Faith in Action

Greg Kline · Daniel 3

INTRODUCTION

- We must confess Jesus. We must not deny him. But it's more than just a verbal affirmation.
- Do I live out that confession? Will I be unwavering in my service?
- These are men who stood the test. They were willing to confess God. They were not willing to deny him, even in the face of the utmost trial.

1 Their Faith Made Them Different From the World

Daniel 3:4–12

- First of all, we see here their faith made them marked and different from the world.
- I want to know if we have the type of faith that's willing to confess Christ in our lives.
- And yet they were known because they were different. They didn't do what everybody else did.
- They didn't stop, they didn't think about their position. They simply did what was right, no matter the cost.

2 Their Faith Gave Them Great Boldness

Daniel 3:13–15

- They were bold. Their faith gave them great boldness.
- Is it true, O Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, that you do not serve my gods or worship the golden image that I have set up?
- If you do not worship, you shall immediately be cast into a burning fiery furnace, and who is the God who will deliver you out of my hands.

3 But If Not

Daniel 3:16–18; Philippians 1:21

- Their faith was not dependent in a God who did exactly what they thought in the timing in which they construed.
- Our God, whom we serve, is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and he will deliver us out of your hand, O King.
- But if not, be it known to you, O King, that we will not serve your gods or worship the golden image that you have set up.
- They understand what it means to truly have your faith tested to the point of giving your life.

4 Everyone Who Acknowledges Me Before Men

Matthew 10:32–33

- We cannot let ourselves be drowned or cushioned in luxury to the point where we don't confess Jesus actively as we should.
- But we remain mysteriously quiet when it might put us in jeopardy, when it might jeopardize a friendship, a family relationship.
- Do I understand that God operates in a bigger picture on a bigger scope than in my life and in my problem?
- If I have a faith that is true, that is strong, that is living and active, then my faith will stand no matter the trial because I know God is there.

5 God Is Good All the Time

Daniel 3:19–29

- God is good even when your foot was hurt. God is good when your foot was healed. Our God is good all the time.
- If, like Paul, my thorn in the flesh remains, God is still God, and God is still good.
- It's that we will do things in the moments of crisis that show our faith.
- Could it be said of us what King Nebuchadnezzar said of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego in verse 28, have I yielded my body to God's will?

6 The Victory That Comes With Submitting to God

Hebrews 11:23–26; Hebrews 11:32–38; Hebrews 11:39–40

- He considered the reproach of Christ greater wealth than the treasures of Egypt, for he was looking to the reward.
- Moses chose reproach over riches. Is my faith there?
- Because the victory that God offers isn't temporal.
- God wants us to be with him forever. He wants us to cling to him, to trust in him, to have a faith that pushes us to action.

> THE CHALLENGE
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> **We will trust and obey in our great God, because with God, faith is the victory that overcomes the world.**

MY NOTES