

Sermon: 24/10/21

Daniel 3

Kathryn Bailey

On Sunday we continued our sermon series exploring the book of Daniel with Kathryn Bailey speaking on chapter 4.

Scripture

Daniel 4

Micah 6v 6-8

Philippians 2 v 1 – 11

Overview

King Nebuchadnezzar had already seen great things from God but doesn't quite grasp who He really is. It is a helpful example and warning for all of us, that it is possible to have encounters with God, revelation of who He is and His greatness and still have too high a view of ourselves. Often when we read through scripture and see countless stories of pride and arrogance getting in the way of someone walking in the fullness of God's plans and purposes we can 'tut', shake our heads and believe that we are different. The sad reality is that we are all like King Nebuchadnezzar and must heed the warning of this chapter. Pride blinds and sin deceives, we can easily slip into having too high a view of ourselves and will need the Lord's intervention to humble us and realign our vision of Him and ourselves.

After ignoring Daniel's clear interpretation of his dream and direct challenge to his sin, Nebuchadnezzar is still glorying in himself and is driven out of his kingdom. After an allotted time of living as a wild beast, Nebuchadnezzar is restored, he sees the greatness of God and he praises God from a place of humility

Questions

1. God spoke to Nebuchadnezzar in dreams. Does God speak to you in dreams?
Share examples of ways in which God speaks to you, prompts you, challenges and loves you
2. Even though we believe in God and know that His "is the kingdom, the power and the glory for ever and ever", in what ways can we find ourselves thinking or acting like Nebuchadnezzar in our daily lives (e.g. by struggling to acknowledge God by: relying on our own power, thinking we have control, or wanting to make things about us and our desires or glory?)

In what ways might God be asking you to "acknowledge Him" more in your life right now?

3. How would you describe humility and what walking humbly with God looks like? What things/practices can we put in place in our lives that can keep us humble?

4. Share the kingdoms of this world that you live/work in. What are the challenges to being kingdom of God people in these places? What can we learn from Daniel?
5. What encouragement about the mercy and power of God can you find in the passage?