

# DANIEL

MESSAGE: CHARLIE MENG

MUSIC: SHAWN HOELSCH

DATE: JULY 17, 2022

## The King Repents Daniel 4

### Review:

1. God reveals himself to Nebuchadnezzar as the source of wisdom and life. (Daniel 1)
2. God reveals his rule and reign to Nebuchadnezzar. (Daniel 2)
3. God reveals his power and ability to save to Nebuchadnezzar. (Daniel 3)

### God reveals his salvation to Nebuchadnezzar. Chapter 4 Overview:

1. Nebuchadnezzar introduces his account with great humility. (4:1-7)

*Dan. 4:2 It has seemed good to me to show the signs and wonders that the Most High God has done for me. 3 How great are his signs, how mighty his wonders! His kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and his dominion endures from generation to generation.*

2. Nebuchadnezzar describes his dream to Daniel. (4:8-18)

*Dan. 4:16 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. 17 The sentence is by the decree of the watchers, the decision by the word of the holy ones, to the end that the living may know that the Most High rules the kingdom of men and gives it to whom he will and sets over it the lowliest of men.'*

3. Daniel interprets the dream and encourages repentance from pride. (4:19-27)

*Dan. 4:19 Then Daniel, whose name was Belteshazzar, was dismayed for a while, and his thoughts alarmed him... 27 Therefore, O king, let my counsel be acceptable to you: break off your sins by practicing righteousness, and your iniquities by showing mercy to the oppressed, that there may perhaps be a lengthening of your prosperity."*

4. The dream is fulfilled and Nebuchadnezzar experiences a season of insanity. (4:28-33)

*Dan. 4:28 All this came upon King Nebuchadnezzar.*

5. Nebuchadnezzar humbly repents. (4:34-37)

*Dan. 4:34 At the end of the days I, Nebuchadnezzar, lifted my eyes to heaven, and my reason returned to me, and I blessed the Most High, and praised and honored him who lives forever, for his dominion is an everlasting dominion, and his kingdom endures from generation to generation; 35 all the inhabitants of the earth are accounted as nothing, and he does according to his will among the host of heaven and among the inhabitants of the earth; and none can stay his hand or say to him, "What have you done?"*

God seeks to convince unbelievers of his rule and compassion.

1. The Nebuchadnezzar Principle: God brings difficult seasons to unbelievers to produce humility in their hearts.

**Dan. 4:37** *Now I, Nebuchadnezzar, praise and extol and honor the King of heaven, for all his works are right and his ways are just; and those who walk in pride he is able to humble.*

2. Throughout history, God has concerned himself with gathering the nations back to himself.

**Gen. 26:4** *I will multiply your offspring as the stars of heaven and will give to your offspring all these lands. And in your offspring all the nations of the earth shall be blessed,*

3. God continues this work of salvation today through the convincing work of the Holy Spirit.

**John 16:8** *And when he comes, he will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment: 9 concerning sin, because they do not believe in me; 10 concerning righteousness, because I go to the Father, and you will see me no longer; 11 concerning judgment, because the ruler of this world is judged.*

- a. The Spirit convinces unbelievers of their sinfulness.
- b. The Spirit convinces unbelievers of Christ's righteousness.
- c. The Spirit convinces unbelievers of impending judgment.

4. God universally orchestrates all history and all humanity with reconciliation as the goal.

**Acts 17:26** *And he made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined allotted periods and the boundaries of their dwelling place, 27 that they should seek God, and perhaps feel their way toward him and find him. Yet he is actually not far from each one of us, 28 for "In him we live and move and have our being"; as even some of your own poets have said, "For we are indeed his offspring."*

### Reflection/Discussion:

1. Based on Nebuchadnezzar's example, how would you answer an unbeliever's question, "Why would a good God allow hard things?"
2. Identify lost folks in your life. Commit to praying for them this week, using John 16:7-11 as the foundation of your prayers.

### SONGS

"GRATEFUL" - Chris Brown, Matthews Ntlele, Stefan Green, Steven Furtick

"GREAT IS THY FAITHFULNESS" - Thomas Obediah Chisholm, William Marion Runyan

"GOD OF REVIVAL" - Brian Johnson, Phil Wickham

"REIGN ABOVE IT ALL" - Ethan Hulse, Hannah McClure, Jess Cates, Paul McClure

### BUDGET

GIVING LAST WEEK: \$ 30,101.00

WEEKLY NEED: \$ 36,093.00

Y-T-D GIVING: \$930,292.00

Y-T-D GENERAL NEED: \$1,010,604.00