COMMITMENT

We live in a culture where the Christian community has recreated God in its own image—the postmodern Christian God that is big on grace and low on human commitment. Rationalizations are given for every biblical principle. Compromise and explanations are touted any time biblical principles conflict with human desire. In short, we live in a world where Christianity promises you everything and yet requires little or no commitment.

Daniel chapter 3 radically challenges the postmodern picture of God. The God of Daniel is the God of both radical grace and radical commitment. Rather than recreating God in our image, we are recreated in the image of God’s willingness to sacrifice even life itself.

The radical grace of God that required the death of God brings out a response of radical human commitment even unto death. The three Hebrews made their stand on the plain of Dura, exemplifying radical faithfulness unto death, a characteristic that will be reproduced again in God’s people at the end of time.
Write out Daniel 3 from the translation of your choice. If you’re pressed for time, write out Daniel 3:16–18. You may also rewrite the passage in your own words, outline, or mind map the chapter.
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Go back to your scribed text and study the passage.

**Circle** repeated words/ phrases/ideas

**Underline** words/phrases that are important and have meaning to you

Draw **Arrows** to connect words/ phrases to other associated or related words/phrases

What special insights do your marks seem overall to point to?

Memorize your favorite verse in Daniel 3. Write it out multiple times to help memorization.

What were the pressures that you felt that caused you to compromise?

What were the rationalizations that you told yourself? How did you feel afterwards?

Read more at www.inversebible.org/dan3-3
After looking at your scribed and annotated text, what special insights do your marks overall seem to point to?

What questions emerge after studying this passage? What parts are difficult?

What other principles and conclusions do you find?

What parts of Daniel 3 do you see happening today?

Read more at www.inversebible.org/dan3-4
What relationship do the following verses have with the primary passage?

Revelation 13:8–18  
Daniel 6:8–15  
Revelation 14:6–10  
Revelation 16:1–12  
Revelation 5:6–14

What other verses/promises come to mind in connection with Daniel 3?

Review your memorized verse from Daniel 3.
Where do you see Jesus in Daniel 3?

What is He saying to you through these texts?

How do you see Jesus differently or see Him again?

Prayer: How do you respond to seeing Jesus in this way?

Read more at www.inversebible.org/dan3-6
Review the memory verse. How does it apply to your life this week?

After this week’s study of the chapter, what are personal applications you are convicted of in your life?

What are practical applications you must make in your school, family, workplace, church, and/or society?

Read more inSight from the Spirit of Prophecy at www.inversebible.org/dan3-7
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Share insights from this week’s memory verse and Bible study as well as any discoveries, observations, and questions with your Sabbath School class (or Bible study group). Consider these discussion questions with the rest of the group.

What are you willing to die for?

What do you think were the motivations for why you made your stand?

Would you die for someone that you love? Does love change one’s perspective of death?

What does standing for God even in the face of death reveal about God’s perspective of death?

Why do you think God asks us to be willing to die for Him rather than compromise principle?

What are ways that we can keep a consciousness of God ever before us?

What are ways that we can get to the place where God’s opinion matters most?