

¹Nebuchadnezzar the king made an image of gold, whose height was threescore cubits, and the breadth thereof six cubits: he set it up in the plain of Dura, in the province of Babylon.² Then Nebuchadnezzar the king sent to gather together the princes, the governors, and the captains, the judges, the treasurers, the counsellors, the sheriffs, and all the rulers of the provinces, to come to the dedication of the image which Nebuchadnezzar the king had set up.³ Then the princes, the governors, and captains, the judges, the treasurers, the counsellors, the sheriffs, and all the rulers of the provinces, were gathered together unto the dedication of the image that Nebuchadnezzar the king had set up; and they stood before the image that Nebuchadnezzar had set up.⁴ Then an herald cried aloud, To you it is commanded, O people, nations, and languages,⁵ That at what time ye hear the sound of the cornet, flute, harp, sackbut, psaltery, dulcimer, and all kinds of musick, ye fall down and worship the golden image that Nebuchadnezzar the king hath set up:⁶ And whoso falleth not down and worshippeth shall the same hour be cast into the midst of a burning fiery furnace.⁷ Therefore at that time, when all the people heard the sound of the cornet, flute, harp, sackbut, psaltery, and all kinds of musick, all the people, the nations, and the languages, fell down and worshipped the golden image that Nebuchadnezzar the king had set up.⁸ Wherefore at that time certain Chaldeans came near, and accused the Jews.⁹ They spake and said to the king

¹تَبُوحْدَنْصَرُ الْمَلِكُ صَبَعَ تَمَنَّا مِنْ ذَهَبٍ طُولُهُ سِتُونَ ذِرَاعًا وَعَرْضُهُ سِتُّ أذْرُعَ، وَتَصَبَّهُ فِي بَقْعَةٍ دُورًا فِي وَلَايَةِ بَابِلَ.² ثُمَّ أَرْسَلَ تَبُوحْدَنْصَرُ الْمَلِكُ لِيَجْمَعَ الْمَرَازِيَّةَ وَالشَّحْنَ وَالْوَلَاةَ وَالْقُصَاةَ وَالْحَزَنَةَ وَالْفُقَهَاءَ وَالْمُقَنِّينَ وَكُلَّ حُكَّامِ الْوَلَايَاتِ لِيَأْتُوا لِيَذْشِينَ التَّمْنَالِ الَّذِي تَصَبَّهُ تَبُوحْدَنْصَرُ الْمَلِكُ.³ حِينَئِذٍ اجْتَمَعَ الْمَرَازِيَّةُ وَالشَّحْنُ وَالْوَلَاةُ وَالْقُصَاةُ وَالْحَزَنَةُ وَالْفُقَهَاءُ وَالْمُقَنِّونَ وَكُلُّ حُكَّامِ الْوَلَايَاتِ لِيَذْشِينَ التَّمْنَالِ الَّذِي تَصَبَّهُ تَبُوحْدَنْصَرُ الْمَلِكُ، وَوَقَفُوا أَمَامَ التَّمْنَالِ الَّذِي تَصَبَّهُ تَبُوحْدَنْصَرُ.⁴ وَتَادَى مُنَادٍ بِشِدَّةٍ، قَدْ أَمَرْتُمْ أَهْلَ الشُّعُوبِ وَالْأُمَمِ وَالْأَلْسِنَةِ،⁵ عِنْدَمَا تَسْمَعُونَ صَوْتَ الْقَرْنِ وَالنَّايِ وَالْعُودِ وَالرَّيَابِ وَالسَّنْطِيرِ وَالْمِزْمَارِ وَكُلِّ أَنْوَاعِ الْعَزْفِ أَنْ تَخْرُجُوا وَتَسْجُدُوا لِتَمْنَالِ الذَّهَبِ الَّذِي تَصَبَّهُ تَبُوحْدَنْصَرُ الْمَلِكِ.⁶ وَمَنْ لَا يَخْرُجُ وَيَسْجُدُ فِيهِ تِلْكَ السَّاعَةِ يُلْقَى فِي وَسْطِ أُنُونٍ تَارٍ مُتَّقِدَةٍ.⁷ لِأَجْلِ ذَلِكَ وَفَتَمَّا سَمِعَ كُلُّ الشُّعُوبِ صَوْتَ الْقَرْنِ وَالنَّايِ وَالْعُودِ وَالرَّيَابِ وَالسَّنْطِيرِ وَكُلِّ أَنْوَاعِ الْعَزْفِ، خَرَّ كُلُّ الشُّعُوبِ وَالْأُمَمِ وَالْأَلْسِنَةِ وَسَجَدُوا لِتَمْنَالِ الذَّهَبِ الَّذِي تَصَبَّهُ تَبُوحْدَنْصَرُ الْمَلِكِ.⁸ لِأَجْلِ ذَلِكَ تَقَدَّمَ حِينَئِذٍ رَجَالٌ كَلْدَانِيُونَ وَاسْتَكْبَرُوا عَلَى الْيَهُودِ،⁹ وَقَالُوا لِلْمَلِكِ تَبُوحْدَنْصَرُ، أَهْلُ الْمَلِكِ، عِشْ إِلَى الْأَبَدِ.¹⁰ أَنْتَ أَهْلُ الْمَلِكِ قَدْ أَصْدَرْتَ أَمْرًا بِأَنْ كُلِّ إِنْسَانٍ يَسْمَعُ صَوْتَ الْقَرْنِ وَالنَّايِ وَالْعُودِ وَالرَّيَابِ وَالسَّنْطِيرِ وَالْمِزْمَارِ وَكُلِّ أَنْوَاعِ الْعَزْفِ يَخْرُجُ وَيَسْجُدُ لِتَمْنَالِ الذَّهَبِ.¹¹ وَمَنْ لَا يَخْرُجُ وَيَسْجُدُ فَإِنَّهُ يُلْقَى فِي وَسْطِ أُنُونٍ تَارٍ مُتَّقِدَةٍ.¹² يَوْجَدُ رَجَالُ يَهُودَ، الَّذِينَ وَكَلْتَهُمْ عَلَى أَعْمَالِ وَلَايَةِ بَابِلَ، سَدْرُخُ وَمِيشُخُ وَعَبْدَنْغُو. هَؤُلَاءِ الرِّجَالُ لَمْ يَجْعَلُوا لَكَ أَهْلًا الْمَلِكِ اعْتِبَارًا. إِلَهْتُكَ لَا يَعْبُدُونَ، وَلِتَمْنَالِ الذَّهَبِ الَّذِي تَصَبَّتْ لَا يَسْجُدُونَ.¹³ حِينَئِذٍ أَمَرَ تَبُوحْدَنْصَرُ بِعَصَبٍ وَعَظِيٍّ بِإِخْصَارٍ سَدْرُخُ وَمِيشُخُ وَعَبْدَنْغُو. فَأَتَوْا يَهُودَاءِ الرِّجَالِ قُدَّامَ الْمَلِكِ.¹⁴ فَسَأَلَهُمْ تَبُوحْدَنْصَرُ، تَعْمُدًا يَا سَدْرُخُ وَمِيشُخُ وَعَبْدَنْغُو لَا تَعْبُدُونَ إِلَهِي وَلَا تَسْجُدُونَ لِتَمْنَالِ الذَّهَبِ الَّذِي تَصَبَّتْ.¹⁵ فَإِنْ كُنْتُمْ الْآنَ مُسْتَعِدِّينَ عِنْدَمَا تَسْمَعُونَ صَوْتَ الْقَرْنِ وَالنَّايِ وَالْعُودِ وَالرَّيَابِ وَالسَّنْطِيرِ وَالْمِزْمَارِ وَكُلِّ أَنْوَاعِ الْعَزْفِ إِلَى أَنْ تَخْرُجُوا وَتَسْجُدُوا لِلتَّمْنَالِ الَّذِي عَمِلْتُهُ. وَإِنْ لَمْ تَسْجُدُوا فِيهِ تِلْكَ السَّاعَةِ تُلْقَوْنَ فِي وَسْطِ أُنُونٍ تَارٍ مُتَّقِدَةٍ. وَمَنْ هُوَ إِلَهُ الَّذِي يُنْقِذُكُمْ مِنْ يَدِي.¹⁶ فَأَجَابَ سَدْرُخُ وَمِيشُخُ وَعَبْدَنْغُو، يَا تَبُوحْدَنْصَرُ، لَا يَلَزِمُنَا أَنْ نُجِيبَكَ عَنْ هَذَا الْأَمْرِ.¹⁷ هُوَذَا

Nebuchadnezzar, O king, live for ever.¹⁰ Thou, O king, hast made a decree, that every man that shall hear the sound of the cornet, flute, harp, sackbut, psaltery, and dulcimer, and all kinds of musick, shall fall down and worship the golden image:¹¹ And whoso falleth not down and worshippeth, that he should be cast into the midst of a burning fiery furnace.¹² There are certain Jews whom thou hast set over the affairs of the province of Babylon, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego; these men, O king, have not regarded thee: they serve not thy gods, nor worship the golden image which thou hast set up.¹³ Then Nebuchadnezzar in his rage and fury commanded to bring Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. Then they brought these men before the king.¹⁴ Nebuchadnezzar spake and said unto them, Is it true, O Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, do not ye serve my gods, nor worship the golden image which I have set up?¹⁵ Now if ye be ready that at what time ye hear the sound of the cornet, flute, harp, sackbut, psaltery, and dulcimer, and all kinds of musick, ye fall down and worship the image which I have made; well : but if ye worship not, ye shall be cast the same hour into the midst of a burning fiery furnace; and who is that God that shall deliver you out of my hands?¹⁶ Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, answered and said to the king, O Nebuchadnezzar, we are not careful to answer thee in this matter.¹⁷ If it be so, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and he will deliver us out of thine hand, O king.¹⁸ But if

يُوجَدُ إِلَهَتَا الَّذِي تَعْبُدُهُ يَسْتَطِيعُ أَنْ يُجِيبَنَا مِنْ أَثُونِ النَّارِ الْمُتَّقِدَةِ وَأَنْ يُفِدَنَا مِنْ يَدِكَ أَيُّهَا الْمَلِكُ.¹⁸ وَإِلَّا فَلْيَكُنْ مَعْلُومًا لَكَ أَيُّهَا الْمَلِكُ أَنَّنَا لَا نَعْبُدُ إِلَهَتَكَ وَلَا نَسْجُدُ لِيَمْنَالِ الذَّهَبِ الَّذِي تَصْنَعُهُ.¹⁹ حِينَئِذٍ امْتَلَأَ تَبُوحْدَتَصْرُ عَيْطًا وَتَغَيَّرَ مَنْظَرُ وَجْهِهِ عَلَى سَدْرَحَ وَمِيشَاحَ وَعَبْدَنَعُو، وَأَمَرَ بِأَنْ يَحْمُوا الْأَثُونِ سَبْعَةَ أَصْغَافٍ أَكْثَرَ مِمَّا كَانَ مُعْتَادًا أَنْ يُحْمَى.²⁰ وَأَمَرَ جَبَايِرَةُ الْقُوَّةِ فِي جَيْشِهِ بِأَنْ يُوثِقُوا سَدْرَحَ وَمِيشَاحَ وَعَبْدَنَعُو وَيُلْفُوهُمْ فِي أَثُونِ النَّارِ الْمُتَّقِدَةِ.²¹ ثُمَّ أُوثِقَ هَؤُلَاءِ الرِّجَالُ فِي سَرَائِلِهِمْ وَأَقْمِصَتِهِمْ وَأُرْدِيَتِهِمْ وَلِبَاسِهِمْ وَأُلْفُوا فِي وَسْطِ أَثُونِ النَّارِ الْمُتَّقِدَةِ.²² وَمِنْ حَيْثُ إِنَّ كَلِمَةَ الْمَلِكِ شَدِيدَةٌ وَالْأَثُونُ قَدْ حَمِيَ جِدًّا، قَتَلَ لَهَيْبِ النَّارِ الرِّجَالَ الَّذِينَ رَفَعُوا سَدْرَحَ وَمِيشَاحَ وَعَبْدَنَعُو.²³ وَهَؤُلَاءِ الثَّلَاثَةُ الرِّجَالُ، سَدْرَحُ وَمِيشَاحُ وَعَبْدَنَعُو، سَقَطُوا مُوتَقِينَ فِي وَسْطِ أَثُونِ النَّارِ الْمُتَّقِدَةِ.²⁴ حِينَئِذٍ تَحَبَّرَ تَبُوحْدَتَصْرُ الْمَلِكُ وَقَامَ مُسْرِعًا وَسَالَ مُشِيرِيهِ، أَلَمْ تَلْقَ ثَلَاثَةَ رِجَالٍ مُوتَقِينَ فِي وَسْطِ النَّارِ. فَأَجَابُوا، صَحِيحٌ أَيُّهَا الْمَلِكُ.²⁵ فَقَالَ، هَا أَنَا تَاطِرُ أَرْبَعَةِ رِجَالٍ مَحْلُولِينَ يَتَمَشُّونَ فِي وَسْطِ النَّارِ وَمَا بِهِمْ صَرَرٌ، وَمَنْظَرُ الرَّابِعِ شَبِيهُ يَابْنِ الْأَلْهَةِ.²⁶ ثُمَّ اقْتَرَبَ تَبُوحْدَتَصْرُ إِلَى بَابِ أَثُونِ النَّارِ الْمُتَّقِدَةِ وَتَادَى، يَا سَدْرَحُ وَمِيشَاحُ وَعَبْدَنَعُو، يَا عِبِيدَ اللَّهِ الْعَلِيِّ، اخْرُجُوا وَتَعَالَوْا. فَخَرَجَ سَدْرَحُ وَمِيشَاحُ وَعَبْدَنَعُو مِنْ وَسْطِ النَّارِ.²⁷ فَاجْتَمَعَتِ الْمَرَاثِبَةُ وَالسَّحْنُ وَالْوُلَاةُ وَمُشِيرُو الْمَلِكِ وَرَأَوْا هَؤُلَاءِ الرِّجَالَ الَّذِينَ لَمْ تَكُنْ لِلنَّارِ قُوَّةٌ عَلَى أَجْسَادِهِمْ، وَسَعَرُهُ مِنْ رُؤُوسِهِمْ لَمْ تَحْتَرِقْ، وَسَرَائِلُهُمْ لَمْ تَتَغَيَّرْ، وَرَائِحَةُ النَّارِ لَمْ تَأْتِ عَلَيْهِمْ.²⁸ فَقَالَ تَبُوحْدَتَصْرُ، تَبَارَكَ إِلَهُ سَدْرَحَ وَمِيشَاحَ وَعَبْدَنَعُو الَّذِي أَرْسَلَ مَلَائِكَةً وَأَقْدَمَ عِبِيدَهُ الَّذِينَ أَكَلُوا عَلَيْهِ وَعَبَّرُوا كَلِمَةَ الْمَلِكِ وَأَسْلَمُوا أَجْسَادَهُمْ لِكَيْ لَا يَغْبُدُوا أَوْ يَسْجُدُوا لِإِلَهِ غَيْرِ إِلَهُهِمْ.²⁹ فَمِنِّي قَدْ صَدَرَ أَمْرٌ بِأَنْ كُلَّ شَعْبٍ وَأُمَّةٍ وَلِسَانٍ يَتَكَلَّمُونَ بِالسُّوءِ عَلَى إِلَهٍ سَدْرَحَ وَمِيشَاحَ وَعَبْدَنَعُو فَلْيَبْهَمُوا يُصَيَّرُونَ إِرْبًا إِرْبًا، وَنُجْعَلُ بُيُوتُهُمْ مَرْبَلَةً، إِذْ لَيْسَ إِلَهُ آخَرَ يَسْتَطِيعُ أَنْ يُنْجِيَ هَكَذَا.³⁰ حِينَئِذٍ قَدَّمَ الْمَلِكُ سَدْرَحَ وَمِيشَاحَ وَعَبْدَنَعُو فِي وَلايَةِ بَابِلَ.

not, be it known unto thee, O king, that we will not serve thy gods, nor worship the golden image which thou hast set up.¹⁹ Then was Nebuchadnezzar full of fury, and the form of his visage was changed against Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego: therefore he spake, and commanded that they should heat the furnace one seven times more than it was wont to be heated.²⁰ And he commanded the most mighty men that were in his army to bind Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, and to cast them into the burning fiery furnace.²¹ Then these men were bound in their coats, their hosen, and their hats, and their other garments, and were cast into the midst of the burning fiery furnace.²² Therefore because the king's commandment was urgent, and the furnace exceeding hot, the flame of the fire slew those men that took up Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego.²³ And these three men, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, fell down bound into the midst of the burning fiery furnace.²⁴ Then Nebuchadnezzar the king was astonished, and rose up in haste, and spake, and said unto his counsellors, Did not we cast three men bound into the midst of the fire? They answered and said unto the king, True, O king.²⁵ He answered and said, Lo, I see four men loose, walking in the midst of the fire, and they have no hurt; and the form of the fourth is like the Son of God.²⁶ Then Nebuchadnezzar came near to the mouth of the burning fiery furnace, and spake, and said, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, ye servants of the most high God, come forth, and come hither . Then

Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, came forth of the midst of the fire.²⁷ And the princes, governors, and captains, and the king's counsellors, being gathered together, saw these men, upon whose bodies the fire had no power, nor was an hair of their head singed, neither were their coats changed, nor the smell of fire had passed on them.²⁸ Then Nebuchadnezzar spake, and said, Blessed be the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, who hath sent his angel, and delivered his servants that trusted in him, and have changed the king's word, and yielded their bodies, that they might not serve nor worship any god, except their own God.²⁹ Therefore I make a decree, That every people, nation, and language, which speak any thing amiss against the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, shall be cut in pieces, and their houses shall be made a dunghill: because there is no other God that can deliver after this sort.³⁰ Then the king promoted Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, in the province of Babylon.