have faith and preserve their souls. ■

IN SPIRITUAL warfare, sooner or later, we all face the same situation, the same awkward dilemma.

*Will I bow down, allowing evil to intimidate me, or
will I choose out of loyalty to God to defy the power—
and face the furnace?*

If there is one thing that is certain in the darkened realm still trashed by our ancient foe of hate and rage, it is this: the enemies of God wish to so



© 2008. The Urban Ministry Institute. All Rights Reserved.

For more prayer resources or information on Let God Arise, please visit www.tumi.org

TUMI is a Ministry of World Impact, Inc.

intimidate his people that they will be prone to bow down to their idols, to submit to their threats, to compromise according to their worldly perspectives and ways.

Scripture teaches us plainly that evil functions through lies of accusation and intimidation (John 8.44), and unfortunately, many saints are intimidated by the enemies bombastic claims that all is lost, and that if we fail to compromise according to his machinations, we will perish.

This is not so. Even though we may be persecuted, and even if some of us must necessarily lay down our lives in the struggle to testify of the Kingdom's coming in the person of Jesus, we simply cannot lose. God's plan is not ultimately dependent upon our ingenuity and strength; we do not secure the victory, for the battle is not ours, but God's (2 Chron. 20.15). The Lord does not save by spear or javelin, or by cannon or missile or weaponry; the battle is the Lord's, and only he is capable of delivering the enemy into his own hand (1 Sam. 17.45-47).

The setting of Daniel and his clan (Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego) resolved to honor God, even in the midst of their captivity. They were unique and choice, devoted and loyal to the Lord God of their fathers (and mothers). As hostages from the destruction of Jerusalem, they were among those whom the king of Babylon had separated unto himself:

Dan. 1.4 - youths without blemish, of good appearance and skillful in all wisdom, endowed with knowledge, understanding learning, and competent to stand in the king's palace, and to teach them the literature and language of the Chaldeans.

According to Daniel's account, there were four who were given names by the royal eunuchs of the land:



© 2008. The Urban Ministry Institute. All Rights Reserved.

For more prayer resources or information on Let God Arise, please visit www.tumi.org

TUMI is a Ministry of World Impact, Inc.

Dan. 1.6-7 - Among these were Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah of the tribe of Judah. [7] And the chief of the eunuchs gave them names: Daniel he called Belteshazzar, Hananiah he called Shadrach, Mishael he called Meshach, and Azariah he called Abednego. From the beginning, Daniel had resolved not to defile himself with the king's food and wine, and asked not to be defiled, and was blessed in his insistence (cf. Dan. 1.8-21). From the start, the officials and leaders of Babylon sought to intimidate Daniel and his friends to compromise, to give in, to conform to their standards and wishes. Respectfully, yet firmly, Daniel and his clan resisted the commands, seeking rather to remain faithful to the Lord in all things.

After Daniel's interpretation of the king's dream, he acknowledged that Daniel was in fact a man of God, and that the God of the Hebrews was in fact the true God.

Dan. 2.47-49 - The king answered and said to Daniel, "Truly, your God is God of gods and Lord of kings, and a revealer of mysteries, for you have been able to reveal this mystery." [48] Then the king gave Daniel high honors and many great gifts, and made him ruler over the whole province of Babylon and chief prefect over all the wise men of Babylon. [49] Daniel made a request of the king, and he appointed Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego over the affairs of the province of Babylon. But Daniel remained at the king's court.

Through the conniving scheming of Daniel's Babylonian peers, a statue was erected, with all leaders of Babylon to demonstrate their loyalty to the king by worshiping and bowing down to it. Seemingly having forgotten his previous acknowledgment of God, Nebuchadnezzar made worship of the image a visible confirmation of their submission to his rule. All those who refused to bow down to the image would be cast into a fiery furnace (Dan. 3.1-6).



© 2008. The Urban Ministry Institute. All Rights Reserved.

For more prayer resources or information on Let God Arise, please visit www.tumi.org

TUMI is a Ministry of World Impact, Inc.

Finally, the signal was given to the audience to come and bow down before the statue. Daniel's three stubborn friends did not bow (Dan. 3.7-12). Nebuchadnezzar was completely furious over their refusal to bow, and allowed the three upstarts one final opportunity to submit—again, they said no. They readily admitted that God could deliver if he wished, but even if he decided not to, they would never bend their knee to the idol. Even if they perished in the furnace, they would not be intimidated by their evil threat (Dan. 3.13-18).

We know the ending of the story; God delivers these courageous young followers of Yahweh with a mighty deliverance, one so great that even Nebuchadnezzar acknowledged its authenticity:

Dan. 3.28-29 - Nebuchadnezzar answered and said, "Blessed be the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, who has sent his angel and delivered his servants, who trusted in him, and set aside the king's command, and yielded up their bodies rather than serve and worship any god except their own God. [29] Therefore I make a decree: Any people, nation, or language that speaks anything against the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego shall be torn limb from limb, and their houses laid in ruins, for there is no other god who is able to rescue in this way."

This story illustrates that the one thing in spiritual warfare that must be in ample supply is attitude—courage, confidence, conviction, a willingness to stand your ground in the face of certain defeat. We do not stand *in order that* God might deliver, for he is not limited in any way. We do not barter with God through our courage; rather, when we refuse to be intimidated by evil, we gain an inner panoply of the soul that makes even the smallest group formidable and frightening to the enemy.

It is simply amazing what can be done when we refuse to be intimidated by evil, but stand our ground in the face of its threatenings and blasphemies. Every believer must learn to hold the fort.



© 2008. The Urban Ministry Institute. All Rights Reserved.

For more prayer resources or information on Let God Arise, please visit www.tumi.org

TUMI is a Ministry of World Impact, Inc.

I close with an amazing story detailed by D. L. Moody's great song leader, Ira Sankey (*My Life and the Story of the Gospel Hymns*, Philadelphia: The Sunday School Times, 1907), about a hymn penned by Phillip Bliss, the same who wrote "Dare to be a Daniel." The hymn is called "Hold the Fort" and this is its story:

Just before [William Tecumseh] Sherman began his famous march to the sea in 1864, and while his army lay camped in the neighborhood of Atlanta [Georgia] on the 5th of October, the army of Hood, in a carefully prepared movement, passed the right flank of Sherman's army, gained his rear, and commenced the destruction of the railroad leading north, burning blockhouses and capturing the small garrisons along the line. Sherman's army was put in rapid motion pursuing Hood, to save the supplies and larger posts, the principal one of which was located at Altoona Pass.

General Corse, of Illinois, was stationed there with about fifteen hundred men, Colonel Tourtelotte being second in command. A million and a half rations were stored here and it was highly important that the earthworks commanding the pass and protecting the supplies be held. Six thousand men under command of General French were detailed by Hood to take the position. The works were completely surrounded and summoned to surrender. Corse refused and a sharp fight commenced.

The defenders were slowly driven into a small fort on the crest of the hill. Many had fallen, and the result seemed to render a prolongation of the fight hopeless. At this moment an officer caught sight of a white signal flag far away across the valley, twenty miles distant, upon the top of Kenesaw Mountain. The signal was answered, and soon the message was waved across from mountain to mountain:

"Hold the fort; I am coming. – W. T. Sherman."



© 2008. The Urban Ministry Institute. All Rights Reserved.

For more prayer resources or information on Let God Arise, please visit www.tumi.org

TUMI is a Ministry of World Impact, Inc.

Cheers went up; every man was nerved to a full appreciation of the position; and under a murderous fire, which killed or wounded more than half the men in the fort—Corse himself being shot three times through the head, and Tourtelotte taking command, though himself badly wounded—they held the fort for three hours until the advance guard of Sherman’s army came up. French was obliged to retreat.

~ Sankey, p. 150-51.

Here is the song that Bliss was inspired to write on hearing of this event, a song used frequently in Sankey’s meetings in Great Britain during 1873-74, and whose words were inscribed on his monument at Rome, Pennsylvania.

*Ho, my comrades! see the signal waving in the sky!
Reinforcements now appearing, victory is nigh.*

*“Hold the fort, for I am coming,” Jesus signals still;
Wave the answer back to Heaven, “By Thy grace we will.”*

*See the mighty host advancing, Satan leading on;
Mighty ones around us falling, courage almost gone!*

*See the glorious banner waving! Hear the trumpet blow!
In our Leader’s Name we triumph over ev’ry foe.*

*Fierce and long the battle rages, but our help is near;
Onward comes our great Commander, cheer, my comrades, cheer!*

Let us determine during this Season after Pentecost never to bow or bend before the idols of evil, but determine to “hold the fort,” to stand our ground, and fight on till we see the cities won for God. ■



© 2008. The Urban Ministry Institute. All Rights Reserved.

For more prayer resources or information on Let God Arise, please visit www.tumi.org

TUMI is a Ministry of World Impact, Inc.

The Season after Pentecost: Never Bow the Knee to Evil

Dan. 3.16-18 - Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego answered and said to the king, "O Nebuchadnezzar, we have no need to answer you in this matter. [17] If this be so, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and he will deliver us out of your hand, O king. [18] But if not, be it known to you, O king, that we will not serve your gods or worship the golden image that you have set up."

Biblical Principle of the Month

At the beginning of this Season after Pentecost, let us arm ourselves with courage to represent with honor and faith the Kingdom of our Lord Jesus Christ. Let us resolve, as Daniel and his friends, to never bow our knees to the idols of those who would strive to intimidate us. Rather, let us stand, holding our ground and not shrinking back from the persecution and trials we face knowing full well that Christ will come soon and make all things alright. We can persevere because our Lord has signaled that, soon and very soon, he will appear and make an end of sorrow and sin.

Ps. 126.1-3 - When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion, we were like those who dream. [2] Then our mouth was filled with laughter, and our tongue with shouts of joy; then they said among the nations, "The Lord has done great things for them." [3] The Lord has done great things for us; we are glad.

Rev. 2.25-28 - Only hold fast what you have until I come. [26] The one who conquers and who keeps my works until the end, to him I will give authority over the nations, [27] and he will rule them with a rod of iron, as when earthen pots are broken in pieces, even as I myself have received authority from my Father. [28] And I will give him the morning star.



© 2008. The Urban Ministry Institute. All Rights Reserved.

For more prayer resources or information on Let God Arise, please visit www.tumi.org

TUMI is a Ministry of World Impact, Inc.