



**The Fourth Man IN  
the Fire**

**Daniel 3**

***“You can turn me  
over now. I think  
I’m done on that  
side.”***

St. Lawrence and the  
Valerian Persecution





***“All of our theology  
must eventually  
become biography.  
The constant  
challenge in this life  
we call Christian is  
the translation of all  
we believe to be true  
into our day-to-day  
lifestyle.”***

Tim Hansel, You Gotta Keep  
Dancin’



**Christ-followers  
living in the world  
today run into the  
danger of  
becoming furnace  
avoiders.**







**Our GREATEST heroes  
of the faith have one  
common  
denominator...**

**Their faith  
WAS tested!**



## David:

- **1 Samuel 24:1-2**
- **1 Samuel 26:7-12**

## Daniel:

- **Daniel 6:10-13**



## John the Baptist:

- **Mark 6:14-29**

## Stephen:

- **Acts 6-8-15**
- **Acts 7:51-60**



# What did these three men experience?

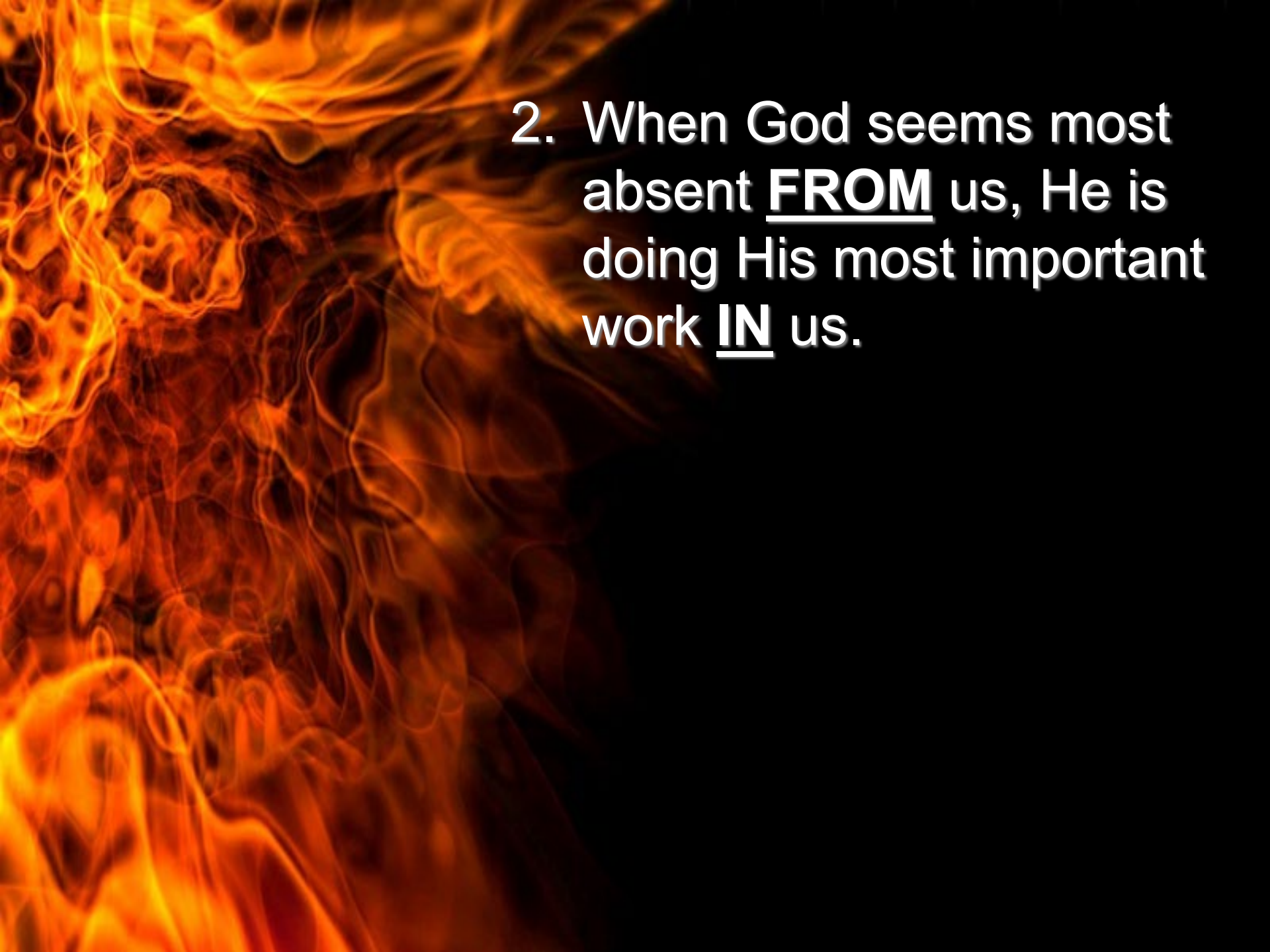
- *Life or death decision. (3:1-5)*
  - *Threat. (3:6-7)*
- *Standing out in the Crowd. (3:8-12)*
  - *The WRATH of a King. (3:13-15)*
- *Words HAVE consequences. (3:16-18)*
- *PEACE in the presence of God AND danger. (3:19-27)*



Three lessons revealed  
to us through the trial  
by fire:

1. The good news of the  
Gospel is **NOT** that God  
will make life **EASIER**.  
The good news of the  
Gospel, for **THIS** life, is  
that He will make our  
lives **BETTER**.





2. When God seems most absent FROM us, He is doing His most important work IN us.



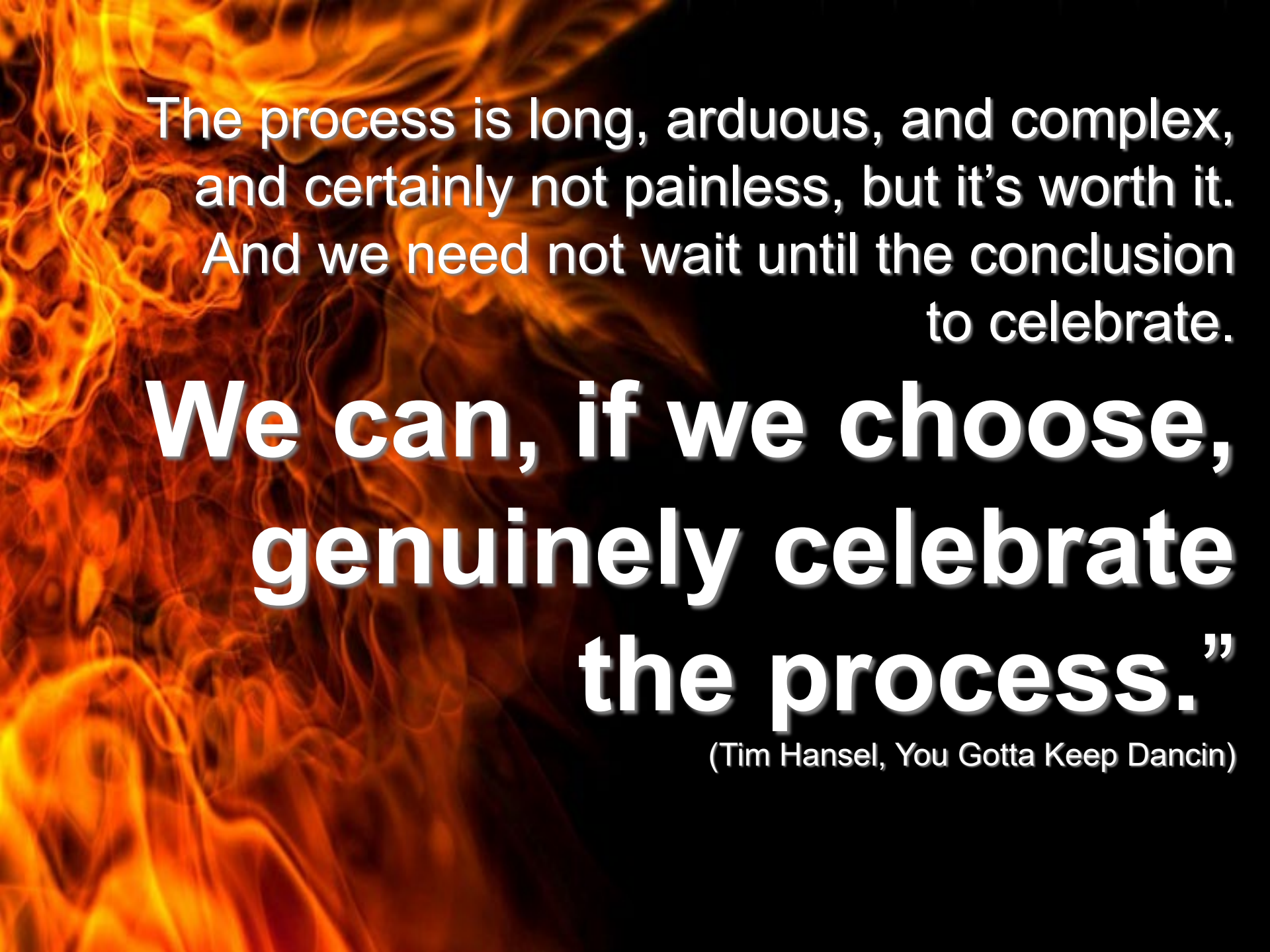
3. It isn't ALWAYS good to be blessed with the good things of life. Bad times provide an opportunity to KNOW God that blessings can **NEVER** provide.





Maybe we need to **STOP**  
praying for deliverance  
from the furnace and,  
instead, **INVITE** God to  
be present in the fire!





The process is long, arduous, and complex,  
and certainly not painless, but it's worth it.  
And we need not wait until the conclusion  
to celebrate.

**We can, if we choose,  
genuinely celebrate  
the process.”**

(Tim Hansel, You Gotta Keep Dancin)