

## **“Pride Goeth Before a Fall”**

### Daniel 4

Note: This chapter is partly written in first person singular. While this is stated to be Nebuchadnezzar, other scholars believe that it is Nabonidus, Nebuchadnezzar's son and father of Belshazzar (chpt. 5). He was technically the last king of Babylon (556-539 BC).

Q. The unit of verses 1-3 is called, “A formal royal decree.” What is included?

A.

1. A \_\_\_\_\_ address
2. A statement of \_\_\_\_\_
3. A statement \_\_\_\_\_ to his god (God)

Q. What was Nebuchadnezzar's state of being? (v. 4)

A. “I, Nebuchadnezzar, was at home in my palace,  
\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.” (Dan. 4:4 NIV)

Note: This was after he had conquered Syria, Phoenicia, Judea, Egypt, and Arabia.

Q. Describe the events of verses 5-7.

A.

1. The king had another frightening \_\_\_\_\_. (v.5)
2. He called for all the \_\_\_\_\_ to interpret. (v. 6)
3. When they came, he \_\_\_\_\_ them the dream. (v. 7)

Q. What was the difference between the first dream scenario and the second?

A.

Q. What is the same?

A.

Q. How did Nebuchadnezzar describe Daniel? (vv. 8, 9)

A.

1. Belteshazzar – named after the king's \_\_\_\_\_. (v. 8b.1)
2. The \_\_\_\_\_ of the holy gods is in him. (v. 8b.2)
3. Chief of the \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 9)
4. No \_\_\_\_\_ seems too difficult for him. (v. 9)

Q. What does “the spirits of the holy gods is in him” mean?

A.

### **The Vision**

Q. Describe the first part of the vision. (vv. 10-12)

A.

(v. 10)

- a. A \_\_\_\_\_
- b. In the \_\_\_\_\_ of the land
- c. It's height was \_\_\_\_\_.

(v. 11)

- a. The tree grew \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_
- b. Its top touch the \_\_\_\_\_
- c. It was visible to the ends of the \_\_\_\_\_

(v. 12)

- a. Its leaves were \_\_\_\_\_
- b. Its fruit \_\_\_\_\_
- c. And on it was \_\_\_\_\_ for all
- d. Under it the wild animals found \_\_\_\_\_
- e. And the \_\_\_\_\_ lived in its branches
- f. From it ever \_\_\_\_\_ was fed

Q. Describe the second part of the vision (vv. 13-15a)

A.

(v. 13) An \_\_\_\_\_ comes down from heaven with a message.

(v. 14)

- a. Cut down the \_\_\_\_\_
- b. Trim off its \_\_\_\_\_
- c. Strip off its \_\_\_\_\_
- d. Scatter its \_\_\_\_\_
- e. Let the \_\_\_\_\_ flee from it
- f. Let the \_\_\_\_\_ flee from it as well.

(15a)

- a. The \_\_\_\_\_ and the \_\_\_\_\_ are to be left
- b. They are to be bound with \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_
- c. They are to \_\_\_\_\_ in the ground surrounded by grass in the field.

Q. What significant change do you notice in vv. 15b and 16?

A.

Q. Describe the judgment to come upon this person.

A.

(v. 15b)

- a. Let him live \_\_\_\_\_ without a covering
- b. Let him live with the \_\_\_\_\_ among the plants of the earth.

(v. 16)

- a. Let his \_\_\_\_\_ be changed from that of a man to an animal.
- b. Let it be for “\_\_\_\_\_”

Q. What does “seven times” mean?

A.

1. (internally) Cp. with 7:25
2. (Septuagint; LXX) “Hepta etey”

- Q. What do you think is the difference between the mind of a man and the mind of an animal?
- A. The main difference between human and animal is that animals are \_\_\_\_\_ or instinctual beings. Also noted, humans are time, truth, and \_\_\_\_\_ conscious. Animals are not.
- Q. Why was the declaration given? (v. 17)
- A. So that the living may know that the Most High is \_\_\_\_\_ over all kingdoms on earth
- a. He \_\_\_\_\_ them to anyone he wishes
  - b. He \_\_\_\_\_ the lowliest of people.

### **The Interpretation**

- Q. What was Daniel's reaction? (vv. 18-19)
- A.
1. He was \_\_\_\_\_ – not understanding why this would happen.
  2. He was \_\_\_\_\_ – not only because of the power of God to do this, but also because it meant instability for seven years.
  3. He was \_\_\_\_\_.
- Q. Who is the tree? (vv. 20-23)
- A.
- Q. What is this in response to? (vv. 24-25)
- A. It is in response to his \_\_\_\_\_ and lack of divine acknowledgement for his \_\_\_\_\_.

Q. What does the stump symbolize? (v. 26)

A.

1. The possibility for \_\_\_\_\_ exists.
2. It is conditioned on his \_\_\_\_\_.

Q. What is the meaning of the iron and bronze?

A. The text does not tell us. However, "bound with iron and bronze" is associated with \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_.  
Cp. 2 Kgs. 25:7; 2 Chron. 33:11; 36:4; Acts 12:6

There are some who hold that the term is describing the \_\_\_\_\_ of his throne.

Q. What was Daniel's counsel to the king and what does it imply? (v.27)

A.

1. Renounce your \_\_\_\_\_. This is a Godward movement.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ that renouncement by doing what is right.
3. Renounce your \_\_\_\_\_ toward the oppressed.
4. Maybe God will \_\_\_\_\_.

Q. Did the king listen to Daniel? (v. 28)

A.

Q. What started the prophecy's fulfillment? (vv. 29-33)

A. Cp. 4:25 ~ The King's \_\_\_\_\_ and lack of acknowledging God as the \_\_\_\_\_ of his prosperity and sovereignty started the process.

Q. What is important about the timing?

A.

Q. What ended it? (vv. 34-35)

A. The very recognition of 4:25, i.e. that the God of \_\_\_\_\_ is the God Most High and He is sovereign over the kingdoms of men and gives them to anyone He wishes."

Q. What was the result? (vv. 36-37)

A. (v. 36)

1. His \_\_\_\_\_ was restored.
2. His \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ returned.
3. His \_\_\_\_\_ was restored.
4. He became \_\_\_\_\_ than before.

(v. 37)

1. He \_\_\_\_\_ God.
2. He acknowledges the \_\_\_\_\_ of His actions.
3. He acknowledges the His \_\_\_\_\_ to deal with those who are prideful.

### **Life Lessons**

Q. What can we learn about pride?

A.

Proverbs 8:13 -

Proverbs 11:2

Proverbs 13:10

Proverbs 16:18

Isaiah 2:11

1 Peter 5:5-6

1 John 2:16

Q. What do we learn about God's grace?

A.

Q. What do we learn about God? (vv. 17, 25, 32, 35)

A.