

Daniel Part 6 - Daniel 4:1-37

The Great Sin

- “There is no fault that makes a man more unpopular, and no fault which we are more unconscious of in ourselves. And the more we have it ourselves, the more we dislike it in others. The vice I am talking of is Pride. Pride leads to every other vice: it is the complete anti-God state of mind.” // CS Lewis
- “The first, and the worst cause of errors that prevail in such a state of things, is spiritual pride. there is no sin in the world, that men are so confident in, and so difficultly convinced of.” // Jonathan Edwards
- *In his pride the wicked man does not seek him; in all his thoughts there is no room for God. // Psalm 10:4*

Nebuchadnezzar's Decree - Daniel 4:1-3

- This decree is made after the events of Daniel chapter 4; chapter 4 is a retelling of the events that led to the decree being made.
- 3 Decrees:
 - 1st - tell me the dream and its meaning or I will kill you and your family
 - 2nd - worship my image and statue at the sound of the music or I will kill you and your family
 - 3rd - The God of the Bible is the King who rules Heaven and earth forever

Nebuchadnezzar's Second Dream - Daniel 4:4-18

- Once again none of the magicians of Babylon are able to explain the meaning of the dream
- *Romans 1:18-23, 28-32*
- *But the Lord said to him, “Go, for he is a chosen instrument of mine to carry my name before the Gentiles and kings and the children of Israel. For I will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name. // Acts 9:15-16*

Daniel Interprets the Second Dream - Daniel 4:19-27

- You, O King, are the great tree, and it symbolizes your greatness (vv. 20-22).
- You are the tree chopped down with only a stump remaining (v. 23).
- You will live like an animal outdoors in the fields until “seven periods of time” pass (vv. 23-25).
- All of this will happen to teach you a valuable lesson: “that the Most High is ruler over human kingdoms, and he gives them to anyone he wants” (v. 25).
- When you come to your spiritual senses, you will get your kingdom back (v. 26).
- Repent! Turn from your sins and live in righteousness (v27).

Repentance and Restoration - Daniel 4:28-37

- *The pride of mankind will be brought low, and human loftiness will be humbled; the Lord alone will be exalted on that day. // Isaiah 2:17*
- Nebuchadnezzar becomes on the outside what he was like on the inside, a beast.
- In Jewish apocalyptic literature, anyone who sets themselves up as a god to be worshiped is often described as a beast.
- Daniel 4:17 happens - Nebuchadnezzar repents and comes to acknowledge the God of the Bible as the Most High God.

Our Lesson to Learn

- *He put another parable before them, saying, “The kingdom of heaven is like a grain of mustard seed that a man took and sowed in his field. It is the smallest of all seeds, but when it has grown it is larger than all the garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches. // Matthew 13:31-32*
- *Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb through the middle of the street of the city; also, on either side of the river, the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, yielding its fruit each month. The leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations. // Revelation 22:1-2*