THE SONG OF THE THREE HOLY CHILDREN,

which followeth in the third Chapter of DANIEL after this place,—fell down bound into the midst of the burning fiery furnace—verse 23. That which followeth is not in the Chaldee, to wit, And they walked—unto these words, Then Nebuchadnezzar—verse 24.

- ¹ AND they walked in the midst of the fire, praising God, and blessing the Lord. ² Then Azarias stood *up*, and prayed on this manner; and opening his mouth in the midst of the fire, said,
- ³ Blessed art thou, O Lord God of our fathers: thy name is worthy to be praised and glorified for evermore: 4 for thou art righteous in all the things that thou hast done to us: yea, true are all thy works, thy ways are right, and all thy judgments are truth. 5 In all the things that thou hast brought upon us, and upon the holy city of our fathers, even Jerusalem, thou hast executed true judgment: for according to truth and judgment didst thou bring all these things upon us because of our sins. 6 For we have sinned and committed iniquity, departing from thee. 7 In all things have we trespassed, and not obeyed thy commandments, nor kept them, neither done as thou hast commanded us, that it might go well with us. 8 Wherefore all that thou hast brought upon us, and every

thing that thou hast done to us, thou hast done in true judgment. 9 And thou didst deliver us into the hands of lawless enemies, most hateful forsakers of God, and to an unjust king, and the most wicked in all the world. 10 And now we cannot open our mouths, we are become a shame and reproach to thy servants, and to them that worship thee. ¹¹ Yet deliver us not up wholly, for thy name's sake, neither disannul thou thy covenant: 12 and cause not thy mercy to depart from us, for thy beloved Abraham's sake, for thy servant Isaac's sake, and for thy holy Israel's sake; ¹³ to whom thou hast spoken and promised, that thou wouldest multiply their seed as the stars of heaven, and as the sand that *lieth* upon the sea shore. ¹⁴ For we, O Lord, are become less than any nation, and be kept under this day in all the world because of our sins. 15 Neither is there at this time prince, or prophet, or leader, or burnt offering, or sacrifice, or oblation, or incense, or place to sacrifice before thee, and to find mercy. 16 Nevertheless in a contrite heart and an humble spirit let us be accepted. 17 Like as in the burnt offering of rams and bullocks, and like as in ten thousands of fat lambs: so let our sacrifice be in thy sight this day, and grant that we may wholly go after thee: for they shall not be confounded that put their trust in thee. 18 And now we follow thee with all our heart, we fear thee, and seek thy face. 19 Put us not to shame: but deal with us after thy lovingkindness, and according to the multitude of thy mercies. ²⁰ Deliver us also according to thy marvellous works, and give glory to thy name, O Lord: and let all them that do thy servants hurt be ashamed; ²¹ and let them be confounded in all *their* power and might, and let their strength be broken; ²² and let them know that thou art Lord, the only God, and glorious over the whole world.

²³ And the king's servants, that put them in, ceased not to make the oven hot with rosin, pitch, tow, and small wood; ²⁴ so that the flame streamed forth above the furnace forty and nine cubits. ²⁵ And it passed through, and burnt those Chaldeans it found about the furnace. ²⁶ But the angel of the Lord came down into the oven together with Azarias and his fellows, and smote the flame of the fire out of the oven; ²⁷ and made the midst of the furnace as *it had been* a moist whistling wind, so that the fire touched them not at all, neither hurt nor troubled them. ²⁸ Then the three, as out of one mouth, praised, glorified, and blessed God in the furnace, saying,

²⁹ Blessed art thou, O Lord God of our fathers:

And to be praised and exalted above all for ever.

³⁰ And blessed *is* thy glorious and holy name:

And to be praised and exalted above all for ever. ³¹ Blessed art thou in the temple of thine holy glory:

And to be praised and glorified above all for ever.

32 Blessed art thou that beholdest the depths,

And sittest upon the cherubims:

And to be praised and exalted above all for ever.

33 Blessed art thou on the glorious throne of thy kingdom:

And to be praised and glorified above all for ever.

³⁴ Blessed art thou in the firmament of heaven: And above all to be praised and glorified for ever.

³⁵ O all *ye* works of the Lord, bless ye the Lord: Praise and exalt him above all for ever. ³⁶ O *ye* heavens, bless ye the Lord: Praise and exalt him above all for ever. ³⁷ O *ye* angels of the Lord, bless ye the Lord: Praise and exalt him above all for ever. ³⁸ O all *ye* waters that be above the heaven, bless ve the Lord: Praise and exalt him above all for ever. ³⁹ O all *ye* powers of the Lord, bless ye the Lord: Praise and exalt him above all for ever. ⁴⁰ O *ye* sun and moon, bless ye the Lord: Praise and exalt him above all for ever. ⁴¹ O *ye* stars of heaven, bless ye the Lord: Praise and exalt him above all for ever. ⁴² O every shower and dew, bless ye the Lord: Praise and exalt him above all for ever. ⁴³ O all *ye* winds, bless ye the Lord: Praise and exalt him above all for ever. 44 O ye fire and heat, bless ye the Lord: Praise and exalt him above all for ever. ⁴⁵ O *ye* winter and summer, bless ye the Lord: Praise and exalt him above all for ever. ⁴⁶ O *ye* dews and storms of snow, bless ye the Lord: Praise and exalt him above all for ever. ⁴⁷ O *ye* nights and days, bless ye the Lord: Praise and exalt him above all for ever. ⁴⁸ O ye light and darkness, bless ye the Lord: Praise and exalt him above all for ever. ⁴⁹ O *ye* ice and cold, bless ye the Lord: Praise and exalt him above all for ever.

⁵⁰ O *ye* frost and snow, bless ye the Lord: Praise and exalt him above all for ever. ⁵¹ O *ye* lightnings and clouds, bless ye the Lord: Praise and exalt him above all for ever. 52 O let the earth bless the Lord: Praise and exalt him above all for ever. 53 O *ye* mountains and *little* hills, bless ye the Lord: Praise and exalt him above all for ever. ⁵⁴ O all *ye things* that grow on the earth, bless ye the Lord: Praise and exalt him above all for ever. ⁵⁵ O *ye* fountains, bless ye the Lord: Praise and exalt him above all for ever. ⁵⁶ O *ye* seas and rivers, bless ye the Lord: Praise and exalt him above all for ever. ⁵⁷ O *ye* whales, and all that move in the waters, bless ye the Lord: Praise and exalt him above all for ever. ⁵⁸ O all *ye* fowls of the air, bless ye the Lord: Praise and exalt him above all for ever. ⁵⁹ O all *ye* beasts and cattle, bless ye the Lord: Praise and exalt him above all for ever. ⁶⁰ O *ye* children of men, bless ye the Lord: Praise and exalt him above all for ever. ⁶¹ O Israel, bless ye the Lord: Praise and exalt him above all for ever. 62 O ye priests of the Lord, bless ye the Lord: Praise and exalt him above all for ever. 63 O ye servants of the Lord, bless ye the Lord: Praise and exalt him above all for ever. ⁶⁴ O ye spirits and souls of the righteous, bless ye the Lord: Praise and exalt him above all for ever.

65 O ye holy and humble men of heart, bless ye

the Lord:

Praise and exalt him above all for ever.

⁶⁶ O Ananias, Azarias, and Misael, bless ye the Lord:

Praise and exalt him above all for ever: For he hath delivered us from hell,

And saved us from the hand of death,

And delivered us out of the midst of the furnace and burning flame:

Even out of the midst of the fire hath he delivered us.

67 O give thanks unto the Lord, because he is gracious:

For his mercy endureth for ever.

68 O all ye that worship the Lord, bless the God of gods,

Praise him, and give him thanks:

For his mercy *endureth* for ever.

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