

1 **Confidence in God**

Ps Demi
(16/6/13)

2 **Confidence=Faith**

- ⊙ Phil 1:3-6
- ⊙ Ps 71:5
- ⊙ Heb 10:35
- ⊙ Questions: what? Why? How?
 - > What is confidence? The feeling or belief that one can rely on someone or something; firm trust: "we had every confidence in the Lord".
 - > The state of feeling certain about the truth of something
 - > trust - faith - reliance - belief - credit - credence
- ⊙ Hebrews 11:1,6; Rom10:17; 2Tim 1:12/Phil 1:6

3 **Confidence=Faith**

- ⊙ Confidence 'speaks' first and then 'acts' (cf Faith – James 2:14-26)
- ⊙ Examples –
- ⊙ OT: David (*beloved*) vs Goliath (uncovered)(1Sam 17:1-58) and The 3 Hebrew children vs King Nebuchadnezzar (Daniel 3:1-30)
- ⊙ NT: The Apostles (Matt 28:16-20; Deut 31:6, Heb 13:5); Paul (2Tim 1:12, Phil 1:6)

4 **David vs Goliath**5 **David**

- ⊙ 1Sam 17:45-47;
- ⊙ Covenant with God (knew Is 54:17)
- ⊙ Had a revelation of the covenant (vs 26)
- ⊙ Walked in covenant relationship with God
- ⊙ Had prior experiences with God (vs 34-37)
- ⊙ anointed! (1Sam 6:12-13 cf Acts 1:8)
- ⊙ More confidence in God than what he saw (goliath) and heard (goliath's words)
- ⊙ Declared his faith followed by action (48-51)

6 **Goliath**

- ⊙ Name means 'uncovered' (cf v26)
- ⊙ A champion - v4
- ⊙ A Giant - v4 ('seen' by Israel cf Num 13:33)
- ⊙ Well Kitted - v5-7
- ⊙ Talking Giant – v8-10, 16, 43-44 ('heard' cf Rom 10:17)
- ⊙ Relied on/represented his god – v43-44

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7 **Goliath**

- ⊙ Occultic/demonic – 40days & night/day (40=completion/fulfilment eg Moses, Elijah, Noah's flood, Jesus' fast, Israelites in wilderness) also day/night (cf Josh 1;8 and Luke 18:7) critical for guaranteed result

- ⊙ Placed a curse on David by his god declaring his desired end result from the beginning (v43-44)

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8 **The 3 Hebrew boys!**

9 **The 3 Hebrew boys**

- ⊙ Daniel 3:1-30

- ⊙ Daniel 1: 1-20

- ⊙ People of covenant with names that reflect covenant (see 'what's in a name' slides)

- ⊙ In captivity (in a foreign land) – given different identities but 'knew' their covenant with God (by revelation) and 'lived' in the covenant (by choice) Dan 11:32, Deut 28:1-14

- ⊙ They knew who they were and were not intimidated by Nebuchadnezer & the image

- ⊙

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10 **The 3 Hebrew boys**

- ⊙ They took their stand and declared their faith/confidence in God (Dan 3:16-18);

- ⊙ Though in captivity, they were free on the inside and refused to compromise (and be ensnared) because of the fear of death (Heb 2:15 & Rev 12:11)

- ⊙ God showed up in the fiery furnace (v23-25), they were delivered (v26-27) & promoted!(v30) They brought glory to the Lord (v28-29) (cf David)

11 **The 3 Hebrew Boys**

- ⊙ The decision of the person in authority affects everyone who might have to pay the price e.g David in 2Sam 24 counted the soldiers and thousands died in a plague as a result

- ⊙ The Image – the form was not mentioned but huge (90'x9') which means it could be anything!

- ⊙ Our resolve to go God's way will be tested in a world that is going in the opposite direction

- ⊙

12 **The 3 Hebrew boys**

- ⊙ We must choose right when the law of the land or that which is acceptable/required of you violates the law of God

- ⊙ Nebuchadnezer challenged the God of the 3 Hebrew boys (cf Goliath vs David) in vs 15
- ⊙ Our resolve before the 'fire' determines what happens in the fire and after the fire (vs 28-30)

13 **What's in a name**

- ⊙ Daniel means "Yahweh is my judge" Belteshazar means "Bel protect his life" Bel being another name for Marduk the supreme god of the Babylonians
- ⊙ Hananiah means "Yahweh has favoured" (or has shown grace) Shadrach means "Command of Aku" Aku was the Babylonian god of the moon
- ⊙ Mishael means "Who is like Yahweh?" Meshach means "Who is like Aku?"

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- ⊙ Azariah means "Yahweh helps" (or has helped) Abednego means "Servant of Nego" Nego was the Babylonian god of wisdom also known as Nebo or Nabu the god Nebuchadnezzar was named for "Nebu protect my son's life"
- ⊙ Each of these men's original names made reference to God and the Babylonians renamed them in favour of their gods and they appear to have almost translated the names giving them names similar in meaning to their old but referencing their gods instead of God