

*Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost*  
*Matthew 22, 35-46*



# God protects Daniel's friends in a furnace.

Daniel 3:1-30

King Nebuchadnezzar built a tall, tall statue. King Nebuchadnezzar wanted everyone to bow down and worship his statue. The king said, "Anyone who does not bow down will be thrown into a blazing furnace!"

Some men who worked for the king saw that Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego did not bow down to the king's statue. They did not bow down because they knew they should only worship God, not a statue.

The king was very angry with the three men. The king ordered his guards to tie up Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego and throw them into the hottest furnace. But when they were in the furnace, the king saw something very strange. Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego were not being burned up! They were not even tied up anymore. They were walking around inside the furnace with another person—an angel!

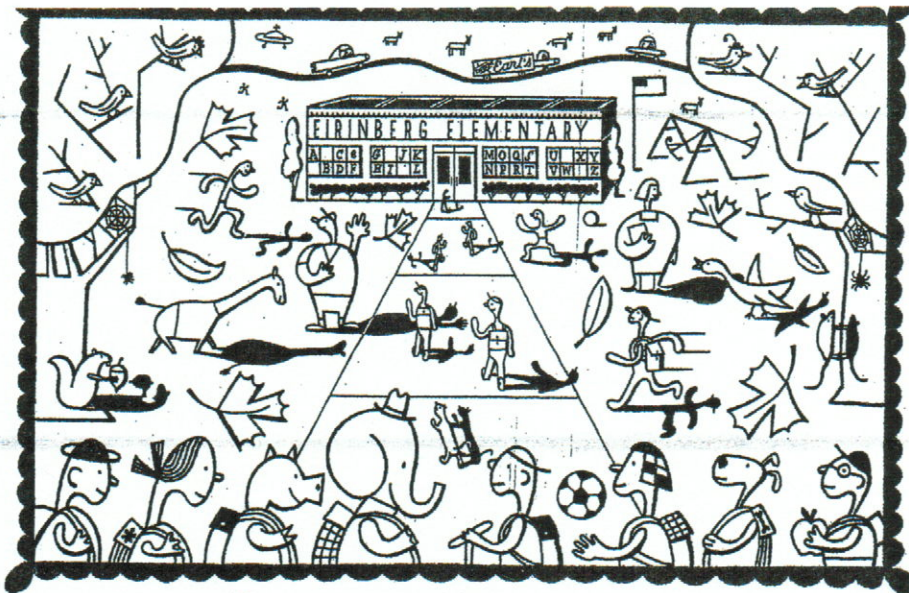
The king called to Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, "Servants of the Most High God, come out!" The king said, "Praise God who sent an angel to save His servants. Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego would rather give up their lives than worship any god other than the one true God."



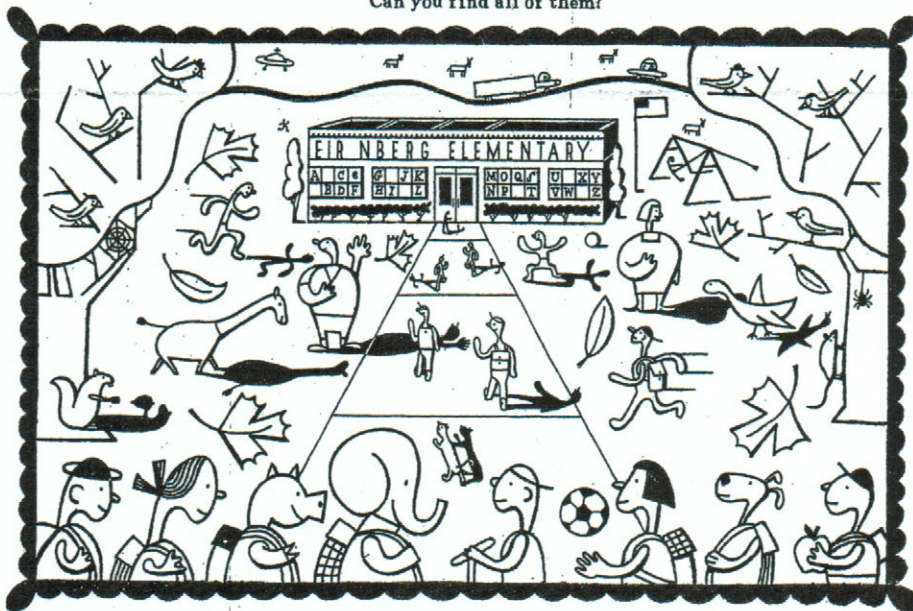
**God protects  
Daniel's friends  
in a furnace.**

Daniel 3:1-30





These two pictures are exactly the same. Or are they?  
There are actually 30 things missing in the picture below.  
Can you find all of them?



How closely do you pay attention to what you see and hear in church? Do you hear, but not listen? Do you see, but not really understand?