

***NEBUCHADNEZZAR'S
2ND DREAM***

DANIEL 4:19-33

**Woodland Park
Church of Christ**



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CONTEXT

- We're familiar with Nebuchadnezzar's first vision (dream) interpreted by Daniel. **Daniel 2**
- Central figure was an image that represented four distinct kingdoms (nations) that would rise to power.
- These kingdoms would be removed and ultimately a hewn stone, cut from a mountain without human hand, would crush the last kingdoms and stand forever – the kingdom of Christ!!



Nebuchadnezzar's Dream



KINGDOMS REPRESENTED

Head of fine gold
Babylonian Empire

Breast and arms of silver
Medes' and Persians' Empire

Belly and thighs of brass
Macedonian Empire

Legs of iron
Roman Empire

Feet and toes of clay
Kingdoms that arose after
the fall of the Roman Empire



Nebuchadnezzar's Great Failing

He tended to forget God's power and presence he witnessed.

He had witnessed God deliver Shadrach, Meshach and Abed-Nego from certain death of the fiery furnace.

He even recognized the visage of Christ. **See Daniel 3:25.**



*Nebuchadnezzar spoke, saying, “Blessed be the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego who sent His Angel and delivered His servants who trusted in Him, and they have frustrated the king’s word, and yielded their bodies, that they should not serve nor worship any god except their own God! Therefore I make a decree that any people nation or language which speaks anything amiss against the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego shall be cut to pieces, and their houses shall be made an ash heap, because **there is no other God who can deliver like this.**”*

Daniel 3:28-29



NEBUCHADNEZZAR HAS A 2ND DREAM

- This time he actually reveals the dream to Daniel when seeking its interpretation.
- Recall when seeking the interpretation of his first dream (**Daniel 2**), Nebuchadnezzar ordered to be made known the substance of the dream, as well as its interpretation (its meaning). **See Daniel 2:5**
- In this dream, Nebuchadnezzar sees a tree, whose height was great in the midst of the earth. **Daniel 4:10**



■ The tree became strong, its height reached heaven, and it could be seen to the ends of all the earth. **Daniel 4:11**

■ This tree provided food for all; the beasts of the field found shade under it and the birds dwelt in its branches. **Daniel 4:12**



- But then a watcher, a holy one, came out of heaven and ordered the tree to be chopped down, its stripped fruit scattered, and the birds and beasts no longer benefiting from it! **Daniel 4:13-14**
 - *Watching You* (Hymn)
 - *The eyes of the Lord are in every place, keeping watch on the evil and the good.* **Proverbs 15:3**
- However the stump and roots were to remain, bound with a band of iron and brass. **Daniel 4:15**
- The stump and roots were to be wet with the dew of heaven, were to graze with the beast on the grass of the earth, and its heart was to be changed from that of man to that of a beast. **Daniel 4:15-16**



- All this was done to confirm and demonstrate that the Most High (God) rules in the kingdoms of men and has authority and the divine right to set over it whomever He will. **Daniel 4:17.**
- The dream perplexed Nebuchadnezzar, and he sought the assistance of Daniel to help make sense of it because he knew the Spirit of the Holy God was in Daniel. **Daniel 4:18**
- As Daniel hesitantly revealed, the dream was about the king, who would be dethroned for a period and return to the throne after he revered the one true God.



POINTS

I. THE MIGHTY CAN, AND MANY TIMES DO, FALL

- Recall in our country, banks and certain other institutions were thought to be too BIG to fail
- YOU CAN GO FROM THE PENTHOUSE (WHITE HOUSE) TO AN OUTHOUSE.
 - It may not take long to get there.
 - King N goes from sitting in a royal palace to grazing in a dew-covered field, foraging grass and wild berries like a beast in an hour!



- I have often wondered what this must have looked like – a man refusing to come in out of inclement conditions, not showering, going without shaving, etc.
- A man actually believing himself to be a wild beast.
- One thing to act like a donkey or someone calling you a donkey, but it's quite different when you're convinced you're a donkey.
- **GOD is AWESOME!!**



Therefore, let him who thinks he stands take heed lest he fall. **I Corinthians 10:12**



II. IT'S DISADVANTAGEOUS TO SPURN WISE COUNSEL (GOOD ADVICE)

Therefore O king, let my advice be acceptable to you: break off your sins by being righteous, and your iniquities by showing mercy to the poor. Perhaps there may be a lengthening of your prosperity.
Daniel 4:27

**But arrogance consumed
Nebuchadnezzar.**



Nebuchadnezzar disregarded Daniel's counsel to obey and yield to God.

At the end of the twelve months he was walking about the royal palace of Babylon. The king spoke, saying, "Is not this great Babylon, that I have built for a royal dwelling by my mighty power and for the honor of my majesty?"

Daniel 4:29-30

The hour those words escaped his lips, he was driven from men and ate grass like oxen!!!



III. WHEN GOD HAS HIS WAY WITH US, THE FRUIT IS EVIDENT

*At the same time my reason returned to me, and for the glory of my kingdom, my honor and splendor returned to me, My counselors and nobles resorted to me, I was restored to my kingdom, and excellent majesty was added to me. **Now I, Nebuchadnezzar, praise and extol and honor the King of heaven, all of whose works are truth, and His ways justice. And those walk in pride He is able to put down.***

Daniel 4:36-37



**We do not have to say a whole lot.
When the Spirit abounds in us, it
is clear in how we walk, talk,
think and act!!!**



LORD'S INVITATION EXTENDED TO ALL

- **Be added to the Lord's body**

Hear the gospel (**Acts 15:7**)

Believe (**Acts 15:7; Hebrews 11:6**)

Repent (**Acts 2:38**)

Confess (**Acts 8:37**)

Be baptized for the remission of
sin (**Acts 2:38, 8:38**) **or**



- Be reconciled to the Lord (**I John 1:9**); or
- Desire prayer (**James 5:16**).

