

Daniel Lesson 5; From Pride to Humility

The Study of Daniel Chapter 4

Dan 4:1–37, Prov. 14:31, 2 Kings 20:2–5, Jon 3:10, Phil 2:1–11.

Memory Verse

Daniel 4:3 (NKJV) *How great are His signs, And how mighty His wonders! His kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, And His dominion is from generation to generation.*

The Dream

Daniel 4:4–7 (NKJV) *I, Nebuchadnezzar, was at rest in my house, and flourishing in my palace. ⁵I saw a dream which made me afraid, and the thoughts on my bed and the visions of my head troubled me. ⁶Therefore I issued a decree to bring in all the wise men of Babylon before me, that they might make known to me the interpretation of the dream. ⁷Then the magicians, the astrologers, the Chaldeans, and the soothsayers came in, and I told them the dream; but they did not make known to me its interpretation.*

He told them the okay I'll tell the dream but they could not tell him the interpretation of it, though they had boasted, with great assurance in (Dan 2:4), that, if they knew the dream they would without fail interpret it.

Daniel 4:8 *at last Daniel came before me ... "Belteshazzar, chief of the magicians, because I know that the Spirit of the Holy God is in you, and no secret troubles you, explain to me the visions of my dream that I have seen, and its interpretation.*

THE GREAT TREE **Ezekiel 31:3–12**

The Bible begins and ends with the tree. Jesus compares Israel with the fig tree. Saul is buried under a great tree in Jabesh.

The Interpretation

2520 Years 7×360

- **Jehovah Witnesses;** Applying “a day for a year,” the 2,520 days represent 2,520 years. Beginning in 607 BC with the destruction of Jerusalem would end in October 1914.
- Some believed that the 2520 prophecy began 677 B.C. when King Manasseh was taken to Babylon, and ended in 1844,
- Some believe we should date it from Nebuchadnezzar’s dream 572 BC which then reaches to the formation of Israel in 1948.

Warned by the Prophet

Daniel 4: 27 (NKJV) *Therefore, O king, let my advice be acceptable to you; break off your sins by being righteous, and your iniquities by showing mercy to the poor. Perhaps there may be a lengthening of your prosperity.” Humility and repentance will lengthen God’s patience.*

Is Not This Babylon the Great?

Daniel 4:29–30 (NKJV) *At the end of the twelve months he was walking about the royal palace of Babylon. ³⁰The king spoke, saying, “Is not this great Babylon, that I have built for a royal dwelling by my mighty power and for the honor of my majesty?”*

Proverbs 27:2 *“Let another man praise you, and not your own mouth; A stranger, and not your own lips.”*

The evil that led to Peter's fall and that shut out the Pharisee from communion with God is proving the ruin of thousands today. There is nothing so offensive to God or so dangerous to the human soul as pride and self-sufficiency. **Of all sins it is the most hopeless, the most incurable.** Christ Object Lessons- pg: 154

The Boss Becomes a Beast **When the head swells the brain shrinks.**

Daniel 4:33 (NKJV) *That very hour the word was fulfilled concerning Nebuchadnezzar; he was driven from men and ate grass like oxen; his body was wet with the dew of heaven till his hair had grown like eagles’ feathers and his nails like birds’ claws.*

The Septuagint and Arabic versions read, "as lions": and his nails like birds' claws: the nails of his fingers and toes were hard, long, and sharp, having not been cut during this time; this shows that the seven times are not to be understood of weeks or months, but of years.

The king goes from a tree that protects the beasts to becoming a beast. Man was made originally in the image of God, pride will make him a beast. **1 Corinthians 15:32 (NKJV)** *If, in the manner of men, I have fought with beasts at Ephesus, what advantage is it to me?*

2 Peter 2:12 (NKJV) *But these, like natural brute beasts made to be caught and destroyed, speak evil of the things they do not understand, and will utterly perish in their own corruption,*

Romans 8:13 *For if you live according to the flesh you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live.*

The madness of King George III 1738-1820

Proverbs 11:2 *“When pride comes, then comes shame; But with the humble is wisdom.”* The PHD’s crucified Jesus. Knowledge is power.

“The Most High Rules . . .”

**Pharaoh - King of Stubbornness - Kingdom Was Destroyed
Who is the Lord that I should let Israel go?**

Lifting Eyes Toward Heaven

Never are we more like the devil than when we are proud.

1 Corinthians 13:4 “Love is patient, Love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud.” NIV

Philippians 2:5-11 “Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross. Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.”

Jesus is the one who humbled himself the most and he will be exalted the most. Satan exalted himself the most, he will be humbled the most.

Matthew 23:11,12 “But he who is greatest among you shall be your servant. and whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.”

Humble and Grateful

2 Chronicles 7:14 “If My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and hear their land.” **Job 22:29** Then He will save the humble person.”

Micah 6:8 “He has shown you, O man, what is good; And what does the LORD require of you. But to do justly, To love mercy, And to walk humbly with your God?”

James 4:6 “But He gives more grace. Therefore He says: God resists the proud, But gives grace to the humble.”

2 Chronicles 34:27–28 (ESV) because your heart was tender and you humbled yourself before God when you heard his words against this place and its inhabitants, and you have humbled yourself before me and have torn your clothes and wept before me, I also have heard you, declares the Lord. ²⁸ Behold, I will gather you to your fathers, and you shall be gathered to your grave in peace, and your eyes shall not see all the disaster that I will bring upon this place and its inhabitants.’ ”

1 Kings 21:29 “See how Ahab has humbled himself before Me? Because he has humbled himself before Me, I will not bring the calamity in his days. In the days of his son I will bring the calamity on his house.”

2 Chronicles 12:6,7 So the leaders of Israel and the king humbled themselves; and they said, “The LORD is righteous.” Now when the LORD saw that they humbled themselves, the word of the LORD came to Shemaiah, saying, “They have humbled themselves; therefore I will not destroy them, but I will grant them some deliverance.

Psalms 25:9 “The humble He guides in justice, And the humble He teaches His way. **A butterfly starts as a worm!**

The Great Sin

Adam and Eve wanted the knowledge that belonged to God.

Matthew 6:1 “Take heed that you do not do your charitable deeds before men, to be seen by them.” **Give to be seen, - Fast to be seen, - Pray to be seen.**

Matthew 23:5-7 “But all their words they do to be seen by men. They make their phylacteries broad and enlarge the borders of their garments. They love the best places at feasts, the best seats in the synagogues, greetings in the marketplaces, and to be called by men, ‘Rabbi, Rabbi.’

Mark 12:38,40 Then He said to them in His teaching, “Beware of the scribes, who desire to go around in long robes, love greetings in the marketplaces, the best seats in the synagogues, and the best places at the feasts, who devour widows’ houses, and for a pretense make long prayers. These will receive greater condemnation.” **Religion of Devils.**

- Mark 9:33-34** “But they kept silent, for on the road they had disputed among themselves who would be the greatest”

Pride, like the magnet constantly points to one object, self.

Pride is the Devil’s most effective dragnet, even for the Church!

The spirit of the world is pride which manifests itself in selfishness, the Spirit of heaven is love which manifests itself in humility.
- There is a story about a **proud woodpecker** who was pecking away at a dead tree when suddenly a bolt of lightning struck the old tree, exploding it to pieces. Startled but unhurt, the haughty bird flew off, screeching to his friends, “Hey, everyone, look what I did! Look what I did!”

Exodus 9:34, 35 *And when Pharaoh saw that the rain, the hail, and the thunder had ceased, he sinned yet more; and he hardened his heart, he and his servants. So the heart of Pharaoh was hard; neither would he let the children of Israel go, as the LORD had spoken by Moses.*

Exodus 10:7 *Then Pharaoh's servants said to him, ...Let the men go, that they may serve the LORD Do you not yet know that Egypt is destroyed?"*

Saul – King of Popularity

1 Samuel 15:30 *Then he said, "I have sinned; yet honor me now, please, before the elders of my people and before Israel, and return with me, that I may worship the LORD your God."*

1 Samuel 15:26 *... for you have rejected the word of the LORD, and the LORD has rejected you from being king over Israel."*

Nebuchadnezzar - King of Wisdom. Pride of IQ Dan 4:28-37 .

Can't be taught a proud person must admit they don't know something..
Proverbs 15:33 *"The fear of the LORD is the instruction of wisdom, And before honor is humility."*

Proverbs 12:15 *"The way of a fool is right in his own eyes, But he who heeds counsel is wise."* PHD's Phooey Piled higher and deeper.
God can not answer our prayers unless we humble ourselves.

Flattery - Spreading a Net

Proverbs 29:5 *"A man who flatters his neighbor Spreads a net for his feet."*

Job 32:21 *Let me not, I pray, show partiality to anyone; Nor let me flatter any man. Flattery is another kind of artificial sweetener.*

Proverbs 27:6 *Faithful are the wounds of a friend, But the kisses of an enemy are deceitful.* Modesty is the triumph of mind over flatter.
Compliments are like perfume, Sniff, but don't swallow.

Herod - King of Attire Acts 12:21-23

The gold was in the temple not on the temple. The outside was white marble. A corpse eaten by worms is seldom beautiful. My mustache was crooked. Thank God for enemies and children, they tell us the truth about ourselves when others flatter.

Matthew 23:26 *first cleanse the inside of the cup and dish, that the outside of them may be clean also.* "Many a bee has drowned in his own honey."

Haman King Of Promotion Proud of Power and Position Est 5:7-6:12

Proverbs 27:2 *"Let another man praise you, and not your own mouth; A stranger, and not your own lips."*

I'm a sanitation engineer. You mean a garbage man? We take credit that belongs to God.

A mother whale told her baby, "just remember, when you get to the top and start to blow is when you get harpooned!"

Uzziah King of Religious Pride 2 Chr 26:14-21

2 Chronicles 26:16 *But when he was strong his heart was lifted up, to his destruction, for he transgressed against the LORD his God by entering the temple of the LORD to burn incense on the altar of incense.*

We must never presume to approach the Lord with a self sufficient spirit. One of the highest forms of pride is to presume that you are above obedience. Proud religion is a substitute for humble obedience. Pride is the reason it can be so hard for a rich man to enter the kingdom. We can become proud of our humility.

Man in Africa got a medal for being the most humble man in the village.

Hezekiah - King of Possessions Isa 39:1-8 –all his staff.

2 Chronicles 32:24–26 (NKJV) *In those days Hezekiah was sick and near death, and he prayed to the Lord; and He spoke to him and gave him a sign. ²⁵ But Hezekiah did not repay according to the favor shown him, for his heart was lifted up; therefore wrath was looming over him and over Judah and Jerusalem. ²⁶ Then Hezekiah humbled himself for the pride of his heart, he and the inhabitants of Jerusalem, so that the wrath of the Lord did not come upon them in the days of Hezekiah.*

Proverbs 16:19 *"Better to be of a humble spirit with the lowly, Than to divide the spoil with the proud."* **Best car, House, Toys.**

We measure our worth by what we have rather than what we are.

They buy to glorify self. We can become proud of our humility.

Isaiah 14:12-14 -Ezekiel 28:12-16 "I will be like the Most High."

The devil had Pride of power, perception, possessions and position.

1 Corinthians 4:7 *"that none of you may be puffed up on behalf of one against the other. For who makes you differ from another? And what do you have that you did not receive? Now if you did indeed receive it, why do you boast as if you had not received it?"*

Psalms 37:11 *"But the meek shall inherit the earth, And shall delight themselves in the abundance of peace."*

God is urging Humility to save us because there is no pride in Heaven.

Deuteronomy 8:3 *"So He humbled you, allowed you to hunger, and fed you with manna which you did not know nor did your fathers know, that He might make you know that man shall not live by bread alone; but man lives by every word that proceeds from the mouth of the LORD.*

Everyone has undiscovered traits of character that must come to light through trial. God allows those who are self-sufficient to be sorely tempted, that they may understand their helplessness. Test 7 pg: 210

2 Corinthians 12:7 *"And lest I should be exalted above measure by the abundance of the revelations, a thorn in the flesh was given to me, a messenger of Satan to buffet me, lest I be exalted above measure."*

Gideon's three hundred chasing a million

1 Corinthians 1:27-29 *"But God has chosen the foolish things of the world to put to shame the wise. We must lay self aside or God will lay us aside.*

Christians desire to be humble in order that we might be proud of it.

Pride forced Nebuchadnezzar out of men's society, Haman out of the palace, Adam out of paradise, Lucifer out of Heaven.

Religious Pride nailed Jesus to the cross.

Mark 15:9,10 *But Pilate answered them, saying, "Do you want me to release to you the King of the Jews?" For he knew that the chief priests had handed Him over because of envy.*

Jeremiah 9:23,24 *This is what the LORD says: "Let not the wise man boast of his wisdom or the strong man boast of his strength or the rich man boast of his riches, but let him who boasts boast about this: that he understands and knows me, that I am the LORD, who exercises kindness, justice and righteousness on earth, for in these I delight," declares the LORD.*