

PREACHING CURRICULUM



PREPARE FOR REWARDS DANIEL 4

"Now I, Nebuchadnezzar, praise and extol and honor the King of heaven, for all his works are right and his ways are just; and those who walk in pride he is able to humble." Daniel 4:37

1

REVIEW THE SERMON

Read Daniel 4. See verses 4-27. In your own words, how would you summarize Nebuchadnezzar's dream and its interpretation? What was the main message God was communicating to Nebuchadnezzar through this dream?

What was Daniel's counsel to King Nebuchadnezzar in response to this dream and its interpretation? Did Nebuchadnezzar heed Daniel's advice? _____

See verses 28-33. Why did God inflict insanity on King Nebuchadnezzar as a punishment for his outrageous, prideful boasting? What does this tell us about the fundamental nature of sin and pride? _____

See verse 34. What ultimately brought Nebuchadnezzar back to his senses? How was his perspective changed after his humiliation? _____

In what ways do we see God's grace and mercy toward King Nebuchadnezzar in this story? Why is this grace the more surprising, considering that Nebuchadnezzar was a pompous, arrogant tyrant? How is this story a picture of the Gospel? _____

2

ASSESS YOUR LIFE

Is it possible that we, like Nebuchadnezzar, spend much of our lives building our own little kingdoms for our own glory? If so, what might this look like in our lives? _____

What are some of the negative personal and social consequences of the prideful insanity that affects us all? Given these consequences, why do you think we're still so drawn toward prideful self-exaltation? _____

3

APPLY THE TRUTH

What connection is there between “lifting our eyes to heaven” and the recovery of our sanity? How does humbly acknowledging God’s rule over us affect our ability to think and reason, and our capacity to understand the world around us? _____

On a practical level, what might it look like for you to humbly acknowledge God’s rule over all aspects of your life? Are there some areas where you might find this particularly challenging? _____

4

COMMIT THIS WEEK

List one or two specific steps you can take this week to more fully live out the implications of God’s sovereign rule over all of life. _____

5

PRAYER REQUESTS/PRAISE REPORTS

DATE: _____

PERSON	REQUEST	ANSWER/PRAISE REPORT