



Culture Clash
Lesson 3: Culture's Idol's
February 7 & 8

We are called to bow up, not down

Our enemy wants to be worshiped (Isaiah 14:12-15, Ezekiel 28:11-19)

Our enemy even tried to make Jesus worship him

Matthew 4:8 Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor. **9** "All this I will give you," he said, "**if you will bow down and worship me.**" **10** Jesus said to him, "Away from me, Satan! For it is written: 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only.'" **New International Version**

The antichrist, our enemy's false messiah, will demand worship (Revelation 13:14-17)

2 Thessalonians 2:3 Don't be fooled by what they say. For that day will not come until there is a great rebellion against God and the man of lawlessness is revealed—the one who brings destruction. **4** He will exalt himself and defy everything that people call god and every object of worship. He will even sit in the temple of God, claiming that he himself is God. **New Living Translation**

The spirit of antichrist is already working

1 John 4:3 ...Such a person has the spirit of the antichrist, which you heard is coming into the world and indeed is already here. **New Living Translation**

How the antichrist spirit tries to subtly keep Christians from bowing to God

- Not loving God with all our heart, soul, strength, and mind (Luke 10:27)
- Not believing or following Scriptural principles

- Not attending and being part of a local church
- Not living our Christianity out loud

Nebuchadnezzar wanted everyone's worship (Daniel 3:1-30)

Daniel 3:1 King Nebuchadnezzar made a gold statue ninety feet tall and nine feet wide and set it up on the plain of Dura in the province of Babylon. **2** Then he sent messages to the high officers, officials, governors, advisers, treasurers, judges, magistrates, and all the provincial officials to come to the dedication of the statue he had set up. **3** So all these officials came and stood before the statue King Nebuchadnezzar had set up. **4** Then a herald shouted out, "People of all races and nations and languages, listen to the king's command! **5** When you hear the sound of the horn, flute, zither, lyre, harp, pipes, and other musical instruments, **bow to the ground to worship King Nebuchadnezzar's gold statue.** **6** Anyone who refuses to obey will immediately be thrown into a blazing furnace." *New Living Translation*

Daniel 3:16 Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego replied to him, "King 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 deliver us from it, and he will deliver us from Your Majesty's hand. **18 But even if he does not,** we want you to know, Your Majesty, that we will not serve your gods or worship the image of gold you have set up." *New Living Translation*

Daniel 3:24 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?" They replied, "Certainly, Your Majesty." **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!" So Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego came out of the fire, *New Living Translation*

Daniel 3:28 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 rubble, for no other god can save in this way." **30** Then the king promoted Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego in the province of Babylon. *New Living Translation*