



DANIEL

**HOW TO THRIVE
IN BABYLON**

THE PROBLEM OF EVERY NATION AND LEADER

“They didn’t see fit to
acknowledge God any longer.”

Romans 1:28

THE PROBLEM OF EVERY NATION AND LEADER

“The wrath of God, is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of people who suppress the truth by their unrighteousness, ¹⁹ because what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them. [Romans 1:18,19](#)”

JEREMIAH SPEAKING TO JUDAH BEFORE BABYLON CAME

“Listen and pay attention! Do not be arrogant,
for the Lord has spoken.¹⁶ Give glory to
the Lord your God before it is too late.

Acknowledge him before he brings
darkness upon you...

Jeremiah 13:15,16



NEBUCHADNEZZAR'S TESTIMONY OF YAHWEH

King Nebuchadnezzar sent this message to the people of every race and nation and language throughout the world: "Peace and prosperity to you! ² "I want you all to know about the miraculous signs and wonders the Most High God has performed for me. ³ How great are his signs, how powerful his wonders! His kingdom will last forever, his rule through all generations.

Daniel 4:1-3

NEBUCHADNEZZAR'S RECOUNTS HIS DREAM

"I, Nebuchadnezzar, was living in my palace in comfort and prosperity. ⁵" But one night I had a dream that frightened me; I saw visions that terrified me as I lay in my bed.

Daniel 4:4,5

THE WISE MEN CANNOT INTERPRET FOR THE KING

“ ...⁸ At last Daniel came in before me, and I told him the dream. (He was named Belteshazzar after my god, and the spirit of the holy gods is in him.) [Daniel 4:8](#)

DANIEL INTERPRETS THE DREAM

“Upon hearing this, Daniel (also known as Belteshazzar) was overcome for a time, frightened by the meaning of the dream. Then the king said to him, ‘Belteshazzar, don’t be alarmed by the dream and what it means.’ “Belteshazzar replied, ‘I wish the events foreshadowed in this dream would happen to your enemies, my lord, and not to you!

Daniel 4:19

DANIEL INTERPRETS THE DREAM

²⁴ "This is what the dream means, Your Majesty, and what the Most High has declared will happen to my lord the king. ²⁵ You will be driven from human society, and you will live in the fields with the wild animals. You will eat grass like a cow, and you will be drenched with the dew of heaven. Seven periods of time will pass while you live this way, until you learn that the Most High rules over the kingdoms of the world and gives them to anyone he chooses. ²⁶ But the stump and roots of the tree were left in the ground. This means that you will receive your kingdom back again when you have learned that heaven rules.

Daniel 4:19

DANIEL LOVINGLY CONFRONTS THE KING

“King Nebuchadnezzar, please accept my advice. Stop sinning and do what is right. Break from your wicked past and be merciful to the poor. Perhaps then you will continue to prosper.’

Daniel 4:27

THE DREAM COMES TRUE

“But all these things did happen to King Nebuchadnezzar. ²⁹ Twelve months later he was taking a walk on the flat roof of the royal palace in Babylon. ³⁰ As he looked out across the city, he said, ‘Look at this great city of Babylon! By my own mighty power, I have built this beautiful city as my royal residence to display my majestic splendor.’

Daniel 4:28,29

THE DREAM COMES REALITY

“While these words were still in his mouth, a voice called down from heaven, ‘O King Nebuchadnezzar, this message is for you! You are no longer ruler of this kingdom. ³²You will be driven from human society. You will live in the fields with the wild animals, and you will eat grass like a cow. Seven periods of time will pass while you live this way, until you learn that the Most High rules over the kingdoms of the world and gives them to anyone he chooses.’

Daniel 4:31,32

JUDGMENT FULFILLED

“That same hour the judgment was fulfilled, and Nebuchadnezzar was driven from human society. He ate grass like a cow, and he was drenched with the dew of heaven. He lived this way until his hair was as long as eagles’ feathers and his nails were like birds’ claws.

[Daniel 4:33](#)

NEBUCHADNEZZAR REPENTS

“After this time had passed, I, Nebuchadnezzar, looked up to heaven. My sanity returned, and I praised and worshiped the Most High and honored the one who lives forever.” His rule is everlasting, and his kingdom is eternal. ³⁵ All the people of the earth are nothing compared to him. He does as he pleases among the angels of heaven and among the people of the earth. No one can stop him or say to him, ‘What do you mean by doing these things?’

Daniel 4:34,35

NEBUCHADNEZZAR IS RESTORED TO HIS FORMER GLORY

³⁶“When my sanity returned to me, so did my honor and glory and kingdom. My advisers and nobles sought me out, and I was restored as head of my kingdom, with even greater honor than before. ³⁷“Now I, Nebuchadnezzar, praise and glorify and honor the King of heaven. All his acts are just and true, and he is able to humble the proud.”

Daniel 4:36,37

I. THE PRIDE OF SELF

³⁰ "As he looked out across the city, he said, 'Look at this great city of Babylon! By my own mighty power, I have built this beautiful city as my royal residence to display my majestic splendor.'

Daniel 4:30

I. THE PRIDE OF SELF

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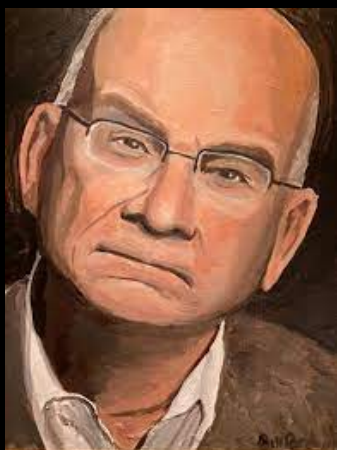
I. THE PRIDE OF SELF

He's talking about spiritual pride, which looks at life and says, "I did it, and I'm due it. I did it by my mighty power. I'm due it for the glory of my majesty."



PRIDE IS SUCH A DECEPTIVE SIN

Pride claims to be the author
of what is really a gift !



Tim Keller

Humility looks at life like, "It's a gift. I don't deserve this. If God gave me what I deserve, I'd be lost."

Humility says, "I couldn't possibly begin to merit the good things God has given me, my health, my mind, my friends."

What I do have, it's all mercy!"



ST. PAUL REMINDS US OF LIFE'S AUTHOR

What do you have that God hasn't given you?
And if everything you have is from God, why boast
as though it were not a gift? 1 Corinthians 4:7

UNLESS YOU CAN SEE GOD AS SOVEREIGN...

...over you in every aspect in your life,
you will live with a sense of

"I am owed this because what I have done."

JESUS' 1/2 BROTHER JAMES SAID:

¹³ Look here, you who say, "Today or tomorrow we are going to a certain town and will stay there a year. We will do business there and make a profit." ¹⁴ How do you know what your life will be like tomorrow? Your life is like the morning fog—it's here a little while, then it's gone. ¹⁵ What you ought to say is, "If the Lord wants us to, we will live and do this or that." ¹⁶ Otherwise you are boasting about your own pretentious plans, and all such boasting is evil.

James 4:13-16

The Bible says humility is–

A joyous life is that which receives everything as a gift, and a self-absorbed, and therefore, miserable life is that which looks at everything, "I'm owed this.

II. THE OUTCOME PRIDE

“While these words were still in his mouth, a voice called down from heaven, ‘O King Nebuchadnezzar, this message is for you! You are no longer ruler of this kingdom. ³²You will be driven from human society. You will live in the fields with the wild animals, and you will eat grass like a cow.

Daniel 4:31,32

THE FIVE "I WILL'S" OF LUCIFER

"For you said to yourself, 'I will ascend to heaven and set my throne above God's stars. I will preside on the mountain of the gods far away in the north. ¹⁴ I will climb to the highest heavens and be like the Most High.'

¹⁵ Instead, you will be brought down to the place of the dead, down to its lowest depths.

Isaiah 14:13-15



III. THE HEALING OF PRIDE

THE ONLY WAY FOR
NEBUCHADNEZZAR
TO BE HEALED?

GOD HAD TO DO IT.

III. THE HEALING OF PRIDE

THE ONLY THING THAT WILL
HEAL YOU OF PRIDE IS YOU
HAVE TO SEE THESE TWO
THINGS TOGETHER.

III. THE HEALING OF PRIDE

1. YOU HAVE TO SEE YOU DON'T
DESERVE ANYTHING FROM GOD
BUT JUDGMENT.

III. THE HEALING OF PRIDE

2. YOU HAVE TO SEE YOU ARE
THE OBJECT OF GOD'S
GREATEST MERCY.

POINT 1 – NEBUCHADNEZZAR CONFESSES

³⁵ All the people of the earth are
nothing compared to him.

POINT 1-NEBUCHADNEZZAR LEARNED

³² You will live in the fields with the wild animals, and you will eat grass like a cow...

until you learn that the Most High rules over the kingdoms of the world and gives them to anyone he chooses.'

POINT 1-LEARNED WHAT?

³² You will live in the fields with the wild animals, and you will eat grass like a cow...

until you learn that the **Most High**
rules over the kingdoms of the world
and gives them to anyone he chooses.'

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GOD RESTORES EVERYTHING BACK TO NEBUCHADNEZZAR

³⁶ "When my sanity returned to me, so did my honor and glory and kingdom. My advisers and nobles sought me out, and I was restored as head of my kingdom, with even greater honor than before.

Daniel 4:36

JESUS' 1/2 BROTHER JAMES ALSO SAID:

As the Scriptures say, "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble. **James 4:6**

JESUS' 1/2 BROTHER JAMES ALSO SAID:

Humble yourselves before the Lord, and
he will lift you up in honor. **James 4:10**

HOW COULD GOD FORGIVE NEBUCHADNEZZAR?

NEBUCHADNEZZAR WAS NOT
MASTER OF THE UNIVERSE,
BUT HE ACTED AS IF HE WAS.

HOW COULD GOD FORGIVE NEBUCHADNEZZAR?

JESUS CHRIST WAS THE ONLY
ONE WHO EVER STOOD ON THE
FACE OF THE EARTH WHO WAS
THE MASTER OF THE
UNIVERSE,
AND HE GAVE IT ALL UP.



JESUS' STOOD IN OUR PLACE SO WE COULD BE MADE RIGHT:

God made him sin, who knew no sin, that we might become the righteousness of God in him.

2 Corinthians 5:21

**WE ALL DESERVE JUDGMENT
INSTEAD BECAUSE OF CHRIST
WE GET MERCY**

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But by the grace of God I am what I am, and His grace toward me did not prove vain; but I labored even more than all of them, yet not I, but the grace of God with me. 1 Corinthians 15:10

**WE ALL DESERVE JUDGMENT
INSTEAD BECAUSE OF CHRIST
WE GET MERCY**

So whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do,
do it all for the glory of God. 1 Corinthians 10:31

**WE ALL DESERVE JUDGMENT
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"Now I, Nebuchadnezzar, praise and glorify and honor the King of heaven. All his acts are just and true, and he is able to humble the proud." Daniel 4:37

