





## Daniel 3: 17-18

**“O Nebuchadnezzar, we do not need to defend ourselves before you. <sup>17</sup> If we are thrown into the blazing furnace, the God whom we serve is able to save us. He will rescue us from your power, Your Majesty. <sup>18</sup> But even if he doesn't, we want to make it clear to you, Your Majesty, that we will never serve your gods or worship the gold statue you have set up.”**

Hebrews 11:1

**Faith shows the reality of what we hope for;  
it is the evidence of things we cannot see.**

## Galatians 5:16-18

<sup>16</sup> So I say, let the Holy Spirit guide your lives. Then you won't be doing what your sinful nature craves. <sup>17</sup> The sinful nature wants to do evil, which is just the opposite of what the Spirit wants. And the Spirit gives us desires that are the opposite of what the sinful nature desires. These two forces are constantly fighting each other, so you are not free to carry out your good intentions. <sup>18</sup> But when you are directed by the Spirit, you are not under obligation to the law of Moses.



# Jesus in the Old Testament?

- Genesis 16:9-13
- Genesis 18:1-33
- Genesis 22:11-14
- Genesis 32:24-43
- Judges 6:11-24
- Judges 13:2-23



# John 1

In the beginning the Word already existed.

The Word was with God,  
and the Word was God.

<sup>2</sup> He existed in the beginning with God.

<sup>3</sup> God created everything through him,  
and nothing was created except through him.

<sup>4</sup> The Word gave life to everything that was created,  
[a]

— and his life brought light to everyone.

<sup>5</sup> The light shines in the darkness,  
and the darkness can never extinguish it. [b]

# Takeaway 1

God can deliver you from persecution, or pull you from a trial, but it doesn't mean He will. We must maintain faith anyway.



## Takeaway 2

We aren't supposed to be afraid in trials or persecutions because we are not alone.

## Takeaway 3

God has a purpose for the trials and persecutions you experience.

# Purpose in Persecution or Trials?

1. That God's name is proclaimed to people who haven't heard.
2. That your faith would be shown as genuine.
3. You share in the sufferings of Jesus, which is a blessing.
4. It builds perseverance, character, and hope.