

A Dream King

Daniel 4

I. Author (Nebuchadnezzar)

God

1. 1, Babylon: world empire
2. 1, peace...multiplied (2 Pt.1:2)
3. 2, God – Nebu. – audience (Hb.1:1)
4. 2, unbeliever of sorts...a new man
5. 3, all about God – Theology

I. Author (Nebuchadnezzar)

II. Account (no protection)

Good time to panic

- 4-5, in bed; prospering; forgot God
- 4-5, night terror
 - Sennacherib, 2 K. 19:...35-37
 - Xerxes, Est.2:21-23
 - Solomon, Ec.1-2
 - Herod Great, fearful; haunted
 - Nebuchadnezzar – a dream??

Nebuchadnezzar could lose all in . . .

- Foreign attack. Cyrus
- Dementia.
- Sickness.
- Family tragedy. 1 K.14. Ex.12
- Assassination.
- Natural death (605-562 B.C.) Ac.12
 - Christian, Ph.4:6-7

Choosing your information

- 4-5, in bed; prospering; forgot God
- 4-5, night terror
- 6-7, good help is hard to find
 - Even if they explain dream, news is bad
- 8, Daniel: pointed foreign kings to God
- 9, Nebuchadnezzar knew Daniel...

Everything Nebuchadnezzar knows of God
he learned from young men
with consistent convictions

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II. Account (no protection)

III. Anticipation (dream...)

The tree, the shout, the stump

- 10-12, high tree . . .
- 13-14, Watcher: **cut it down!**
[Ezk.26:8-9]
- 15-16, stump; dew; with beasts
(5:21)

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III. Anticipation (dream)

IV. Aim (the lesson, 17)

Decree of Watcher

Who is **really** in charge?

- Most High rules kingdoms of men

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V. Analysis (interpretation)

Good news and bad news

- 18-19, Daniel is reluctant
- 20-22 – ‘you are the tree’
 - True ruler, 23-25
 - Stump, 26
 - Perhaps... 27. Jer.18; Jon.3

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IV. Aim (the lesson, 17)

V. Analysis (interpretation)

VI. Accomplishment (28-37)

All happened as Daniel prophesied

- 28-29, twelve months later
- 30, pride (Pr.16:18): "I" built . . .
- 31, my mouth – another 'mouth'
- 32-33, till you learn your lesson...

Dn.2:38 reversed

A lesson learned

- 34-35, in right mind – praises God

By contrast, we are nothing

- 36, restored to position and honor
- 37, credit / honor to Whom due
Nebuchadnezzar is Exhibit A

Lessons for us

1. Power is God's alone, 3.
2. Pride lifts up to bring down, 4.
3. Prepare for payday, 27.

How to Prepare for Payday? (27)

1. Stop! Ja.4:8-10
2. Start! Ja.2:23
3. Show! Ja.2:13

God has given us everything we need,
2 Pt.1:3 -

1. **Scripture**
2. **Prayer**
3. **Church**
4. **Blessings**

Lessons for us

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2. Pride lifts up to bring down, 4.
3. Prepare for payday, 27.
4. Proper priorities, 32.
5. Pity of God, 34.