



A DREAM RECEIVED

A SECOND DREAM--THIS TIME ABOUT A GREAT TREE

THE BIGGER THEY ARE THE HARDER THEY FALL DANIEL 4:1-18

DR. JOE K. TAYLOR, SENIOR PASTOR, SOUTH RENO BAPTIST CHURCH, RENO, NEVADA • MAY 5, 2019

All Scriptures are printed verbatim with translations noted. • When Pastor Joe's commentary is added, God's Word will be printed in regular faced text with commentary in the smaller faced text. • Biblical words, underlined with dots, are explained in the brackets. Pastor Joe's email is Joe@southreno.com. This passage can be found in the Pew Bible, in the Old Testament on pages 631-632.

“Dare to be a Daniel, Dare to stand alone;
Dare to have a purpose firm, Dare to make it known.”

-Phillip Paul Bliss, *Dare to be a Daniel*, (Circa 1873).

STUDY SECTION

THE DEAD-END STREET CALLED PRIDE

1. Sovereign _____.

Daniel 4:2–3, NASB - ² “It has seemed good to me to declare the signs and wonders which the Most High God has done for me. ³ “How great are His signs And how mighty are His wonders! His kingdom is an everlasting kingdom And His dominion is from generation to generation.

- Daniel Chapter 1: God's Sovereignty shown over the nations/individuals.
- Daniel Chapter 2: God's Sovereignty shown to Daniel/interpret dreams.
- Daniel Chapter 3: God's Sovereignty in the preservation of S. M. and A.
- Daniel Chapter 4: God's Sovereignty is shown in man's salvation process.

2. Self-centered _____.

A. He sees a large tree spreading out.

Daniel 4:4–12, NASB - ⁴ “I, Nebuchadnezzar, was at ease in my house and flourishing in my palace. ⁵ “I saw a dream and it made me fearful; and these fantasies as I lay on my bed and the visions in my mind kept alarming [lit., terrified, he's gone from “troubled” about the statue dream (2:3) to terrified.] me... ¹⁰ [He says to Daniel] ‘Now these were the visions in my mind as I lay on my bed: I was looking, and behold, there was a tree in the midst of the earth and its height was great. ¹¹ The tree grew large and became strong And its height reached to the sky, And it was visible to the end of the whole earth. ¹² Its foliage was beautiful and its fruit abundant, And in it was food for all. The beasts of the field found shade under it, And the birds of the sky dwelt in its branches, And all living creatures fed themselves from it.

B. He sees the large tree struck down.

Daniel 4:13–18, NASB - ¹³ ‘I was looking in the visions in my mind as I lay on my bed, and behold, an angelic watcher, a holy one [Heb. phrase: גִּזְרָה יְשִׁינִי (qad-ah-sin gez-ah-yah), lit., “a living, holy entity (ie., part) from God” (The word “angelic” does not appear in older MSS)] descended from heaven. ¹⁴ He shouted out and spoke as follows: “Chop down the tree and cut off its branches, Strip off its foliage and scatter its fruit; Let the beasts flee from under it And the birds from its branches. ¹⁵ “Yet leave the stump with its roots in the ground, But with a band of iron and bronze around it In the new grass of the field; And let him be drenched with the dew of heaven, And let him share with the beasts in the grass of the earth. ¹⁶ “Let his mind be changed from that of a man And let a beast's mind be given to him, And let seven periods [lit., 7 years] of time pass over him. ¹⁷ “This sentence is by the decree of the angelic watchers And the decision is a command of the holy ones, In order that the living may know That the Most High is ruler over the realm of mankind, And bestows it on whom He wishes And sets over it the lowliest of men.” ¹⁸ ‘This is the dream which I, King Nebuchadnezzar, have seen. Now you, Belteshazzar [ie., Daniel], tell me its interpretation, inasmuch as none of the wise men of my kingdom is able to make known to me the interpretation; but you are able, for a spirit of the holy gods is in you.’

LIFE APPLICATION SECTION

GOD'S SOVEREIGNTY VS. MAN'S SELF-CENTEREDNESS

- God will have every knee bow and every tongue confess that He is the Lord.
- Man's self-centerless can be characterized by his/her **pride and sin.**

Answers: 1. God 2. Man