

# Fiery Commitment

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## THE LORD'S FLOCK GROW DIGEST

At the beginning of every year, traditionally, we write or make New Year's resolutions to start afresh, leave old habits behind and determine how we want things to go moving forward. For instance, one resolves to eat healthier, have a more positive attitude, or have a closer relationship with God. These are all good areas to strive for; but we have to do more. We need to commit fervently and act on them to make sure we successfully achieve them. Furthermore, we should seek the grace of God so we can victoriously fulfil our commitments (Zech. 4:6).

### 1. What is the difference between a resolution and a commitment?

- 1.1. **Resolution** – a person makes a decision to do something after careful consideration and makes it a purpose for a time period.
- 1.2. **Commitment** – a person obligates, binds, and entrusts himself/herself to actually do something and follow-through to the end. Thus, commitment runs deeper than a resolution. It is more than making-up one's mind and saying words; it involves actions!

### 2. When we are fully committed to God, we will find favor in His eyes.

Daniel and his three Hebrew friends – Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, were brought as captives to King Nebuchadnezzar's court. Despite the order from the king, they remained committed not to defile themselves with the royal food and wine; rather, they insisted on vegetables and water only. Consequently, God had His hands on them, and gave them knowledge and understanding (Daniel 1:18; 2:46-49).

- 2.1. The king repented and gave praise to Daniel. They were appointed as the king's personal staff, and Daniel as Chief Officer.

2.2 God elevated them to the top (Dan.2:48; Ps.75:7; Ps.105:15; Deut.28:13).

2.3 God planned to use Daniel. He gave him the gift of dream interpretation.

2.4 Daniel existed not only for himself, but for the benefit of the community (Prov. 11:25).

2.5 Similarly, God will show us His favor (Prov. 16:20). He is a rewarder. He will work His plan for our lives no matter where we are. We need not worry about where we are standing in life, whether we are going through a storm or having prosperous times.

#### Conclusion:

Our fiery commitment to God delights Him. He puts His plan into action, a plan that elevates us. God can take us from the bottom and raise us to the top, even when those around us do not want us there.

#### Reflection:

1. How have you committed to serve God? What are you struggling with to fulfill this commitment?
2. When God shows you favors, how do you respond?

#### Prayer:

Heavenly Father, we humbly ask for your grace for a new level of whole-hearted commitment to You, and to set ourselves apart to be used for Your purpose. In Jesus' name we pray – Amen.