

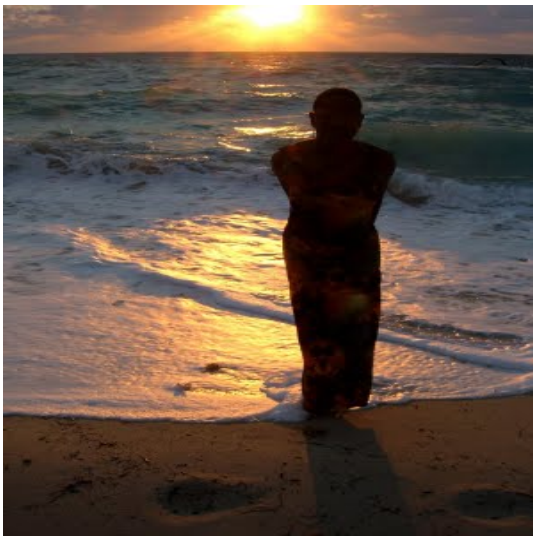
Standing in the Fire

Written by EssJee

Friday, 26 March 2010 20:00 - Last Updated Wednesday, 19 May 2010 17:31

Standing in the Fire

Devotional done by Ess-Jee from standforyourmarriage.org



But who may abide the day of his coming? and who shall stand when he appeareth? for he is like a refiner's fire, and like fullers' soap: **Malachi 3:2**

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Sometimes we find ourselves in a fire of life's circumstances. One day everything will be blue skies and the sun shining, suddenly dark clouds surrounds one and everything seems lost. What do we usually do, we retreat to our old habits to ease the pain. But what these short solutions actually do is to make your pain or problem actually worse. There is One you can count on always. He is never changing; He loves you in the midst of all your pain and problems. He will never forsake you or leave you. He will always be there to comfort you in your darkest hour.

His name is Jesus Christ. Out of my own experience I can testify that He never left me alone. If I feel alone or the clouds get darker around me or the enemy attacks me wave after wave, His hands are always there for me. All I must do is to cry out to Him and He will help you. God is faithful, He will never ever forsake you, and He loves you so much that He gave a part of Himself to save you. Our God is awesome, you may feel alone and that there is nothing you can do to save your marriage or finances or whatever the case may be. Just know God is with you in the fire of your problems. He will never leave you alone in the Fire; He will lead you through the fire to the place He has destined for you.

You may lose everything in this life, but know that Your God you will never let you go, He will always hold your hand. The plans God has for us, is to give us a hope and a future. Keep on believing in God and make time to spend with Him. The one who bows down to the Lord can stand up against anything.

¹¹ For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. ¹² Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. ¹³ You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart.

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I will be found by you," declares the LORD, "and will bring you back from captivity.

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I will gather you from all the nations and places where I have banished you," declares the LORD, "and will bring you back to the place from which I carried you into exile."(Jeremiah 29:11 – 14)

One of my friends sent me some photos of a cross that was caught in a heavy fire. The fire burnt the whole forest and damaged some real-estate. It was a terrifying fire, destroying everything in its path. The fire fighters said to each other that, that cross will not make it through this fire. When they came back to the site the next morning everything around the cross was destroyed except the cross, Amazing. Even though you and I may experience heavy fire around us, the Lord will protect us like He did for Daniel when they threw him and his friends in the oven.

¹³ Furious with rage, Nebuchadnezzar summoned Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego. So these men were brought before the king, ¹⁴ and

Nebuchadnezzar said to them, "Is it true, Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, that you do not serve my gods or worship the image of gold I have set up? ¹⁵ Now when you hear the sound of the horn, flute, zither,

lyre, harp, pipes and all kinds of music, if you are ready to fall down and worship the image I made, very good. But if you do not worship it, you will be thrown immediately into a blazing furnace. Then what god will be able to rescue you from my hand?"

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¹⁶ Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego replied to the king,

"O Nebuchadnezzar, we do not need to defend ourselves before you in this matter. ¹⁷ If we are thrown into the blazing furnace, the God we serve is able to save us from it, and he will rescue us from your hand, O king.

¹⁸

But even if he does not, we want you to know, O king, that we will not serve your gods or worship the image of gold you have set up."

¹⁹ Then Nebuchadnezzar was furious with Shadrach, Meshach and

Abednego, and his attitude toward them changed. He ordered the furnace heated seven times hotter than usual ²⁰ and commanded some of the

strongest soldiers in his army to tie up Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego and throw them into the blazing furnace. ²¹ So these men, wearing their

robes, trousers, turbans and other clothes, were bound and thrown into the blazing furnace. ²² The king's command was so urgent and the furnace so

hot that the flames of the fire killed the soldiers who took up Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, ²³ and these three men, firmly tied, fell into the

blazing furnace.

²⁴ Then King Nebuchadnezzar leaped to his feet in amazement and asked

his advisers, "Weren't there three men that we tied up and threw into the fire?"

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²⁴ They replied, "Certainly, O king."

²⁵ He said, "Look! I see four men walking around in the fire, unbound

and unharmed, and the fourth looks like a son of the gods."

²⁶ Nebuchadnezzar then approached the opening of the blazing furnace and

shouted, "Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, servants of the Most High God, come out! Come here!"

²⁶ So Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego came out of the fire, ²⁷ and the

satraps, prefects, governors and royal advisers crowded around them. They saw that the fire had not harmed their bodies, nor was a hair of their heads singed; their robes were not scorched, and there was no smell of fire on them.

²⁸ Then Nebuchadnezzar said, "Praise be to the God of Shadrach,

Meshach and Abednego, who has sent his angel and rescued his servants! They trusted in him and defied the king's command and were willing to give up their lives rather than serve or worship any god except their own God.

²⁹

Therefore I decree that the people of any nation or language who say anything against the God of Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego be cut into pieces and their houses be turned into piles of

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rubble, for no other god can save in this way."

³⁰ Then the king promoted Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego in the

province of Babylon . (Daniel 3)

Daniel and his friends didn't even smell of smoke. God is true to His word. I love Him so much and want to share what He has done for me so far. When the enemy came and took my wife prisoner I didn't know what to do, I was in the fire. But I turned to our Lord and He told me to stand for my wife and my marriage and told me that I will not even smell of smoke just like Daniel. Dear friend wave after wave came, the flame gets hotter each and everyday, but He is with me. Every time I shout to Him He rescued me, He is a faithful God and true to His word. Through court proceedings, through everything, I still don't smell of smoke and I'm still standing strong.

Trust in God and He will fill you with a peace that goes above any understanding. Don't trust in your own strength, only God can let you stay standing FIRM. In Him is Victory, keep your eyes on Jesus. Give all your pain and hurt to Him, He died for all your sorrows and Hurt. He knows you from the inside out, so don't you think He knows what the best is for you?