

SEEING THE SOVEREIGN GOD

Daniel 4:10-37

This morning we'll consider how an arrogant king became an adoring worshipper.

I. THE VISION (10-18)

A. DETAILS (10-17)

B. DESIRE (18)

- The king is no doubt alarmed by the details and wants to know the interpretation

II. THE NEWS (19-27)

A. TROUBLING NEWS (19)

B. GOOD NEWS (20-22)

- Congratulations! You've become great, grown strong and established a global empire!

C. BAD NEWS (23-25)

- You'll be crazy until you recognize God's sovereign control over kings and kingdoms

1. Judgment is coming (25a)

2. A change of mind is required (25b)

- The reason or purpose for the judgment is so that Nebuchadnezzar will recognize that God is the ruler and director (regulator) of men.

D. HOPEFUL NEWS (26)

E. HELPFUL NEWS (27)

- Daniel's courteous exhortation

1. Be repentant: Break away from sin

2. Be righteous

3. Be merciful to the poor

III. THE SITUATION (28-33)

A. ARROGANCE (28-30)

1. Negligence (28-29)

- The interpretation has been forgotten and the exhortation ignored

2. Haughtiness (30)

- While speaking to himself about my Babylon, my building, my brilliance, my benefit

B. JUDGMENT (31-32)

1. An immediate dethroning
2. A dramatic dismissal
 - Literally “Put out to pasture!”
3. A purposeful punishment
 - Until you recognize God’s sovereignty

C. FULFILLMENT (33)

1. Immediate retribution
2. Nebuchadnezzar lost his realm and his reason on the same day!
3. God did what He said He would do.

IV. THE REMEDY (34-37)

- Note the switch to first person testimony here

A. ADORATION (34)

1. Worshipful posture: Eyes up, knees bowed
2. Worshipful praise: For the eternal One with an eternal dominion
3. Worshipful pronouncement: His kingdom endures forever

B. CONFESSION (35)

1. God is overwhelming
2. God is overarching
3. God is overpowering

C. THANKSGIVING (36-37)

1. Because God restores (36)
2. Because God rules! (37)

CONCLUDING QUESTIONS:

1. How much do we think we are doing on our own?
2. Has arrogant pride obscured our vision of God?
3. What will it take for God to get our attention?
4. When He does get our attention, will we praise Him?

Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only God,
be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

- I Timothy 1:17

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