

8. A new Nebuchadnezzar came out of this experience. He gives God glory instead of himself (4:34-37). Do you think he was simply forced into humility by God, or was there a genuine change of attitude? Explain.

9. Would you say that your own understanding of God's sovereignty is as strong and thorough and deep as King Nebuchadnezzar's was after his ordeal? What aspects of God's sovereignty are most difficult for you to grasp?

Let's Pray:

Express to God your trust in his control over the world and his care for your life.

Sermon Notes

"The Gospel According to Nebuchadnezzar"

Daniel 4:1-37

June 14, 2015

Introduction:

1. The Outline of the Text.

Introduction of the letter (4:1-3)

Introduction of the Dream (4:4-18)

Interpretation of the Dream (4:19-27)

Fulfillment of the Dream (4:28-33)

Rescue from the Dream (4:34-37)

2. What does it look like in our life?

Conclusion:

Growth Group Homework

For the week of 6-14-15

Questions adapted from Daniel: Life Change Series, NavPress, Colorado Springs, CO, 2013, pp. 41-48; Douglas Connelly, Daniel, Spiritual Living in a Secular World, Intersity Press, Downers Grove, IL, 2000, pp. 22-24.

Getting Started:

1. Describe your most humbling experience. What positive change came from that ordeal?

Digging Deeper:

2. How does Nebuchadnezzar's proclamation in 4:1-3 differ from what he said about God in 3:28-29 (after the fiery furnace)?

3. As you read Nebuchadnezzar's description of the dream (4:9-18), what aspects of it might have caused the king to be "terrified" (4:5)?
4. God's purpose for giving the dream is repeated three times (4:17, 25, 32). Summarize that purpose in your own words. Why do you think God was so intent on impressing Nebuchadnezzar with his absolute authority instead of his grace or love?
5. Nebuchadnezzar concludes that God is able to humble "those who walk in pride" (4:37). What evidence can you find of Nebuchadnezzar's walk in pride (4:27-30)?
6. While Nebuchadnezzar's pride is blatant, are there more subtle ways in which you walk in a similar pride? Describe those.
7. What specific steps did God take to humble Nebuchadnezzar (4:31-33)?