



Nebuchadnezzar's Testimony

(Daniel 4:1-37)

Introduction: Nebuchadnezzar's "Testimony"

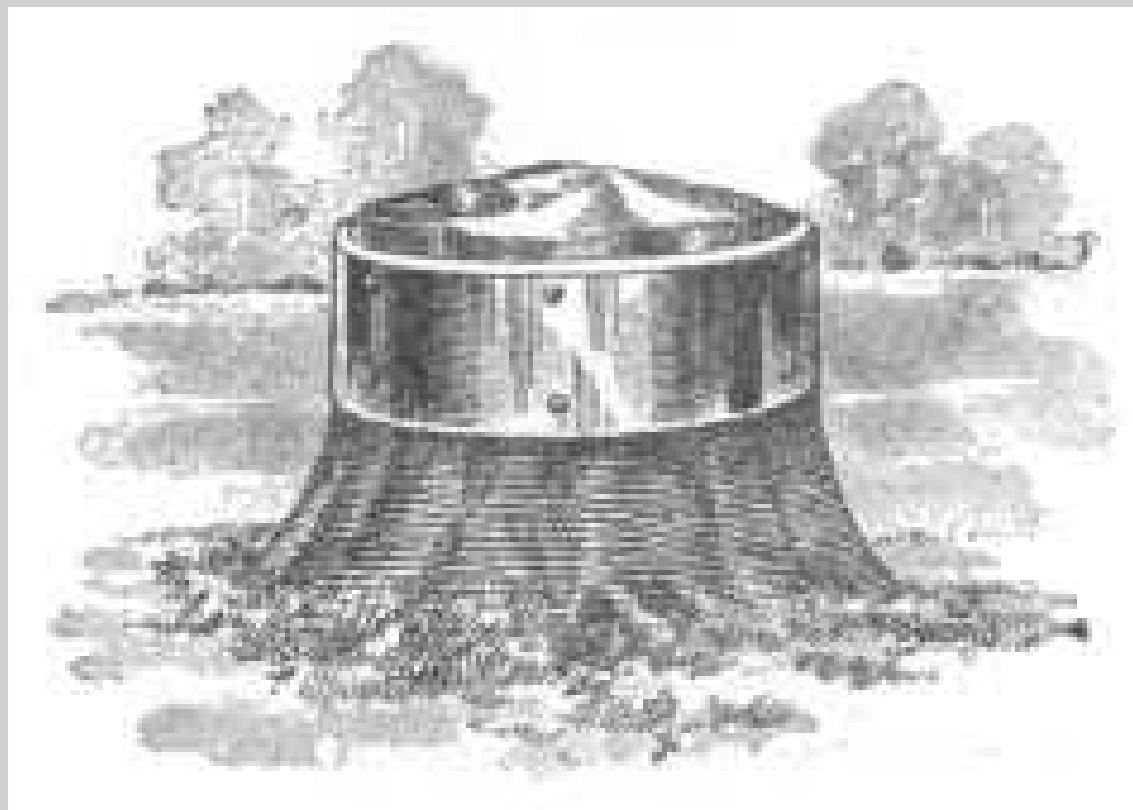
- **The Lord has done miraculous things for me (Daniel 4:1-3)**
- **Let me tell you what happened (Daniel 4:4-36)**
- **This is what I learned: (Daniel 4:34-37)**
 - God humbles the Proud
 - God is sovereign

Nebuchadnezzar's Dream

(Daniel 4:10-17)

- Life was going on just fine
- Then I had a disturbing dream: there was a big tree that supplied food and shelter to the birds in it and the animals underneath it
- But a “watcher” from the sky came down and commanded that the tree be cut down, except for its stump
- And the watcher declared that the man will look and think and eat like an animal for “seven seasons”
- So people realize that “the Most High rules the kingdom of men and gives it to whom he will and sets over it the lowliest of men.”

**The metal band =
your kingdom will not be divided**



Nebuchadnezzar's request of Daniel (Daniel 4:8-9)

- The wise men of the Babylonians could not interpret the dream
- Finally, Daniel came in, and I knew that he could interpret the dream

Daniel's interpretation of the dream (Daniel 4:24-26)

- You yourself is the tree, for “your greatness has grown and reaches to heaven, and your dominion to the ends of the earth.” (verse 22)
- ²⁴ this is the interpretation, O king: It is a decree of the Most High, which has come upon my lord the king, ²⁵ that you shall be driven from among men, and your dwelling shall be with the beasts of the field. You shall be made to eat grass like an ox, and you shall be wet with the dew of heaven, and seven periods of time shall pass over you, till you know that the Most High rules the kingdom of men and gives it to whom he will. ²⁶ And as it was commanded to leave the stump of the roots of the tree, your kingdom shall be confirmed for you from the time that you know that Heaven rules.

Daniel's compassionate advice (Daniel 4:27)

- ²⁷ Therefore, O king, let my counsel be acceptable to you: break off your sins by practicing righteousness, and your iniquities by showing mercy to the oppressed, that there may perhaps be a lengthening of your prosperity.”

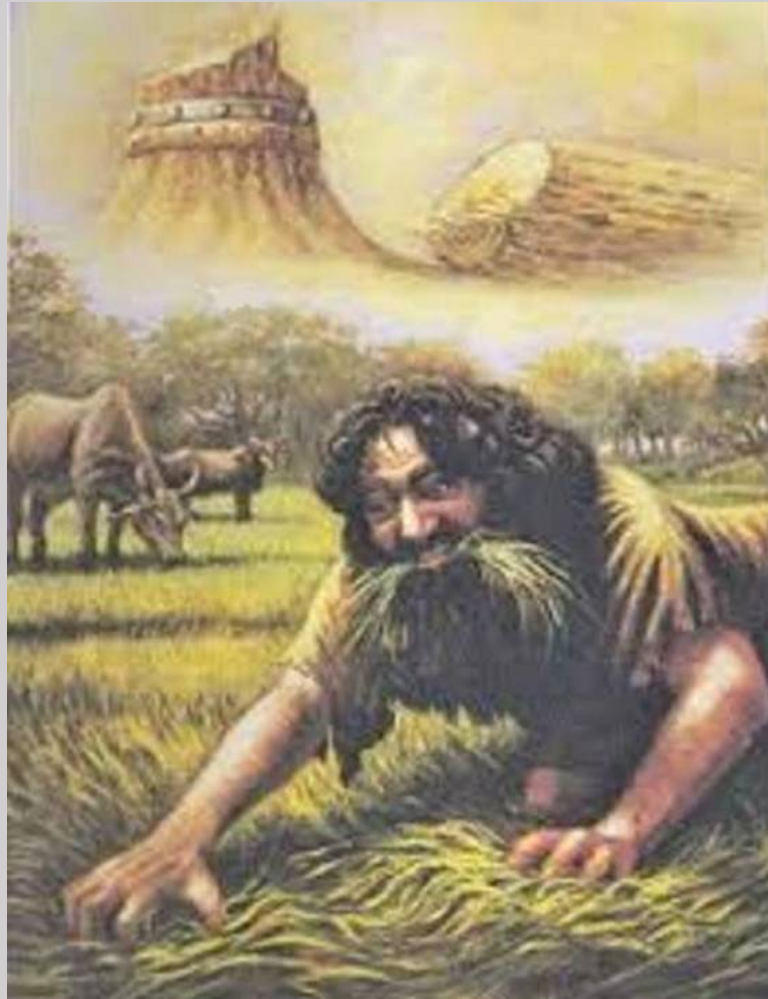
Twelve months later, while admiring my works



Pride preceedeth a fall

- “Is not this great Babylon, which I have built by my mighty power as a royal residence and for the glory of my majesty?”
- ³¹ While the words were still in the king's mouth, there fell a voice from heaven, “O King Nebuchadnezzar, to you it is spoken: The kingdom has departed from you, ³² and you shall be driven from among men, and your dwelling shall be with the beasts of the field.

From the highest king to the lowest beast



Introduction: Nebuchadnezzar's "Testimony"

- The Lord has done miraculous things for me (Daniel 4:1-3)
- Let me tell you what happened (Daniel 4:4-36)
- **This is what I learned: (Daniel 4:34-37)**
 - God is sovereign, above all earthly kings
 - Therefore, God humbles the Proud

Analysis: The King's Pride (egotism and apathy in the world)

- A. A life of complacency is disrupted
- B. An explanation and encouragement by someone who cares
- C. Nebuchadnezzar's apathetic response
- D. Pride precedeth a fall

(Share the Good News)

Analysis: The King's Punishment (the consequences of sin)

- A. The Limits of Human Perspective
- B. The Depths of Human Depravity
- C. The Inability to Save Oneself

(Pray for the Lost)

Analysis: The King's New Perspective (a born again experience)

A. God's Efficacious Grace

B. Look Up!

(Compatibilism: God's Sovereignty/Human Free Will)

(Light as both "particles" and "waves" simultaneously)

C. Credo Ut Intelligam (Faith precedes understanding)

(Celebrate with the Redeemed!)

Humility and Understanding

- ³⁴ At the end of the days I, Nebuchadnezzar, lifted my eyes to heaven, and my reason returned to me, and I blessed the Most High, and praised and honored him who lives forever,

The Lord welcomes us back to Him

“The Lord your God is gracious and compassionate. He will not turn his face from you if you return to him.”

2 Chronicles 30: 9

(King Hezekiah of Judah: ruled 715-686 B.C.)

The Lord blesses those who seek Him

- “He sought God during the days of Zechariah, who instructed him in the fear (‘vision’) of God. As long as he sought the Lord, God gave him success.”

--2 Chronicles 26:5b

(King Uzziah of Juda: ruled 792-740 B.C.)

Ways of Responding to God's Call

--The Apostate

--The Reformed Sinner

--The Spiritual Servant

Responding to God's Call: The Apostate

The Apostate:

1. Apathy
2. Resistance
3. Apostasy

Responding to God's Call: The Reformed Sinner

The Reformed Sinner:

1. Complacency
2. Tribulation
3. Acceptance

Responding to God's Call: The Spiritual Servant

The Spiritual Servant:

1. A glimmer of grace
2. Earnestly seeking God
3. A heart-felt commitment

Take-Aways

- **Madness:** What is “madness”?
 - An empty space in one’s life; a state of “things-not-quite-rightness”
 - Not knowing Jesus as one’s Savior and Lord
- **Fulfillment:** How to live a fulfilling life?
 - Accept Jesus as Savior and Lord of your life
- **Action:** What to do?
 - Seek the Lord (Jeremiah 29:13)
 - Pray for others to know the Lord
 - Share your testimony

What is YOUR testimony?