

# THRIVING IN CHAOS: THE TROUBLE WITH PRIDE

## DANIEL 4

### NEBUCHADNEZZAR: DECLINE OF A PRIDEFUL KING

Chapter 1:	Chapter 2:	Chapter 3:	Chapter 4:
<b>Egotistical King</b>	<b>Angry King</b>	<b>Furious King</b>	<b>Insane King</b>
Removed families, names, culture (even manhood) of Daniel, Hananiah, Azariah and Mishael.	<i>“The king’s demand is impossible’... so he ordered that all the wise men of Babylon be executed.</i>	<i>Nebuchadnezzar was so furious with Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego that his face became distorted with rage.</i>	<i>“...judgment was fulfilled, and Nebuchadnezzar was driven from human society...He lived this way for seven seasons.”</i>

### PRIDE GETS US IN TROUBLE, ESPECIALLY WHEN WE...

**1) Become cozy .and COMPLACENT with our status quo.**

*“I, Nebuchadnezzar, was living in my palace in comfort and prosperity. “ Daniel 4:4 (NLT)*

*“The Lord detests the proud; they will surely be punished.” Proverb 16:5 (NLT)*

**2) Ignore warning signals and WISE COUNSEL.**

*“[Daniel] ‘This is the interpretation, Your Majesty...You will be driven away from people and will live with the wild animals...Seven times will pass by for you until you acknowledge that the Most High is sovereign over all kingdoms on earth and gives them to anyone He wishes.’” Daniel 4:24-25 (NIV)*

*“[Daniel] Therefore, Your Majesty, be pleased to accept my advice: Renounce your sins by doing what is right, and your wickedness by being kind to the oppressed. It may be that then your prosperity will continue.” Daniel 4:27 (NIV)*

*“Fools think their own way is right, but the wise listen to others.” Proverbs 12:15 (NLT)*

**3) PROCRASTINATE in doing the right thing(s).**

*“<sup>29</sup> Twelve months later... [Nebuchadnezzar] said, ‘Look at this great city of Babylon! By my own mighty power, I have built this beautiful city as my royal residence to display my majestic splendor.’ <sup>31</sup>While these words were still in his mouth, a voice called down from heaven, ‘O King Nebuchadnezzar, this message is for you! You are no longer ruler of this kingdom...That same hour the judgment was fulfilled, and Nebuchadnezzar was driven from human society...He lived this way [seven periods of time]...” Daniel 4:29-33 (NLT)*

*“I will hurry, without delay, to obey your commands.” Psalm 119:60 NLT)*

### Steps to Conquer Pride

**1. SEEK the Most High God.**

*“After this time had passed, I, Nebuchadnezzar, looked up to heaven. My sanity returned, and I praised and worshiped the Most High and honored the one who lives forever.” Daniel 4:34a (NLT)*

*“The Lord is good to those whose hope is in Him, to the one who seeks Him...” Lamentations 3:25 (NIV)*

## 2. **PRAISE** the Most High God.

*[Nebuchadnezzar] "Then I **praised the Most High**; I honored and glorified Him who lives forever..."  
Daniel 4:34 (NIV)*

*"I will **praise you**, Lord, with all my heart. I will **tell all the miracles** You have done. I will be happy because of You.  
God Most High, I will sing praises to Your name."  
Psalm 9:1-2 (ICB)*

We get better when we replace **PRIDE** with **PRAISE**.

## 3. **SHARE** my story about the Most High God.

*"King Nebuchadnezzar sent this **message to the people of every race and nation and language throughout the world**:  
'Peace and prosperity to you! I want you all to know about the miraculous signs and wonders the Most High God  
has performed for me.'" Daniel 4:1-2 (NLT)*

*"And if someone asks about your **hope as a believer**, always be **ready to explain it**. But do this in a gentle and respectful  
way." 1 Peter 3:15-16 (NLT)*