# **Living with Conviction in an Age of Compromise**

Faith that Outlasts the Fire! Daniel 3:1-30 (Message 3)

"If we desire our faith to be strengthened, we should not shrink from opportunities where our faith may be tried, and therefore, through trial, be strengthened." ~George Mueller

#### What faith is not?

- 1) Faith is not faith in faith itself?
  - Faith is not simply believing for positive outcomes.
  - Many people <u>believe</u> if they just do enough stuff and perform enough <u>religious rituals</u> that God will do what <u>they think</u> is the <u>right</u> thing.
- 2) Faith is not trust in the positive thing we think will bring God glory.
  - We think it's in God's best interest to do what we think because we believe it brings God great glory and benefits us.
- 3) Faith is not <u>trust</u> in our <u>ability</u> to <u>foresee</u> God's Will through His Word
  - We must be careful not to <u>read anything into</u> God's Word, nor <u>mishandle truth</u> that we read out of God's Word.
  - Faith does not claim to foresee or to know what only God knows

### What is Biblical Faith?

- 4) Biblical faith is simply trust in God alone.
  - Daniel 3:16-18 (NASB)
  - The <u>truest</u> test of firm <u>faith</u> for a Christian is when God's <u>answer</u> is No!
  - 1 Peter 1:5-7 (NCV)
    - A) Our faith will be <u>Tested</u>.

€ Daniel 3:14, 15 (NASB)

"Faith tells me that no matter what lies ahead of us, God is already there." ~Unknown

## B) Our faith reveals its **Purity**.

€ Daniel 3:19 (NIV)

"Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me." ~Psalm 51:10

## C) Our faith magnifies God.

€ Daniel 3:24, 25 (NIV)

"God doesn't always bring you the entire truth. He sometimes gives it to you in pieces, in order to learn. Regardless, it is the piece that you go through today that will renew your faith for tomorrow." Shannon L. Alder