

# Can Your Faith Take the Heat?

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I do not know how many times I have sung the words, “O let me never, never / Outlive my love for Thee,” but I mean them.

I would rather die than end up unfaithful to my wife; I would rather die than deny by a profligate life what I have taught in my books; I would rather die than deny or disown the gospel...

There are worse things than dying.

—D.A. Carson

God does not owe us an explanation for why he allows severe trials. There is mystery here, yet we can rely on the truth that only he fully understands our suffering. We waste precious energy when we seek answers that only reside in the secret places of the Most High (Deut. 29:29).

—Ross Stern

Faith does not predict God's ways; it simply holds to God's Word; faith obeys God's truth, it does not manipulate God's hand; faith is not required to plot God's course but only to obey God's command. Faith's finest hour may be when it can oppose Nebuchadnezzar's three words (burning fiery furnace) with three of its own: *But if not.*

—Dale Ralph Davis