

Daniel 4:1-37 – “The Pride of Man vs. The Power of God”

I. Saying Goodbye to King Nebuchadnezzar: “We’re going to miss you!”

- A. Nebuchadnezzar has dominated the events thus far – major human player in each account...
- B. Chapter 1 – besieges Jerusalem and takes our 4 young men exile+...
 - 1. Challenges: God vs. Nebuchadnezzar & his gods; God vs. all man-made _____
- C. Chapter 2 – It’s all about King Nebuchadnezzar’s disturbing _____...
 - 1. Challenges – Daniel vs. all other wise men; God vs. gods of Babylon
- D. Chapter 3 – Nebuchadnezzar sets up the image of _____ and demands worship of it...
 - 1. Challenges – S, M, & A vs. Chaldeans; God vs. Nebuchadnezzar & his gods
- E. Through all these – God _____

II. Nebuchadnezzar’s Praise of God! (Daniel 4:1-3)

- A. Shocking 1 – Nebuchadnezzar is the _____ of this account (Daniel includes in his book...)
- B. Shocking 2 – Declares the signs and wonders which the Most High God has done for him.

III. King Nebuchadnezzar’s Dream: Fearful & Alarming...again (Daniel 4:4-18)

- A. King calls in the wise men who are unable to interpret his terrifying dream until...
- B. King calls in Daniel, the _____ of all wise men – He has a spirit (Spirit) of the holy gods (Holy God)
- C. King tells Daniel the dream as he counts on Daniel to reveal its meaning...

IV. Daniel Interprets King’s Dream: (Daniel 4:19-27)

- A. Initial reaction – Daniel is _____ by the dream...
- B. Daniel explains that it’s a dream about the king & his kingdom...
- C. The king will be driven from normal life with men & will dwell with the beasts of the field...
- D. This will only end once he acknowledges that the Most High God _____ over all men...
- E. Positive hope – He tells the king to _____ & live rightly...maybe God will relent/refrain...

V. The Most High God Executes The Dream: (Daniel 4:28-33)

- A. When? ____ year later as the king is reflecting on all his accomplishments
- B. How? Instantly Nebuchadnezzar’s mind snapped & he lived just as Daniel said...
- C. How long? This lasted for _____ years!

VI. God Restores Nebuchadnezzar – (Daniel 4:34-37)

- A. He raised his eyes to heaven & humbles himself before the Most High God...
- B. Upon his restoration, Nebuchadnezzar praises God’s greatness, grace, power, & sovereignty.
- C. Neb had rested on his laurels (incredible accomplishments) & then pride come following...
- D. Neb experienced what is called lycanthropy...

VII. Incredible Lessons: Lifelong Lessons for All

- A. “Ease” and “Pride” are great dangers in the life of the unsaved.
 - 1. Deceitful peace and deceitful rest. Pride just a matter of time.
 - 2. True peace & rest is only found in the person & work of _____.
 - 3. Was Neb saved here? What do you think? _____
- B. No one is too far away for God to reach – He is able to humble those who walk in pride...
 - 1. He did that to every believer (including you)...
 - 2. He is able to do that to folks we desperately want to see come to Jesus...
- C. Once _____, announce God’s greatness & mighty wonders to the world...

VIII. Combating Pride: Lifelong Lessons for All Believers

- A. Pride can show itself in times of comfort & ease but also in difficulty (too proud to...)
- B. Remember the nature of saving _____...
 - 1. God did things the way He did to rule out human boasting (_____ 1:4-6, 2:8-9 etc...)
- C. Defeat pride by understanding who God is...
 - 1. He is ruler of all; His dominion is everlasting; His kingdom no end; His works are _____
- D. Defeat pride by remembering God gives grace to the humble & _____ them at the right time...
- E. Defeat pride by responding to God as Neb does – in humility, we praise, exalt & _____ Him.