

- Order of Service -

Call to Worship

Welcoming Prayer

Reading Daniel 4:34-35, 1 Peter 5:5

- 560, In the sweet by and by
- The hymn of heaven
- Hymn of the Savior
- Jerusalem

Announcements and Prayer requests

Greeting

Message in the Word -

God's Word controls kings, governments and history-pt III

God opposes and humbles the proud

Daniel 4

Sending prayer

Communion and pot-luck served in the fellowship hall

You may notice we don't pass an offering plate

We invite you to participate in the ministry, and the offering box in the foyer is for your gifts and offerings for the Lord's work.

- 2 Corinthians 9:7-8, Galatians 6:6 -

Grace Bible Fellowship

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GRACE
BIBLE FELLOWSHIP
love. truth. grace.

We are identified with Jesus Christ in his crucifixion, death, burial, resurrection, ascension, and heavenly seating



- Teaching -

Eric Peterman

God's Word controls kings, governments and history-pt III

God opposes and humbles the proud

Daniel 4

- September 3rd, 2023 -

God's Word controls kings, governments and history-pt III

God opposes and humbles the proud

Daniel 4

God pickles the proud and makes preserves of the foolish

*Questions: What has **pride** cost you? What has **God's grace** gained you?
Which is the better paymaster?*

Chapter 2 records the Living God revealing to Nebuchadnezzar, the source of the greatness of his kingdom and rule over Babylon. **Chapter 3** records the hubris and stupidity that happens when a man thinks he has accomplished what God has kindly and Providentially granted. **Chapter 4** is the personal, painful memoir and public confession of a man painfully jerked up short by the leash of the Most High, who will not be mocked!

Let us at Grace Bible Fellowship humble ourselves before God!

In Daniel 2:1 we are introduced into a most amazing series of events that unfold God's plan of the ages. And God does this by bringing

As we read and take in Daniel ch4, ask yourself this question:

- What is the source material for Daniel ch 4 (who wrote the original)?
- How would Daniel have had access to copy it?

V1-3 & 34-35 are like book ends... Nebuchadnezzar's memoir as an older and wiser, man reflects back on the foolishness of his own pride. The middle-v4 thru 33 are his flashback to what transpired to bring him to a state of humility and a right knowledge of God.

V4-18 record Nebuchadnezzar's dream.

In both Assyrian and Babylonian culture, a tree was a symbol of a blessed life and here the blessedness of Nebuchadnezzar's kingdom providing wealth, stability and peace is shown by calling him ruling over Babylon a great, shade-giving tree.

V13, "watcher": the watcher, like the tree, would have been a familiar figure to an ancient Babylonian king: The idea of heavenly beings whose task it is to keep watch seems to have originated in Babylon (Ezk. 1:17, 18; Zc. 1:10; 4:10) ... This 'watcher,' like the Lord he serves, 'neither slumbers nor sleeps' (Ps. 121:4) and has power to make decrees and carry them out in order to bring home to men the fact that the Most High rules in human affairs.

V19 – the **horror** of a man who cared for Nebuchadnezzar

V20-26, the **interpretation** of the dream.

V27, the **personal application** of the dream. (The call of **the preacher – the Qohileth**, to listen, heed, the warning, turn from the sins, with offer of release and refreshment from God).

V29-30, the **personal rejection** of the warning! See Proverbs 17:24

V31-32, the **terrible pronouncement** of the angelic Watcher!
(But there is that wonderful, "until"!)

V33, the **fulfillment** of the **threatened judgment**

V34, The **repentant mind** of Nebuchadnezzar **yields beautiful fruit!**
Don't miss the sequence of sanity
1-Raised the eyes heavenward. (Mentally looked to God, away from self
.2-Then sanity returned.

V35
3-Then true and joyous worship of the Most High
from a place of humility.

V36
4-Useful service to God and fellow man follows from humility and worship.

Nebuchadnezzar in ch 3 is the moral anti-type messiah/king to the coming King Jesus Christ who will receive and replace the kingdoms of this earth in the 2nd coming!

Here in ch 4, Nebuchadnezzar is the prideful anti-type to Job's humility:
Job

Wealth and health given by God
He is humble
God gives him a trial to *demonstrate* his humility
Greater wealth and health given by God

Nebuchadnezzar

Wealth and health given by God
He is prideful
God gives him a trial to *produce* humility
Greater wealth and health given by God