



20/20 Vision for the 21st Century

Preparing Your Children and Yourself for the Next Generation

A Study of Daniel 1-6

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It's All In How You See It!

Daniel, chapter 4

Message # 4

M E S S A G E N O T E S

Historical Setting

Time:

Daniel is _____

Nebuchadnezzar is at the _____

Israel has spent one entire _____ in Babylonian captivity

1 Nebuchadnezzar the king, to all peoples, nations, and languages that dwell in all the earth: peace be multiplied to you. 2 I thought it good to declare the signs and wonders that the Most High God has worked for me. 3 How great *are* His signs, and how mighty His wonders! His kingdom *is* an everlasting kingdom, and His dominion *is* from generation to generation. Daniel 4:1-3 NKJV

The Dream (vv. 4-18)

8 But at last Daniel came before me (his name *is* Belteshazzar, according to the name of my god; in him *is* the Spirit of the Holy God), and I told the dream before him, *saying*: 9 "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. (vv. 8,9)

17 ' This decision *is* by the decree of the watchers, and the sentence by the word of the holy ones, in order that the living may know that the Most High rules in the kingdom of men, gives it to whomever He will, and sets over it the lowest of men.' (v. 17)

The Interpretation (vv. 19-27)

19 Then Daniel, whose name *was* Belteshazzar, was astonished for a time, and his thoughts troubled him. *So* the king spoke, and said, "Belteshazzar, do not let the dream or its interpretation trouble you." Belteshazzar answered and said, "My lord, *may* the dream concern those who hate you, and its interpretation concern your enemies! (v. 19)

25 They shall drive you from men, your dwelling shall be with the beasts of the field, and they shall make you eat grass like oxen. They shall wet you with the dew of heaven, and seven times shall pass over you, till you know that the Most High rules in the kingdom of men, and gives it to whomever He chooses. 26 "And inasmuch as they gave the command to leave the stump *and* roots of the tree, your kingdom shall be assured to you, after you come to know that Heaven rules. (vv. 25,26)

27 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." (v. 27)

The Punishment (vv. 28-33)

28 All *this* came upon King Nebuchadnezzar. 29 At the end of the twelve months he was walking about the royal palace of Babylon. 30 The 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?" (vv. 29,30)

31 While the word *was still* in the king's mouth, a voice fell from heaven: "King Nebuchadnezzar, to you it is spoken: the kingdom has departed from you! ... 33 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*. (vv. 31 & 33)

The Repentance (vv. 34-37)

34 And at the end of the time I, Nebuchadnezzar, lifted my eyes to heaven, and my understanding returned to me; and I blessed the Most High and praised and honored Him who lives forever: For His dominion *is* an everlasting dominion, And His kingdom *is* from generation to generation. 35 All the inhabitants of the earth *are* reputed as nothing; He does according to His will in the army of heaven and *among* the inhabitants of the earth. No one can restrain His hand or say to Him, "What have You done?" (vv. 34,35)

37 Now I, Nebuchadnezzar, praise and extol and honor the King of heaven, all of whose works *are* truth, and His ways justice. And those who walk in pride He is able to put down. (v. 37)

What was God doing in Nebuchadnezzar's life? He was _____
_____!

2 Basic Causes of Pain in our Lives

1) Pain from a _____

2) Pain from God's _____

*" My son, do not despise the chastening of the LORD,
Nor be discouraged when you are rebuked by Him;
6 For whom the LORD loves He chastens,
And scourges every son whom He receives."* Hebrews 12:5,6 NKJV

Life Applications from Daniel 4

1. In my view of God, He is either _____ or He is NOT

10 The LORD frustrates the plans of the nations and thwarts all their schemes. 11 But the LORD's plans stand firm forever; his intentions can never be shaken. Psalm 33:10,11 NLT

When I recognize God as truly sovereign, I get the thing that people all over the world are looking for: _____

2. In my view of myself, I am either _____ or _____

A major theme all through the Bible: If we do not _____ ourselves, God will _____.

3. In my view of others, I live by either _____ or _____

9 He who walks with integrity walks securely, but he who perverts his ways will become known. Proverbs 10:9 NKJV

Integrity is the key to _____ and _____

10 "If you are faithful in little things, you will be faithful in large ones. But if you are dishonest in little things, you won't be honest with greater responsibilities. Luke 16:10 NLT

Integrity flows out of a conviction about the _____ and _____ of God

If I believe God is truly sovereign, then I can always:

- 1) Do what I know _____
- 2) Speak the _____ - 100% of the time
- 3) In relationships, have _____
- 4) Do what I say _____
- 5) _____ when I'm wrong