

We often use the word “faith” in our Christian walk, but we rarely reflect on what true faith really is. What does the Bible say about true faith?

True faith is not for ourselves but for God. True faith seeks not our will but God's will. This faith does not manifest itself in ordinary times but is revealed in the face of trials and challenges.

In today's text, we see the figure of Nebuchadnezzar. Although Nebuchadnezzar became aware of the Lord God, he failed to approach Him in faith (Daniel 2:47). Mere experiences, knowledge, or verbal confessions do not constitute true faith. While experiences, knowledge, and verbal confessions can help lead to true faith, they alone cannot be called faith. Like the builders of the ancient Tower of Babel, Nebuchadnezzar chose to exalt himself and oppose God.

In verse 1 of today's passage, King Nebuchadnezzar constructs a gold image. It is an enormous golden statue, about 30 meters tall and 3 meters wide, and he commands everyone to bow before it. Rather than bowing before God's Word and worshiping the Almighty God, Nebuchadnezzar distorts what God revealed to him, desiring his own kingdom to be eternal.

In contrast to Nebuchadnezzar, Daniel's three friends show what true faith is. Through today's text, God distinctly reveals true faith by contrasting Nebuchadnezzar with Daniel's three friends (Hebrews 11:33-34). When everyone was commanded to bow to the king's statue, the Chaldeans seized the opportunity to attack Daniel's three friends. They reported to the king that these three would not bow to the golden statue (verses 8-12). The king summoned Daniel's three friends and commanded them to bow to the golden statue (verses 13-14). The consequences of disobedience are made clear in verse 15. This is where their famous confession of faith emerges (Daniel 3:16-18).

Let us closely examine the confession of Daniel's three friends to see what God desires in true faith. May we all stand firm in true faith, in the name of the Lord.

### **First, Faith That Absolutely Depends on God's Word**

True faith is based on God's Word. Daniel's three friends held God's Word as their absolute standard (verse 16). When faced with the dilemma of whether to bow to the king's statue, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego had no need to deliberate. God's Word was the absolute guide for their lives.

### **Second, Faith That Absolutely Trusts in God's Power**

In the face of idolatry and the fiery furnace, they believed in God's power to deliver them. They trusted in God's living presence and ability (verse 17). This faith is essential for us today. In an era where faith is often reduced to theory and knowledge, absolute trust in God's power must be restored.

### **Third, Faith That Relies on God's Sovereignty and Will**

Faith acknowledges that God's will will ultimately prevail and that we are part of that will (verse 18). When we reach this level of confession, our faith becomes absolute and pure. Such faith can only be confessed when we truly believe in God's goodness and sovereignty over the earth. This is the model of faith shown by Jesus Himself: "My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from Me; yet not as I will, but as You will."

**Bible Memorization**

**A VERSE FOR THIS WEEK**

“Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship.” (Romans 12:1)

**Bible Reading**

12/16(Mon)	12/17(Tue)	12/18(Wed)	12/19(Thur)	12/20(Fri)	12/21(Sat)	12/22(Sun)
2 Thess 1-3, 1 Tim 1-3	1 Tim 4-6, 2 Tim 1-2	2 Tim 3-4, Titus 1-3	Philemon 1, Hebrews 1-4	Hebrews 5-9	Hebrews 10-12	Hebrews 13, James 1-3

**QT**

**Quiet Time Passage**

12/16(Mon)	12/17(Tue)	12/18(Wed)	12/19(Thur)	12/20(Fri)	12/21(Sat)	12/22(Sun)
Rev. 17:1-6	Rev. 17:7-18	Rev. 18:1-8	Rev. 18:9-24	Rev. 19:1-10	Rev. 19:11-21	Rev. 20:1-10

**Sharing Questions**

1. Share the grace of God you experienced in your life through last week's message or your daily devotions.
2. Share any new insights or blessings you received from today's message.
3. Discuss what is needed in your life to approach God with true faith, and pray for one another.