

SAM BOONE ——— *Family Pastor*



THE RISK OF PRIDE

Daniel 4





DANIEL 4:1-3 (ESV)

King Nebuchadnezzar to all peoples, nations, and languages,
that dwell in all the earth: Peace be multiplied to you!

DANIEL 4:1-3 (ESV)

² It has seemed good to me to show the signs and wonders that the Most High God has done for me.



DANIEL 4:1-3 (ESV)

³ How great are his signs, how mighty his wonders!

DANIEL 4:1-3 (ESV)

His kingdom is an everlasting kingdom,
and his dominion endures from generation to generation.



DANIEL 4:4 (ESV)

I, Nebuchadnezzar, was at ease in my house
and prospering in my palace.

DANIEL 4:5 (ESV)

I saw a dream that made me afraid. As I lay in bed the fancies and the visions of my head alarmed me.

DANIEL 4:8 (ESV)

At last Daniel came in before me—he who was named Belteshazzar after the name of my god, and in whom is the spirit of the holy gods—

DANIEL 4:10-17 (ESV)

¹⁰ The visions of my head as I lay in bed were these: I saw, and behold, a tree in the midst of the earth, and its height was great.

DANIEL 4:10-17 (ESV)

¹¹ The tree grew and became strong, and its top reached to heaven, and it was visible to the end of the whole earth.



DANIEL 4:10-17 (ESV)

¹² Its leaves were beautiful and its fruit abundant,
and in it was food for all.

DANIEL 4:10-17 (ESV)

The beasts of the field found shade under it, and the birds of the heavens lived in its branches, and all flesh was fed from it.

DANIEL 4:10-17 (ESV)

¹³ "I saw in the visions of my head as I lay in bed, and behold, a watcher, a holy one, came down from heaven.

DANIEL 4:10-17 (ESV)

¹⁴ He proclaimed aloud and said thus: 'Chop down the tree and lop off its branches, strip off its leaves and scatter its fruit.

DANIEL 4:10-17 (ESV)

Let the beasts flee from under it and the birds from its branches.

DANIEL 4:10-17 (ESV)

¹⁵ But leave the stump of its roots in the earth, bound with a band of iron and bronze, amid the tender grass of the field.

DANIEL 4:10-17 (ESV)

Let him be wet with the dew of heaven. Let his portion be with the beasts in the grass of the earth.

DANIEL 4:10-17 (ESV)

¹⁶ Let his mind be changed from a man's, and let a beast's mind be given to him; and let seven periods of time pass over him.

DANIEL 4:10-17 (ESV)

¹⁷ The sentence is by the decree of the watchers,
the decision by the word of the holy ones,

DANIEL 4:10-17 (ESV)

to the end that the living may know that the Most High
rules the kingdom of men



DANIEL 4:10-17 (ESV)
and gives it to whom he will
and sets over it the lowliest of men.'

DANIEL 4:22 (ESV)

it is you, O king, who have grown and become strong.

DANIEL 4:22 (ESV)

Your greatness has grown and reaches to heaven,
and your dominion to the ends of the earth.

DANIEL 4:24-27 (ESV)

²⁴ this is the interpretation, O king: It is a decree of the Most High, which has come upon my lord the king,

DANIEL 4:24-27 (ESV)

²⁵ that you shall be driven from among men,
and your dwelling shall be with the beasts of the field.

DANIEL 4:24-27 (ESV)

You shall be made to eat grass like an ox, and you shall be wet with the dew of heaven, and seven periods of time shall pass over you,

DANIEL 4:24-27 (ESV)

till you know that the Most High rules the kingdom of men
and gives it to whom he will.

DANIEL 4:24-27 (ESV)

²⁶ And as it was commanded to leave the stump of the roots
of the tree,



DANIEL 4:24-27 (ESV)

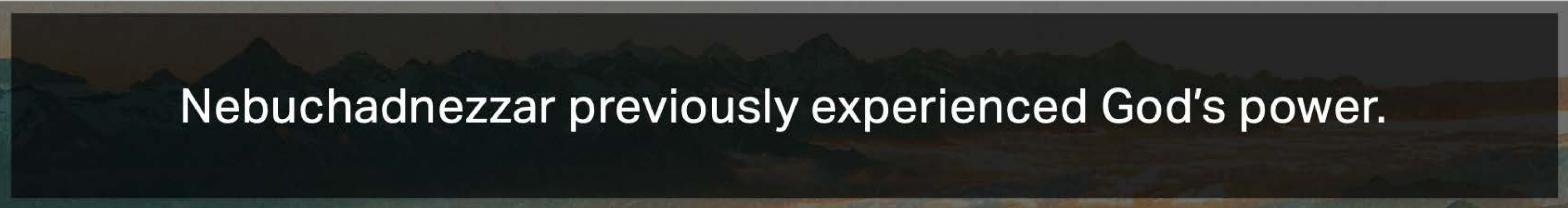
your kingdom shall be confirmed for you
from the time that you know that Heaven rules.

DANIEL 4:24-27 (ESV)

²⁷ Therefore, O king, let my counsel be acceptable to you:
break off your sins by practicing righteousness,

DANIEL 4:24-27 (ESV)

and your iniquities by showing mercy to the oppressed,
that there may perhaps be a lengthening of your prosperity."



Nebuchadnezzar previously experienced God's power.

DANIEL 4:29-33 (ESV)

²⁹ At the end of twelve months he was walking on the roof of the royal palace of Babylon, ³⁰ and the king answered and said,

DANIEL 4:29-33 (ESV)

“Is not this great Babylon, which I have built by my mighty power as a royal residence and for the glory of my majesty?”

DANIEL 4:29-33 (ESV)

³¹ While the words were still in the king's mouth, there fell a voice from heaven, "O King Nebuchadnezzar, to you it is spoken:

DANIEL 4:29-33 (ESV)

The kingdom has departed from you, ³² and you shall be driven from among men, and your dwelling shall be with the beasts of the field.



DANIEL 4:29-33 (ESV)

And you shall be made to eat grass like an ox,
and seven periods of time shall pass over you,

DANIEL 4:29-33 (ESV)

until you know that the Most High rules the kingdom of men
and gives it to whom he will.”

DANIEL 4:29-33 (ESV)

³³ Immediately the word was fulfilled against Nebuchadnezzar.
He was driven from among men and ate grass like an ox,

DANIEL 4:29-33 (ESV)

and his body was wet with the dew of heaven till his hair grew as long as eagles' feathers, and his nails were like birds' claws.

1

Competing for **God's glory** is not only risky – **it's foolish.**

PSALM 46:10 (ESV)

“Be still, and know that I am God.
I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!”

PHILIPPIANS 2:9-11 (ESV)

9 Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name,

PHILIPPIANS 2:9-11 (ESV)

¹⁰ so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

PHILIPPIANS 2:9-11 (ESV)

¹¹ and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.



APPLICATION QUESTION

What accomplishments or what area of life are you most tempted to become prideful in?



2

Life is **uncertain**; God is **in control**.

1 TIMOTHY 6:17 (NIV)

Command those who are rich in this present world
not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth,

1 TIMOTHY 6:17 (NIV)

which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God,
who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment.

PRAYER

Come meet a prayer partner at the front.

DANIEL 4:34-37 (ESV)

³⁴ At the end of the days I, Nebuchadnezzar,
lifted my eyes to heaven, and my reason returned to me,



DANIEL 4:34-37 (ESV)

and I blessed the Most High,
and praised and honored him who lives forever,

DANIEL 4:34-37 (ESV)

for his dominion is an everlasting dominion,
and his kingdom endures from generation to generation;

DANIEL 4:34-37 (ESV)

³⁵ all the inhabitants of the earth are accounted as nothing,
and he does according to his will among the host of heaven

DANIEL 4:34-37 (ESV)

and among the inhabitants of the earth; and none can stay his hand or say to him, "What have you done?"

DANIEL 4:34-37 (ESV)

³⁶ At the same time my reason returned to me, and for the glory of my kingdom, my majesty and splendor returned to me.

DANIEL 4:34-37 (ESV)

My counselors and my lords sought me, and I was established in my kingdom, and still more greatness was added to me.

DANIEL 4:34-37 (ESV)

³⁷ Now I, Nebuchadnezzar, praise and extol and honor the King of heaven, for all his works are right and his ways are just;



DANIEL 4:34-37 (ESV)

and those who walk in pride he is able to humble.



3

Walk in **humility** or be **humbled**.



3

a. Acknowledge that everything is **a gift from God**



3

b. Use my life, my gifts, and my platform **to elevate Jesus**



when I was a little girl.

APPLICATION QUESTION

What are some of the gifts/abilities God has blessed you with in your life and how are you using them for His kingdom?



3

c. **Serve** and **bless** others