

Expositional Preaching from the Authorized Version of the Holy Bible  
Current Book: Daniel – verse by verse

Scriptures for Today: Daniel 4:1-37 – *the king’s testimony of pride, abasement, and repentance.*

Today’s Message:  
“Pride Abasement”



## INTRODUCTION

Last week, we learned of events soon coming to planet earth. We were strengthened in our faith by the true, historical account of Daniel’s three friends and their fiery trial with the king of Babylon. Today, we come to an important chapter in the Bible. The author of this chapter is the **KING** himself! Now the Bible says, “Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a **FALL**.” The king found this out the hard way! How about you? This chapter is king Nebuchadnezzar’s incredible story of pride, abasement, and repentance toward God. He is in **HEAVEN** today! This is God’s message to you today...

## LEARNING TOGETHER

### A. The Text Daniel 3:1-37

#### #1. The Dream – the king had a troubling dream of a big **TREE** being cut down.

##### I NEBUCHADNEZZAR WAS AT REST IN MINE HOUSE... I SAW A DREAM

Wicked people have short memories. They forgot God their saviour, which had done great things in Egypt. Psalm 106:21

People are often compared to trees. For every tree is known by his fruit... Luke 6:44

- ✓ God gave the king of Babylon another sign – a dream with a major **WARNING**.
  - In **4:5-7**, the king was troubled and brought in all the wise men of Babylon.
  - In **4:8-9**, at the last, Daniel came in to help the king. *[this may be 20+ years later]*
- ✓ Nebuchadnezzar’s dream of the tree had several distinct elements...
  - In **4:10-11**, the tree *reached unto heaven*; the sight *to the end of all the earth*.
  - In **4:12**, the tree produced FOOD and SHELTER for *all* flesh, beasts and fowls.
  - In **4:13**, a WATCHER... an HOLY ONE came from heaven to declare judgment.
  - In **4:14-15**, the tree was to be CUT DOWN, and branches, leaves, fruit removed.
  - In **4:15**, the tree STUMP and ROOTS were to be left with a band around it.
  - In **4:16**, the tree is called a **MAN**; his HEART to be changed until 7 TIMES pass.
  - In **4:17**, this by the *decree* of the WATCHERS; the *demand* of the HOLY ONES.
  - In **4:17**, this is all designed to PROVE to the LIVING that *the most High* RULES!
- ✓ Daniel was ASTONIED for one hour, then gave the king the interpretation...
  - In **4:20-22**, Daniel said, “The tree that thou sawest... **It is thou, O king.**”
  - In **4:23-24**, Daniel said, “This is **the decree of the most High**, which is come upon my lord the king...”

**2023 VISION:** Hold the Fort!  
Making disciples and caring for souls!

**Proverbs 16:18**  
*Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall.*

**Galatians 4:16**  
*Am I therefore become your enemy, because I tell you the truth?*

- In **4:25**, the king was TO BE DRIVEN FROM MEN...
  - 1) **HE WOULD LIVE IN THE FIELDS** *with the beasts...*
  - 2) **HE WOULD EAT GRASS** *as oxen...*
  - 3) **HE WOULD BE WET** *with the dew of heaven...*
  - 4) **THIS WOULD LAST 7 YEARS** – times – *to pass over him...*
  - 5) **UNTIL HE KNEW** *that the most High ruleth in the kingdom of men...*
- In **4:26**, the kingdom would not depart from him AFTER he KNEW this truth!
- In **4:27**, after speaking truth, Daniel PLEADED with the king to take counsel:
  - ❖ **LISTEN TO ME.** *O king, LET my counsel BE ACCEPTABLE unto thee...*
  - ❖ **QUIT YOUR SIN.** *And BREAK OFF THY SINS by righteousness...*
  - ❖ **SHEW MERCY.** *And THINE INIQUITIES by shewing mercy to the poor...*
  - ❖ **ASK GOD FOR MERCY.** *IF IT MAY BE a lengthening of thy tranquility.*
- In **4:28**, the Bible says, “ALL THIS CAME UPON the king Nebuchadnezzar.”

**#2. The Pride – the king, in arrogance, REFUSED to take heed to God’s warning.**

**WHILE THE WORD WAS IN THE KING’S MOUTH**

**HISTORICAL FACT**  
*The king recovered from his insanity in 562 BC; one year before his death.*

- ✓ ONE YEAR LATER, the king walked in his palace and BOASTED of his greatness.
  - In **4:30**, he said, “*Is not this GREAT Babylon, THAT I HAVE BUILT...*”
  - In **4:31**, the Bible says, “**While the word was in the king’s mouth...**”
  - In **4:32-33**, the Bible says, “*The SAME HOUR was the thing fulfilled...*”
  - God did exactly what He had warned... for **7 years**, he became as a **BEAST!**

**#3. The Repentance – after great humiliation, the king finally looked UP!**

**HISTORICAL APPLICATION**

**James 4:10**  
*Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up.*

- ✓ King Nebuchadnezzar **REPENTED** of his sinful way; his understanding RETURNED!
  - In **4:34**, the king LIFTED UP HIS EYES unto heaven... **James 4:10; 1 Peter 5:5**
  - In **4:34-35**, the king BLESSED the most High and PRAISED and HONOURED him!
  - In **4:36**, the king’s REASON returned; his kingdom and majesty were RESTORED!
  - In **4:37**, he said, “**NOW** I ... praise and extol and honour THE KING OF HEAVEN, *all whose works are truth... those that walk in pride he is able to abase.*”

**PROPHETIC APPLICATION**

- ✓ Satan, ANTICHRIST, and **ALL** Christ-rejecters **will be abased...** ALL to the lake of fire!

**DEVOTIONAL APPLICATION**

- ✓ You must be HUMBLE YOURSELF to get into heaven; REPENT and BELIEVE in CHRIST!

<p><b>Revelation 20:10</b>  <i>And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever.</i></p>	<p><b>Revelation 20:15</b>  <i>And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.</i></p>	<p><b>1 Peter 5:6</b>  <i>Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time.</i></p>
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