



Voices of **FAITH**

*Verbal Confidence in the
Word of God*



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VERBAL CONFIDENCE IN THE WORD OF GOD

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Introduction

Verbal confidence in the Word of God is a profound theme that resonates throughout both the Old and New Testaments. This concept emphasizes the importance of speaking and confessing faith in God's promises and His character. In this sermon booklet, we will explore biblical examples, delve into Jewish tradition, and draw upon fables and analogies to illuminate the power of verbal confidence in our faith journey.

Biblical Examples of Verbal Confidence

Additional Old Testament Examples

1. Abraham's Faith (Genesis 22:8):

- When Abraham was about to sacrifice Isaac, he confidently told his son, "God will provide for himself the lamb for a burnt offering, my son." Abraham's verbal expression of faith in God's provision demonstrates his trust in God's promises.

2. Hannah's Prayer (1 Samuel 1:27):

- Hannah, who was barren, prayed earnestly for a child and expressed her faith verbally: "For this child I prayed, and the Lord has granted me my petition that I made to him." Her declaration reflects her confidence in God's ability to answer her prayers.

3. Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego (Daniel 3:17-18):

- When threatened with death in the fiery furnace, these three men boldly declared to King Nebuchadnezzar, “If this be so, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and he will deliver us out of your hand, O king. But if not, be it known to you, O king, that we will not serve your gods or worship the golden image that you have set up.” Their verbal confidence in God’s power and sovereignty was unwavering.

4. Jeremiah’s Assurance (Jeremiah 29:11):

- God spoke through Jeremiah, declaring, “For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.” This statement not only reflects God’s promises but also encourages the Israelites to verbally express their hope and confidence in His plans.

5. David’s Declaration (Psalm 23:1):

- David proclaimed, “The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.” This confident declaration reflects David’s trust in God’s provision and guidance throughout his life.

Additional New Testament Examples

1. Thomas's Confession (John 20:28):

- After seeing the resurrected Jesus, Thomas exclaimed, "My Lord and my God!" This confession reveals a profound verbal acknowledgment of Jesus' divine nature and authority.

2. Paul's Declaration of Faith (Philippians 4:13):

- The Apostle Paul confidently stated, "I can do all things through him who strengthens me." This affirmation reflects his trust in Christ's empowering presence in his life, emphasizing verbal confidence in God's strength.

3. The Blind Man's Testimony (John 9:25):

- After being healed by Jesus, the formerly blind man said, "One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see." His testimony is a powerful example of verbal confidence in the transformative power of Jesus.

4. The Early Church's Boldness (Acts 4:29-31):

- After facing persecution, the early church prayed for boldness, saying, "And now, Lord, look upon their threats and grant to your servants to continue to speak your word with all boldness." Their prayer reflects a collective verbal confidence in God's ability to empower them in the face of opposition.

5. John's Testimony (1 John 5:14-15):

- The Apostle John wrote, “And this is the confidence that we have toward him, that if we ask anything according to his will he hears us. And if we know that he hears us in whatever we ask, we know that we have the requests that we have asked of him.” This passage emphasizes the assurance and verbal expression of confidence in God’s responsiveness to prayer.

Fables and Analogies

1. The Seed and the Soil:

- Fable: A farmer planted seeds in two different fields. In one field, he spoke words of encouragement and hope over the seeds, while in the other field, he remained silent. When harvest time came, the field where he had spoken flourished, while the silent field yielded little.
- Meaning: Just as the farmer’s words nurtured the seeds, our verbal expressions of faith can cultivate a fertile ground for God’s promises to grow in our lives.

2. The Lion and the Mouse:

- Analogy: A mighty lion, known for his strength, once caught a tiny mouse. The mouse pleaded for his life, promising to help the lion one day. The lion laughed but let the mouse go. Later, when the lion was trapped in a hunter’s net, the mouse came and gnawed through the ropes, freeing him.
- Meaning: This story illustrates that even small

voices of faith can have a powerful impact. Just as the mouse's promise was fulfilled, our verbal confidence in God's promises, regardless of how small we may feel, can lead to great outcomes.

3. The Pottery and the Potter:

- Metaphor: Imagine a potter shaping clay. The clay must be soft and moldable to take on the potter's design. If the clay resists or becomes hard, it cannot be shaped.
- Meaning: Our verbal confidence in God acts like the potter's hands, shaping our lives. When we speak faith, we become pliable in God's hands, allowing Him to mold us according to His will.

Poetic Meanings

1. Whispers of Faith:

- In the quiet of the night, when doubts take flight,
- Let your words be a beacon, a guiding light.
- For in every spoken prayer, in every heartfelt plea,
- Verbal confidence unlocks the door to victory.

2. The River of Trust:

- Words flow like a river, carving paths anew,
- Each declaration of faith, a promise breaking through.
- In the valley of shadows, let your voice rise high,
- For the waters of assurance will never run dry.

3. The Armor of Speech:

- With every word of faith, we wear our armor bright,
- A shield against the darkness, a sword of holy light.
- In the battles of our lives, let our voices proclaim,
- Verbal confidence in Christ, forever the same.

Rabbi Commentary on Verbal Confidence

In Jewish tradition, the spoken word holds immense power. Rabbis often teach that words create reality; they can build or destroy, bless or curse. The Talmud states, “The world stands on three things: Torah, service, and deeds of loving-kindness.” This teaching highlights the importance of verbal expressions—whether through prayer, study, or acts of kindness—as foundational to a life of faith.

Rabbi Nachman of Breslov emphasized the importance of speaking to God, encouraging believers to express their thoughts and feelings openly. He taught that verbalizing one’s struggles and hopes brings clarity and connection to the Divine. This aligns with the biblical principle that “the mouth speaks what the heart is full of” (Matthew 12:34).

Verbal confidence is not merely about speaking; it is about aligning our words with God’s truth. When we declare God’s promises, we participate in the creative act of faith, shaping our reality in accordance with His

will.

Conclusion

This sermon booklet has explored the profound theme of verbal confidence in the Word of God through biblical examples, fables, analogies, poetic expressions, and rabbinical insights. As we embrace the power of our words, let us remember that speaking faith is not just an act of belief; it is a transformative journey that shapes our lives and the world around us.

May we, as Apostolic Pentecostal believers, boldly declare our trust in God's promises and the Lordship of Jesus Christ, knowing that our words carry the weight of His power and love. My booklet can serve as a resource for preachers and congregants alike, encouraging them to reflect on the importance of verbal confidence in their faith journey.